

Speaker biographies

Opening plenary



Ryan Padrez, MD, FAAP

Ryan is a pediatrician and Clinical Associate Professor at Stanford University's School of Medicine where he practices at both Gardner Packard Health Center and LPCH newborn nursery. At Stanford, Ryan serves in leadership roles with the Pediatric Department's Office of Child Health Equity and School of Education's Center on Early Childhood. Ryan is also the Medical Director of The Primary School, an integrated health and education model that serves low-income children and families in Northern California. Finally, Ryan serves as the chair-elect for The American Academy of Pediatrics' Council on School Health. His scholarly work, community projects, and leadership focus on the intersection and reform of primary care pediatrics and early childhood education that drive systems change to eliminate disparities.

Closing plenary



Amy Rohling McGee, MSW has served as the president of the Health Policy Institute of Ohio since 2010. With her leadership, HPIO has developed a reputation as a trusted source of data and evidence-informed policy analysis. McGee has more than 30 years of experience in policy analysis, management, government relations, planning, stakeholder engagement, coalition building and communication.

Speaker biographies



Julie DiRossi-King, BA is President and CEO of the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers (OACHC) and CEO of the Health Centers of Ohio Clinically Integrated Network and ACO. She brings nearly 20 years of experience in health policy, operations, and advocacy. Julie serves on several statewide and national boards and committees advancing community health and is a graduate of The Ohio State University.



Randy Leite, PhD, is executive director of the Appalachian Children Coalition, where he leads regional efforts to improve the health, well-being, and future opportunities of children and families across Appalachian Ohio. A former dean of Ohio University's College of Health Sciences and Professions, he brings decades of experience in higher education, workforce development, and community partnership. Randy is known for collaborative, data-informed leadership and a deep commitment to place-based solutions that strengthen communities and support children's success.



Marianella Napolitano, MBA, RN is a healthcare executive with over 18 years of experience leading innovation in Medicaid managed care, clinical transformation, and population health. As Director of Population Health for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Ohio, she oversees strategy and execution of initiatives that improve outcomes and experiences for members and providers, lower costs, and advance population health.

Speaker biographies



Kyle Newton, MS has served as superintendent of Warren Local School District since 2013, following three years as superintendent at Crooksville Exempted Village. His experience includes assistant superintendent, building administrator, high school math teacher, and coach. He has held leadership roles with the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools and served on the Building Bridges 2 Careers board, focusing on inclusive, efficient, and innovative community and career connected learning.

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Workshop sessions

Speaker biographies are listed in alphabetical order for Workshop sessions.



Shannon Amos, MFCS is the VP of Agency Programs for Children's Hunger Alliance, a statewide agency focused on reducing childhood food insecurity in Ohio. Shannon provides oversight and leadership for child nutrition sponsorship in early care and out-of-school time settings, oversees work to expand participation in school breakfast, and access to nutrition education. Shannon holds a B.A and M.F.C.S. in Human Development and Family Studies with a nutrition focus from Bowling Green State University.



Lisa Belle, MSW, LISW-S is a Clinical Manager in Social Services at CCHMC. With 30 years of experience in community-based and medical social work, she oversees teams of master's-level Social Workers across the institution. Lisa also serves on the Zero Suicide initiative and is a certified CALM trainer, equipping professionals with strategies to support individuals in crisis and promote safety in behavioral health care.



Jordan Burdick, JD has experience advising clients on matters concerning state scope of practice and prescriptive authority laws, HIPAA and 42 CFR Part 2 compliance, and Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement. She routinely works with federally qualified health centers, medical providers, trade associations, child welfare providers, recovery home operators, and community behavioral health providers.

Speaker biographies



Jamie Carder, RDH has dedicated her career to improving oral health access and care for diverse populations. She has impacted thousands of students through the leadership of a dental outreach program and integration that serves over 500 schools in Ohio. Jamie is a passionate advocate for innovative dental practices and has been instrumental in spreading the use of silver diamine fluoride (SDF) within dental and medical teams by promoting its effectiveness in preventing and treating dental decay.



