



National Institute
of Nursing Research

Innovative Models of Care for Reducing Inequities in **Maternal Health**

VIRTUAL EVENT
September 29, 2020



NIH PARTNERS:

- The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
- Office of Research on Women's Health
- Tribal Health Research Office



Shannon N. Zenk, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN

Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research

Shannon N. Zenk, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN is the Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Dr. Zenk was previously a Nursing Collegiate Professor in the Department of Population Health Nursing Science at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) College of Nursing, and a fellow at the UIC Institute for Health Research and Policy.

Dr. Zenk was elected as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2013, received the President's Award from the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research in 2018, and was inducted into the International Nurse Researchers Hall of Fame in 2019. She has spent time as a visiting scholar in Rwanda and Australia. She earned her bachelor's in nursing, magna cum laude, from Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington; her master's degrees in public health nursing and community health sciences from UIC; and her doctorate in health behavior and health education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Her predoctoral training was in psychosocial factors in mental health and illness, funded by the the National Institute of Mental Health. Her dissertation examined racial and socioeconomic inequities in food access in metropolitan Detroit. She completed postdoctoral training in UIC's Institute for Health Research and Policy's Cancer Education and Career Development Program, funded by the National Cancer Institute, in 2006.

Dr. Zenk's own research focuses on social inequities and health with a goal of identifying effective, multilevel approaches to improve health and eliminate racial/ethnic and socioeconomic health disparities. Her research portfolio has included NIH-supported work into urban food environments, community health solutions and veterans' health. Through pioneering research on the built environment and food deserts, Dr. Zenk and her colleagues increased national attention to the problem of inadequate access to healthful foods in low-income and Black neighborhoods.

They have since examined the role of community environments in health and health disparities. Recognizing that restricting empirical attention to the communities where people live and not the other communities where they spend time may misdirect interventions, Dr. Zenk led early research adopting GPS tracking to study broader "activity space" environments in relation to health behaviors. She and her colleagues have also evaluated whether the effectiveness of behavioral interventions differs depending on environmental context and, most recently, how environmental and personal factors interact to affect health. This work has leveraged a variety of technologies and emerging data resources such as electronic health records. Energy balance-related behaviors and conditions have been a major focus.



Diana W. Bianchi, MD

Director of the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Diana W. Bianchi, MD, Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. In this role, she oversees the institute's research on pediatric health and development, maternal health, reproductive health, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and rehabilitation medicine, among other areas. These efforts include managing a staff of approximately 1,400 people and an annual budget of approximately \$1.5 billion.

Dr. Bianchi has had a busy tenure since joining NICHD in 2016. She spearheaded efforts on the NICHD Strategic Plan, released in September 2019, which outlines goals and aspirations to guide institute research for the next five years. She also oversaw the crafting and vetting of the institute's new vision statement—*Healthy Pregnancies. Healthy Children. Healthy and Optimal Lives*—as well as its new mission statement. The latter, generated alongside the strategic plan, underscores NICHD's directive since its founding—to lead research and training to understand human development—and incorporates goals for all facets of NICHD—to improve reproductive health, enhance the lives of children and adolescents, and optimize abilities for all.

Dr. Bianchi received her BA *magna cum laude* from the University of Pennsylvania and her MD from Stanford University School of Medicine. She completed her residency training in Pediatrics at the Children's Hospital, Boston and her postdoctoral fellowship training in both Medical Genetics and Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Harvard. She is board certified in all three specialties and is a practicing medical geneticist with special expertise in reproductive genetics and genomics. Dr. Bianchi's translational research focuses on two broad themes: prenatal genomics with the goal of advancing noninvasive prenatal DNA screening and diagnosis, and investigating the fetal transcriptome to develop new therapies for genetic disorders that can be given prenatally.

Dr. Bianchi has published more than 300 peer-reviewed articles, and she is one of four authors of *Fetology: Diagnosis and Management of the Fetal Patient*. This book won the Association of American Publishers award for best textbook in clinical medicine in 2000. The second edition was published in April 2010 and is in its third printing. It has been translated into Japanese, Mandarin, and Spanish.

