



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Patient Centered Care: How to Meet the Requirements for the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and the Healthcare Equality Index

Conference
May 13, 2013

Speaker Biographies

Farina Dary, RN

Member, City of West Hollywood, Lesbian Visibility Committee

Steering Committee Member, LA County Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health Collaborative

Farina Yasmin Dary has committed herself to the LGBT community for over 10 years. She was the program coordinator for the Alcohol and other Drugs program at the LA Gay & Lesbian Center's Health Education Unit and grew the small program through her dedication. Today the AOD's events include events that cater to LGBT youth by offering a drug-free environment to celebrate, socialize, and dance such as Club Freedom, Oasis of Pride, and Rainbow Youth Festival. The Senior-Youth photo project, another example of her accomplishments, seeks to increase self-efficacy and self-worth among youth who participate in it. Among the larger-scale events is "Mind, Body and Soul", a women's health conference which seeks to increase knowledge regarding the impact of substance use on women's health as well as knowledge regarding other health issues impacting Lesbian women. With the need for transgender-specific programs and mobilization, Trans-Unity helps to reunite the community with a Pride-event. Dary completed her B.S. in Biology from USC and her R.N. from Mount St. Mary's.

Allison Diamant, MD

Adjunct Professor, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Dr. Diamant currently holds a position as an Adjunct Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research, Department of Medicine, UCLA School of Medicine. Dr. Diamant has very strong research and clinical interests in striving to eliminate disparities in access to and receipt of health care as a means to ultimately improving health. Her research includes the study of access and quality of care for underserved and vulnerable populations, as well as the evaluation of programs to study care provided to low-income and uninsured populations, breast cancer care for uninsured women, racial and ethnic disparities in colorectal cancer diagnosis and the effect of sexual orientation on access to health care and health status. She is currently collaborating with state and local health departments on a number of projects. In addition, she is an active primary care physician. The findings from her work have been presented at national conferences and published in peer-reviewed journals.

Ellen Eidem M.S.

*Director LA County Department of Public Health's
Office of Women's Health*

A longtime proponent of women's health, Ms. Eidem serves as the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Office of Women's Health (OWH). The OWH works at the individual, community, and systems level to decrease health disparities and improve the health status of women in LA County through education, advocacy, program planning and promotion, data analysis and reporting, facilitating and building collaborations, policy recommendations, and increasing access to services for low income and underserved women. She is responsible for the Women's Health Policy Council, the advisory body to the OWH. Previously, Ms. Eidem served as the Director of Programs and Administration for the Los Angeles Free Clinic (dba: The Saban Free Clinic) and as the Director of Quality Improvement for the California and Los Angeles Regional Family Planning Councils, (dba: California Family Health Council), and an administrator and instructor at Planned Parenthood Alameda/San Francisco and the Berkeley Women's Health Collective.

Jack Kurihara

Director -Strategic Development, Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center

Mr. Kurihara has more than twenty years of healthcare and hospital strategic planning experience. He is currently Director of Strategic Development at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Health System, where he is responsible for strategic planning support, business development and oversight of physician and physician group outreach activities. Mr. Kurihara has held previous positions of Senior Vice President of The Strum Group, a local consulting firm, Vice President of Business Development at UniHealth America, a regional health system, and Area Marketing Manager at an investor-owned hospital system. He holds a Master of Health Administration from the University of Washington, Seattle, WA, and a Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Pacific, Stockton, CA.

Mateo Ledezma, MD

Clinical Director, Center of Excellence, Kaiser Permanente

Mateo Levine Ledezma, MD is a Nephrologists and Director of the Center of Excellence in Culturally Competent Care for LGBTI Health Equity at the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center. He was born and raised in Livermore, California to parents who were Mexican migrant workers. He received his undergraduate bachelor's degree from Harvard College in Cambridge Massachusetts, and his medical degree from the UCLA School of Medicine. He is a Kaiser Permanente physician practicing at the Los Angeles Medical Center. His official titles include Medical Director of the Hemodialysis Unit at East Los Angeles and Director of the Nocturnal Hemodialysis Program at the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center. He is actively involved in the Nephrology training program, providing lectures and training to the residency program, and is lead mentor to the diabetes mellitus group medical visit program at Kaiser Permanente East Los Angeles Medical Offices. His research includes language disparities, hypertension outcomes, hospital stay outcomes, and LGBTI health disparities. His personal passions are gardening, hiking, traveling, opera, and movie-going.

Janet Pregler, MD

Professor of Clinical Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Director, Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center

Janet P. Pregler, M.D. is director of the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center. She is also director of the UCLA National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, established by a contract awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health in 1997. The Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center is one of only nine academic women's health programs in the country to complete this program and be designated an "Ambassador for Change", charged with disseminating models to address inequities in the care of women nationally.

Dr. Pregler is co-editor of the textbook "Women's Health: Principles and Clinical Practice". She has developed educational programs on women's health for the American College of Physicians, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and the Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health.

Shane Snowdon, M.A.

Director, Health & Aging Program

Human Rights Campaign Foundation, Washington, DC

Shane Snowdon heads the national Health & Aging Program of the Human Rights Campaign, the country's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) organization. In that role, she oversees the LGBT Healthcare Equality Index, an annual survey that helps facilities evaluate themselves vis-a-vis best practices in LGBT patient-centered care and provides training to enhance their efforts. She previously led the unique Center for LGBT Health & Equity at the University of California San Francisco, which she founded in 1999. She is a leading voice for LGBT equity and inclusion in healthcare, having helped hundreds of hospitals, schools, and other organizations nationwide improve their care for LGBT patients, and her groundbreaking work has received wide recognition, including the Health Achievement Award of the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association. She has also headed a national women's cancer organization, an urban domestic violence agency, and a citywide employment and training program for ex-inmates and recent immigrants.

Elaine Suranie, RCP

Respiratory Therapist, Glendale Memorial Hospital

Steering Committee Member, LA County Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health Collaborative

Elaine Suranie works full time as a critical care respiratory therapist and has been teaching seminars on ventilator management to nurses for twenty years. In 2006 Elaine was appointed by former Governor Schwarzenegger to the California Commission on the Status of Women where she organized the first televised public hearings held in the State Capitol on The Status of Lesbians in California. In 2008 she worked with Department of Women and Minority Veterans Deputy Secretary Barbara Ward to help create the first California Women Veteran's Conference, now in it's fifth year, and in 2009 she hosted the first California Women Veterans Summit with Senator Lois Wolk. She is an active public speaker for GLIDE - Gays and Lesbians Initiating Dialogue for Equality.

Lynn Yonekura, MD, FACOG

Director, Community Benefit, California Hospital Medical Center

Associate Professor of Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Throughout her career Dr Yonekura has established comprehensive care programs to address her patients' complex needs. Options for Recovery: Harbor/South Bay (www.optionsforrecovery.com) at Harbor/UCLA Medical Center is a comprehensive treatment program for pregnant and parenting chemically-dependent women and their children. The Hope Street Family Center (www.hopestreetfamilycenter.org) at CHMC promotes the health and welfare of our community's children and families through a variety of co-located federal, state, private and locally funded initiatives. These initiatives include early childhood education, school readiness, family literacy, behavioral health, primary health care, after school and academic enrichment, and other family support programs. Los Angeles Best Babies Network (www.labestbabies.org) at CHMC is dedicated to achieving healthy pregnancies and births throughout Los Angeles County by providing training and technical assistance, advocacy and support to increase the capacity of community partners to succeed in these efforts.