Lisa Crosby, MSN, APRN, DNP is a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Mental Health Specialist, and APP Clinical Director for Primary Care, School-Based Health, and Outpatient Medical/Surgical Subspecialties at CCHMC. Her clinical interests and expertise include school-based health, QI science, asthma, and mental health. She began practicing in 1990 and has been at CCHMC since 1991.



Nicole DeGreg, RN, MSN, FNP-BC is in her 12th year as Family Nurse Practitioner with the Cincinnati Health Department at the Roberts Academy SBHC. She earned her BSN and MSN from the University of Cincinnati and is fluent in Spanish. Passionate about serving underserved and immigrant populations, Nicole has volunteered extensively in Latin America. Her work has earned her multiple honors, including the Ohio SBHA 2023 Provider G.R.I.T. Award and The University of Cincinnati's 2022 Torch of Excellence in Nursing.

Speaker biographies



Jennifer Dodd, PhD is the Assistant Superintendent of the ESC of Northeast Ohio and previously served as an early interventionist. Jennifer has a bachelor's in psychology and a master's in early childhood special education from Cleveland State University. She received an M.J. from Loyola University in Child Law and Policy and completed her Ph.D. in Urban Education at Cleveland State University focusing on laws and policies impacting infants and young children with special needs or in foster care.



Antonio Fernández, BS, originally from Puebla, Mexico, holds Mexican, Spanish, and U.S. nationalities. A Bethel University soccer scholar and CIS graduate, he built a sports career with FIFA, CONCACAF, U.S. Soccer, and the U.S. Olympic Committee. Now in his 11th year with Cincinnati Public Schools, he serves as Resource Coordinator at Roberts Academy through CLCI, leading 100+ community partnerships and broadcasting for FC Cincinnati.



Lisa Floyd, BBA is a dedicated education finance professional with over 20 years of service to the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD). Lisa has held key roles including Accountant, Financial Analyst, and now Manager of Budgets and Medicaid. In her current position, she oversees budget operations and leads the district's Medicaid program—ensuring compliance, maximizing resources, and ultimately driving support for student health and success.

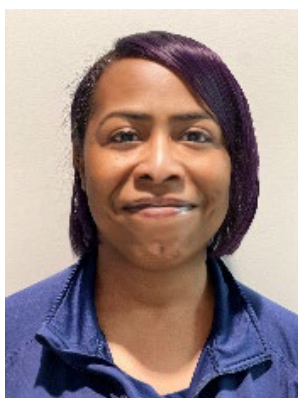
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Rebecca Grant, MD has over 14 years of experience, holding dual board certifications in Family Medicine and Obesity Medicine. Currently, Dr. Grant serves as Associate Program Director at Dublin. She continues to serve adolescents through her work with the School-Based Health Clinic.



Iyaad Hasan, DNP, MBA, APRN, CPHA-TT is CEO of The Breathing Association and a Franklin County Board of Health member. A clinician and public health leader, he focuses on reducing lung disease, nicotine addiction, and energy insecurity through community-based care and innovative school and clinical partnerships.



Pamela Heard, MA is in her 9th year as a medical assistant at the Roberts SBHC. A resident of the neighborhood the center serves, her familiarity with the community has helped build trust and increase consent rates. She works closely with families, school staff, and community coordinators to ensure access to quality healthcare. Pam graduated from Kaplan College in 2009 and worked previously with the TriHealth Nurse Midwives and The Little Clinic.

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Daphne Kackloudis, JD has decades of experience in and around state government, including high level policy roles within the Ohio Departments of Medicaid and Job and Family Services, one of the nation's preeminent children's hospitals, and a boutique health care consulting company that advised clients on Medicaid benefits and reimbursement. With deep experience in health care operations, compliance, governance, Medicaid, and government affairs, Daphne serves as both outside counsel and a strategic advisor embedded within her clients' senior leadership teams. She is valued for her practical guidance, collaborative approach, and commitment to helping health care organizations succeed in a complex and evolving environment.