Dr. Bianchi is widely recognized for her achievements. Prior to coming to NICHD, she spent 23 years at Tufts Medical Center, where she was the founding Executive Director of the Mother Infant Research Institute, as well as the Natalie V. Zucker Professor of Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and Gynecology at Tufts University School of Medicine. Dr. Bianchi also was the Vice Chair for Pediatric Research at the Floating Hospital for Children, Boston, and served for a time on the NICHD advisory council. She is currently Editor-in-Chief of the international journal *Prenatal Diagnosis* and is a Past President of the International Society for Prenatal Diagnosis and the Perinatal Research Society. She is a former member of the Board of Directors of the American Society for Human Genetics and a former council member of both the Society for Pediatric Research and the American Pediatric Society.



Dorothy Fink, MD

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Women's Health and
Director of the Office on Women's Health in the Office
of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) at the U.S.
Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Dorothy Fink, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Women's Health and Director of the Office on Women's Health in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Fink brings to OASH extensive experience treating women's health issues. She is board certified in endocrinology, internal medicine, and pediatrics, and is recognized as a physician leader on topics such as diabetes, nutrition, and bone health. Previously, her clinical practice focused on women from adolescence through menopause and beyond. She is a nationally certified menopause practitioner and an expert on estrogen.

Dr. Fink has done extensive research related to women's health, including evaluation of blood markers to assist in the diagnosis of hypothalamic amenorrhea and investigating the role of diabetes in women's skeletal health. Dr. Fink has presented at national meetings on polycystic ovary syndrome, the female athlete triad, and other bone-related conditions. Most recently, Dr. Fink practiced at the Hospital for Special Surgery and New York Presbyterian Hospital, Cornell University, where she served on the faculty and worked with women to attain optimal health, treated metabolic bone conditions, and improved patients' diabetes care prior to surgery.

As a Georgetown University undergraduate focusing on health studies, Dr. Fink developed a passion for public health. She received her medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine. She completed her combined internal medicine and pediatrics residency at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. She then completed a National Institutes of Health post-doctoral fellowship in endocrinology and metabolism at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. During her fellowship, Dr. Fink was selected as a Women's Health Scholar and worked at the Center for Menopause, Hormonal Disorders and Women's Health. She has published numerous peer-reviewed articles on a variety of topics, including thromboembolic disease, diabetes, and osteoporosis.



Rebekah Rasooly, PhD

Branch Chief, Wellness; Technology and Training Branch,
Division of Extramural Science Programs, NINR

Dr. Rebekah Rasooly joined the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) as Branch Chief for the Wellness, Technology & Training Branch in late 2017.

Prior to joining NINR, Dr. Rasooly directed a program in Genetics and Genomics of Kidney and Urologic Disease for the Division of Kidney, Urologic & Hematologic Disease at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), where she also served as Deputy Division Director for several years. At NIH, she has carried out extensive policy work in the Office of Extramural Programs, and in the international arena, serving as the US representative on an OECD panel that developed Guidelines for Human Biobanks and Genetic Research Databases. Dr. Rasooly did her undergraduate work at Harvard and received her PhD in genetics from Michigan State University in 1989. She joined NIH after serving as Clare Boothe Luce Assistant Professor of Biology at St. John's University and as a Visiting Professor at Johns Hopkins University and as Assistant Deputy Scientific Director for the OMIM (On-line Mendelian Inheritance in Man) database.



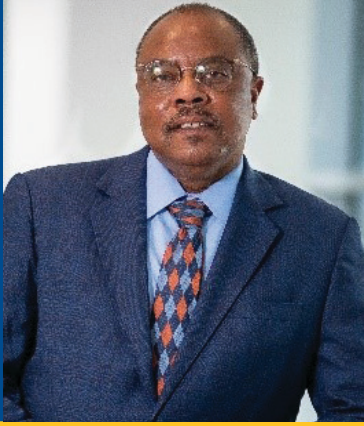
Janine Austin Clayton, MD

NIH Associate Director for Research on Women's Health and Director, NIH Office of Research on Women's Health

Janine Austin Clayton, MD, Associate Director for Research on Women's Health and Director of the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is the architect of the NIH policy requiring scientists to consider sex as a biological variable across the research spectrum. This policy is part of NIH's initiative to enhance reproducibility through rigor and transparency. As co-chair of the NIH Working Group on Women in Biomedical Careers with NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins, Dr. Clayton also leads NIH's efforts to advance women in science careers.