David Karas, MD graduated from the Medical College of Ohio in 2000 and completed his Pediatric residency at Akron Children's Hospital in 2003. Dr. Karas is a general pediatrician at Akron Children's Pediatrics in Wadsworth, Ohio. Dr. Karas is the recipient of the 2022 Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics Community Pediatrician of the Year award and serves on the Board for the Ohio Chapter. Dr. Karas is interested in vaccination, following guidelines, and making everything better.



Sarah Kuhns has served as External Affairs Manager at the Ohio Association of Foodbanks since 2021, supporting advocacy efforts on anti-hunger and anti-poverty initiatives in partnership with Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks. A graduate of the University of Dayton with a degree in political science, she previously supported housing and voting rights initiatives with COHHIO and Ohio Votes.

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Angie Maddox, BS, MHA is an accomplished professional with a background in Information Systems and Healthcare Administration. With expertise in data-driven decision-making, healthcare operations, and organizational leadership, Angie is passionate about improving efficiency and patient outcomes through innovative technology solutions. She brings a practical, people-centered approach to every project and enjoys sharing strategies that bridge the gap between systems, staff, and success.



Mona Mansour, MD, MS is a Professor of Pediatrics at CCHMC and UC. She is the Medical Director of CCHMC's Population Health School Program - Coordinated School Strategy and the Medical Director for SBHCs. She has a long-standing interest in improving the health of children, especially those from at-risk backgrounds, and has supported the design/redesign of healthcare delivery systems to improve outcomes for individual and population-level child health.



F. Lynne Merk, PhD is a licensed clinical psychologist at CCHMC with over 20 years of experience in child and adolescent mental health. Her specialties include anxiety, OCD, ADHD, and helping individuals manage difficult life circumstances. Dr. Merk directs Community Integrated Behavioral Health, leading master's-trained clinicians who provide mental and behavioral health care in pediatric primary care across Greater Cincinnati.

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Sarah Mills, MPH, RD is the Senior Manager of Health Systems at Share Our Strength. In this role, she supports partnerships and projects at the intersection of healthcare and food access, identifying and amplifying opportunities and promising practices for expanding access to SNAP in healthcare settings. Sarah is a registered dietitian and has a Master's degree in Public Health from Michigan State University. She is passionate about connecting people with the healthy foods they need to thrive.



Brittany Miracle, BSW, MPA is the Ohio Department of Medicaid's Medicaid School Program Administrator and leads Ohio Medicaid's school-based services program and supports. Prior to her role at ODM, she worked at the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce for 11 years. During her time at DEW she lead the state's efforts to reduce chronic absenteeism, develop and implement Ohio's Whole Child Framework; and develop and expand school-based health centers.



Tricia Montgomery, MPH, CPHQ, CSSYB is the Quality Strategist at Nationwide Children's Hospital over the Pediatric Vital Signs (PVS). She brings 10+ years of healthcare and nonprofit experience as well as expertise in driving measurable impact. She is committed to fostering collaboration, building strong relationships, and elevating the voices behind the data. In her spare time, she volunteers with local non-profits supporting pediatric health, community arts, and volunteerism.

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Niara Marrow, DSW, LISW-S is an Integrated Behavioral Health (IBH) provider at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. She is a Licensed Independent Social Worker with Supervision designation, with experience in comprehensive assessment and therapeutic intervention for children, adolescents, and families. Her areas of clinical interest include behavioral health, perinatal mental health, reducing mental health stigma, and addressing social determinants of health.



Nancy Peppler has a BA and MSSA from CWRU. She has worked in the child welfare, mental health, and developmental disability fields. Nancy worked in Washington D.C. and Chicago, IL for a national child welfare organization and then oversaw development, marketing and communications and government relations for several Cleveland non-profits before becoming Executive Director of Cornucopia. Nancy manages community partnerships for the school district, including the partnership with MetroHealth.