Prior to joining the ORWH, Dr. Clayton was the Deputy Clinical Director of the National Eye Institute (NEI) for seven years. A board-certified ophthalmologist, Dr. Clayton's research interests include autoimmune ocular diseases and the role of sex and gender in health and disease. She is the author of more than 80 scientific publications, journal articles, and book chapters. Dr. Clayton, a native Washingtonian, received her undergraduate degree with honors from Johns Hopkins University and her medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine. She completed a residency in ophthalmology at the Medical College of Virginia. Dr. Clayton completed fellowship training in cornea and external disease at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital and in uveitis and ocular immunology at NEI.

Dr. Clayton has received numerous awards, including the Senior Achievement Award from the Board of Trustees of the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2008 and the European Uveitis Patient Interest Association Clinical Uveitis Research Award in 2010. She was selected as a 2010 Silver Fellow by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. In 2015, she was awarded the American Medical Women's Association Lila A. Wallis Women's Health Award and the Wenger Award for Excellence in Public Service. Dr. Clayton was granted the Bernadine Healy Award for Visionary Leadership in Women's Health in 2016. She was also selected as an honoree for the Woman's Day Red Dress Awards and the American Medical Association's Dr. Nathan Davis Awards for Outstanding Government Service in 2017.



Haywood Brown, MD
University of South Florida

Dr. Haywood Brown received his undergraduate degree from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and his Medical Degree from Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Tennessee Center for Health Sciences Knoxville, followed by subspecialty fellowship training in Maternal and Fetal Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine/Grady Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Brown has served in numerous local and national leadership positions including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. In 2017-2018, Dr. Brown served as the 68th President of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He was also the Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Duke University from 2002-2016.

Dr. Brown has previously held leadership positions as Chair of Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology (CREOG), the Board of Directors for the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine and Past President of SMFM. He is past President of the American Gynecological Obstetrical Society (AGOS). Dr. Brown leadership includes the NIH DC Initiative on Infant Mortality and the HSRA Perinatal and Patient Safety Collaboration.

In July 2018, Dr. Brown was named the Vice President for Institutional Equity at the University of South Florida and the Associate Dean in the Morsani College of Medicine at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida where he serves as Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine.



Melissa Cheyney, PhD, CPM, LDM
Oregon State University

Melissa Cheyney PhD, LDM is Associate Professor of Clinical Medical Anthropology at Oregon State University (OSU) and a Licensed Midwife. She is Co-Director of Uplift—a research and reproductive equity laboratory at OSU, where she serves as the Primary Investigator on more than 20 maternal and infant health-related research projects, including the Community Doula Project. She is the author of an ethnography entitled *Born at Home* (2010, Wadsworth Press), co-editor of *Birth in Eight Cultures* (2019, Waveland Press), and has published more than 60 peer-reviewed articles that examine the cultural beliefs and clinical outcomes associated with midwife-attended birth at home and in birth centers in the United States. She is also the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Birth: Issues in Perinatal Care*.

In 2019, Dr. Cheyney served on the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine's Birth Settings in America Study and in 2020 was named Eminent Professor by OSU's Honors College. She also received Oregon State University's prestigious Scholarship Impact Award for her work in the International Reproductive Health Laboratory and with the Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA) Statistics Project. She is the mother of a daughter born at home on International Day of the Midwife in 2009.



Rebecca Henry, PhD, RN

Program Director, HIV/AIDS and Immune Function
Division of Extramural Science Programs, NINR

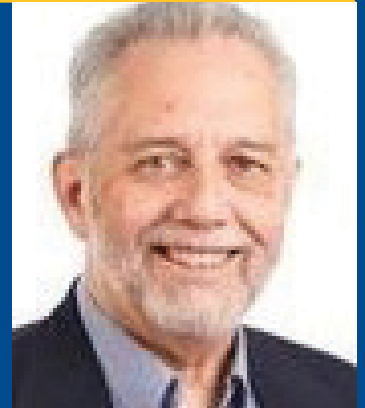
Dr. Henry is the HIV/AIDS coordinator for NINR and a Program Director overseeing a portfolio focused on HIV/AIDS/immune function. She is an experienced clinician and public health professional and has conducted research and problem-solving studies among immigrant and minority groups in the United States, as well as in communities in Laos, the Philippines, Ghana, Guyana, and Mexico. During her tenure with the Demographic and Health Research Group, Dr. Henry worked with researchers and physicians from around the world on major health initiatives including evaluation strategies to measure the impact of the President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief. Dr. Henry holds a BS (nursing), MA (anthropology), and a PhD (anthropology).



Kimberly D. Gregory, MD, MPH

Division & Fellowship Director, Maternal-Fetal Medicine and Vice Chair, Women's Healthcare Quality and Performance Improvement in the Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Kimberly Gregory, MD, MPH is Vice Chair, Women's Healthcare Quality and Performance Improvement at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and specializes in high-risk obstetrics. Her research interests include maternal quality indicators, patient reported outcome measures for childbirth, patient safety, appropriate cesarean section rates, and maternal morbidity and mortality. She has served in leadership positions for: the U.S. Public Health Services Prevention Task Force, Institute of Medicine Committee on Preventive Services for Women, Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine Board of Directors, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist, California Maternal Mortality Review Committee, National Quality Forum, and state/national level health and public policy committees.



Eugene Declercq, PhD

Boston University

Eugene Declercq is Professor of Community Health Sciences at the Boston University School of Public Health and Professor on the faculty of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Boston University School of Medicine. He has been part of the team that produced 6 reports since 2002 on women's experiences in childbirth entitled Listening to Mothers and is the founder of the website www.birthbythenumbers.org. He is a current member of the Massachusetts Maternal Mortality Review Committee and is a recipient of the Martha May Eliot Award from the American Public Health Association for service to maternal and child health in the U.S.



Saraswathi Vedam, RM, PhD, FACNM, SciD(hc)
University of British Columbia

Saraswathi Vedam is Lead Investigator of the Birth Place Lab and Professor of Midwifery in the Faculty of Medicine at University of British Columbia. Over the past 35 years, she has served as clinician, educator, researcher, and mother of four daughters. Dr. Vedam has coordinated several transdisciplinary and community-led research projects across North America, including the *Access and Integration Maternity care Mapping (AIMM) Study* on the impact of integration of midwives in the United States on maternal-newborn outcomes. She also led the *Giving Voice to Mothers Study* that established significant differences by race, type of provider, and place of birth in experience of mistreatment by maternity providers in the US. These projects led to the development of pragmatic person-centered care quality measures: *Mothers' Autonomy in Decision Making (MADM)* scale and the *Mothers on Respect (MORi)* index, which received the 2017 National Quality Forum Innovation Prize.

In Canada, she led *Changing Childbirth in BC*, a provincial, participatory study of women's experiences of maternity and the *Canadian Birth Place Study* that examined attitudes to place of birth among maternity care provider. She is currently PI for *RESPCCT*, a national study to examine respectful maternity care across Canada, with a focus on amplifying voices of communities that are seldom heard.

Professor Vedam has been active in setting international policy on place of birth, midwifery education and regulation, and interprofessional collaboration. She convened 4 national transdisciplinary Birth Summits in the US, and chaired the 5th International Normal Labour and Birth Research conference in Vancouver. In 2017, she was selected as a Michael Smith Health Research Institute Health Professional Investigator.



Monica Webb Hooper, PhD

Deputy Director, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Dr. Monica Webb Hooper is Deputy Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). She works closely with the Director, Dr. Pérez-Stable, and the leadership, to oversee all aspects of the institute and to support the implementation of the science visioning recommendations to improve minority health, reduce health disparities, and promote health equity.

Dr. Webb Hooper is an internationally recognized translational behavioral scientist and clinical health psychologist. She has dedicated her career to the scientific study of minority health and racial/ethnic disparities, focusing on chronic illness prevention and health behavior change. Her program of community engaged research focuses on understanding multilevel factors and biopsychosocial mechanisms underlying modifiable risk factors, such as tobacco use and stress processes, and the development of community responsive and culturally specific interventions. Her goal is to contribute to the body of scientific knowledge and disseminate findings into communities with high need.

Before joining NIMHD, Dr. Webb Hooper was a Professor of Oncology, Family Medicine & Community Health and Psychological Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. She was also Associate Director for Cancer Disparities Research and Director of the Office of Cancer Disparities Research in the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center. During her time as a professor, Dr. Webb Hooper was principal investigator of federal and foundation grants, totaling over \$15 million. To date, she has published over 90 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

Dr. Webb Hooper completed her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of South Florida, internship in medical psychology from the University of Florida Health Sciences Center, and her Bachelor of Science from the University of Miami.