Nicole Pfirman, MEd, OTR/L has a Master of Education Administration and is a nationally board certified Pediatric Occupational Therapist. She started her career in outpatient psychiatry and adult rehabilitation before moving into school-based practice, working with students with psychosocial and neurodevelopmental disorders. She previously served Mason City Schools for 19 years in a variety of roles, both as a therapist and a district administrator.

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Fernando Rico-Alarcon, BSN, RN is a dedicated registered nurse with the Cincinnati Health Department, serving in a school-based health clinic since 2017. A proud graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Fernando is passionate about promoting accessible, community-centered healthcare for students and families. Through his work, he focuses on supporting student well-being, preventive care, and health education to help young people reach their full potential both inside and outside the classroom.



Julie Rinaldi, BA, before retiring from Syntero, Inc. in July 2024, spent 40 years of her professional career working in nonprofit and public behavioral healthcare where she developed many partnerships with other organizations and programs that improved the well being of people of all ages.



Ashley Roudebush, BA is a State Campaigns Manager for the No Kid Hungry campaign of Share Our Strength, supporting Arizona, Kentucky, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. In this role, she works closely with state agencies, partner organizations, school districts, and community organizations to expand access and support implementation of federal child nutrition programs. Ashley has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from The Ohio State University, and resides in Columbus, Ohio with her partner and two cats.

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Susan Shelton has a BSEE and an MBA and worked in high tech industries for over 20 years in the areas of research and development, product management, manufacturing, marketing, and strategic planning. She was a founder of MindPeace as a volunteer of the Junior League of Cincinnati (JLC) and under Susan's leadership, MindPeace has earned numerous awards and national recognition.



Adrienne Sirbu, MHI, BSN, RN has her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master's in Health Informatics. She has been working at the Cincinnati Health Department (CHD) for the past 7 years and is a Nursing Supervisor for thirteen School Based Health Centers in the CPS school district. During her time at CHD, she has participated in both CCHMC programs of LEAN and IMPACTU focusing on increasing patient utilization and scheduling for SBHC sites and asthma management in the school setting.



Janell Swart, BSN is a registered nurse and health liaison for the Logan-Hocking School District. She works closely with the district's School Based Health Center, the Chieftain Clinic, to support student health and wellness. Janell helps coordinate appointments, arrange transportation, and reduce student absences. She is passionate about the services the Chieftain Clinic provides to students, staff, and the community.

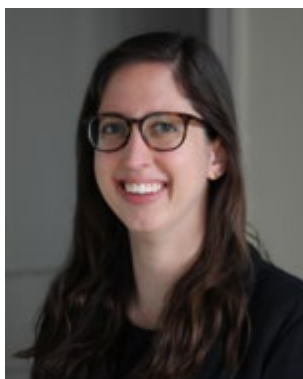
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Jessica Woody, LPCC-S is the Mental Health Director at Warren County ESC, overseeing services across five school districts, three mental health programs, and the Warren County Child Advocacy Center. With 15+ years of clinical and leadership experience, she specializes in youth mental health, trauma-informed care, and prevention. A HOPE framework trainer, she is passionate about collaboration, whole-child approaches, and promoting staff wellness.



Gabby Yeater, MEd is a dedicated School Counselor with Mansfield City Schools. She who works to remove barriers to learning through attendance and behavior support and by connecting families with medical, dental, mental-health, and basic-needs resources. A strong advocate for school-based health clinics, she is committed to helping every student feel seen, cared for, and capable of succeeding.



Natalie Zaborski, MPH is the Quality Consultant for the School Health Services team at Nationwide Children's Hospital, located in Columbus, Ohio. She leads quality improvement projects centered around improving patient outcomes, while utilizing strategies from quality and process improvement, data analytics, and project management.