Rachael Willard-Grace, MPH
University of California, San Francisco

Rachel Willard-Grace is the Director of the Center for Excellence in Primary Care (CEPC) at the University of California San Francisco. Her research tests new models of healthcare delivery such as health coaching that integrate team members such as medical assistants, community health workers, or lay health advisors as key members of the care team to improve health outcomes. Her interests also include the ways in which patients and communities may be partners who transform care delivery for vulnerable populations. Rachel began her career as a medical assistant, pharmacy tech, and interpreter – and later as the Executive Director of a free clinic in Texas. Rachel has a master's in Public Health from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.



Julia Phillippi, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN
Vanderbilt University

Dr. Julia Phillippi is an Assistant Professor and Nurse-Midwifery Specialty Director at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing and a practicing Certified Nurse-Midwife at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN. She is an Associate Editor for the Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health. Her research interests include access to prenatal care, interprofessional team-based care, and birth center perinatal care.



Sindhu Srinivas, MD, MSCE
University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Srinivas is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Director of Obstetrical Services at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She has appointments in the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and is a Senior Fellow of the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics at the University of Pennsylvania. She received her Master's of Science in Clinical Epidemiology (MSCE) from the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of Pennsylvania and has developed a successful research program in Maternal Fetal Medicine. Dr. Srinivas' research includes both clinical/epidemiologic and health services. Specifically, her current areas of research include: 1) evaluating innovative health care delivery strategies to improve maternal outcomes, 2) studying and developing obstetric quality measures as well as understanding the impact of practice changes (individual level and system level) on maternal and neonatal outcomes and 3) understanding the etiology of racial/ethnic disparities in maternal and neonatal outcomes.

As an Obstetrician Gynecologist and Maternal Fetal Medicine specialist, Dr. Srinivas has a clinical interest in cardiovascular disease and hypertension during pregnancy and in the overall delivery and systems of obstetric care delivery. She is deeply committed to improving health outcomes of women and children through her research, advocacy and clinical work.

Dr. Srinivas is an active member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) and is currently Vice Chair of the SMFM Health Policy and Advocacy committee and is on the SMFM Board of Directors.



Charisee Lamar, PhD, MPH, RRT

Director of the Office of Health Equity at the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Dr. Charisee Lamar is the Director of the Office of Health Equity at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) within the Office of the Director. She has a wide range of experience in the areas of program management, strategic planning, interagency collaboration, and training. She also has a strong track record of multiple efforts to diversify the scientific workforce, including being the head of the NIH Program Leadership Committee Diversity Working Group, being one of only three NIH staff members to participate in a White House Office of Science Technology and Policy Workforce Diversity summit, serving on the NICHD Training Task Force, and co-chairing the Diversity Supplement Committee.

Charisee leads several trans-NICHD working groups and committees, including the Maternal Health Coordinating Committee (MHCC), the Race, Ancestry Health Working group, and the workforce diversity and health disparities research committees. She is a member of the NIH Maternal Mortality Taskforce, and represents the NICHD on the NIH Diversity Catalyst Committee, the NIH Sex Gender Minority Research Office, and the Tribal Health Research Office. Charisee also serves as an Ex Officio Member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women

Dr. Lamar joined the NICHD as a program officer in 2005. As a program official, she directed the Reproductive Neuroendocrinology, the Fertility Preservation Programs, and the Reproductive Scientist Development Program within the Fertility and Infertility Branch at NICHD. She also served as the committee coordinator for the Reproductive Medicine Network.

Prior to joining NICHD, Dr. Lamar was the centers program director at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), NIH. Her portfolio included Specialized Centers of Research (SCORs) and Multipurpose Clinical Research Centers relevant to NIAMS' mission. She also managed SCORs on Sex and Gender Factors Affecting Women's Health on behalf of the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health.

Dr. Lamar was an NIH Cancer Prevention Fellow at the National Cancer Institute, where her research focused on the role of sex hormones and hormone receptors in the risk of breast cancer.

Dr. Lamar received an undergraduate degree in respiratory therapy from Augusta University (formerly the Medical College of Georgia) and later became a Registered Respiratory Therapist. She earned a doctoral degree in endocrinology from the Medical College of Georgia and received a master's in public health degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.



Robyn D'Oria, MA, RNC, APN
Central Jersey FHC

Robyn D'Oria is the Chief Executive Officer of the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium a 501(c)3, not-for-profit agency. The Consortium is a regionalized network of agencies and providers involved in the delivery of perinatal and pediatric services in central New Jersey whose mission is to promote an equitable and healthy future for families through services, advocacy, education and collaboration. Having administrative oversight of the agency she oversees a variety of community-based initiatives that serve women, children and families throughout NJ including home visiting programs.

Robyn has over 35 years of experience in maternal child health in a variety of roles including Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist and Director of Women's and Children's Services; as well as faculty of pediatric and maternal child health nursing in a number of baccalaureate and associate degree programs. She is the immediate past NJ Section Chair for the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) and was a member of their Expert Panel on Maternal Mortality. Additionally, she is the co-chair of the NJ Perinatal Quality Collaborative as well as a core partner through the American College of Obstetrician/Gynecologists (ACOG) for the Alliance for Innovation in Maternal Health (AIM) a national quality improvement program aimed at improving patient safety in obstetrics.

Robyn has been integrally involved in developing and promoting this quality improvement work not only locally but nationally having published about the patient safety bundles in peer reviewed journals and speaking about efforts to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity at the state and national level.



Patrisia Gonzales, PhD
University of Arizona

Dr. Patrisia Gonzales (Kickapoo/Comanche and Macehual) is the author of *Red Medicine: Traditional Indigenous Rites of Birthing and Healing* (University of Arizona Press) and *Traditional Indian Medicine* (Kendall Hunt). She is a mother maker, baby catcher, and herbalist and has collaborated with Macehual knowledge keepers since 1990. She descends from three generations of bonesetters, herbalists, midwives, and traditional doctors.

She teaches courses on Indigenous medicine at the University of Arizona and is executive director of the Indigenous Alliance Without Borders, the oldest Indigenous rights organization in Southern Arizona. She is part of a core group of Native midwives who are establishing an Indigenous midwifery organization dedicated to bringing birth back to Indian Country. She serves as Co- Investigator, American Indian Research Center for Health, Student Development, and is faculty the Department of Mexican American Studies, the American Indian Studies Graduate Interdisciplinary Program and in the Native American Research and Training Center (NARTC), College of Medicine.



Pandora Hardtman, DNP, RN, CNM, FACNM

Dr. Pandora Hardtman brings over two decades of midwifery experience working in diverse healthcare settings, including the USA, the Caribbean, South East Asia, the Arab states and Africa. She obtained a BSN and induction into Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society of Nursing from John Hopkins University, a MSc in Nursing from the University of California Los Angeles, and a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from University of Alabama at Birmingham focusing on the International Competencies for Midwifery for family planning and post abortion care. After more than a decade of direct clinical service delivery she began to serve as a Midwifery Capacity Building Specialist Consultant for organizations including the UNFPA, DFID/ UK Aid, GIZ, HRH 2030 and Engender/Health Fistula Care plus, specializing in midwifery/maternal child health services in low resourced and conflict/fragile settings. She has worked closely with Ministries of Health and midwifery organizations to provide strategic direction, clinical and programmatic assistance for the design and implementation of global, regional and country level MN and SRH programs. Her expertise spans regulatory process/curriculum development, leadership development and workforce capacitation while maintaining active clinical practice in a diverse metropolitan setting. A Fellow of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM), she serves as a national governmental affairs/legislative committee liaison for southern states and represented ACNM in the development of the multidisciplinary Alliance for Maternal Innovation (AIM) Reduction of - Peripartum Racial Disparities Bundle. She also serves on the Advisory Board for a philanthropic foundation which funds MNCH/WASH projects, and is currently co- chair of the Global COVID Perinatal Taskforce on Birth Setting. She is elected to the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) Board Representing North Americas/Caribbean countries.



Stacey L. Dawson, PhD, MSN, CNM
Indian Health Service

CAPT Dawson graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Baccalaureate degree in Nursing and joined the Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant. Her initial inspiration to become a nurse midwife occurred when she attended a specialized OB course instructed by midwives at Langley AFB, VA. In 2003 CAPT Dawson transferred from the USAF to the USPHS and served as a nurse in a variety of roles at the Florence Immigration Detention Center. While working there she earned her MSN from Frontier Nursing University, transferring to PIMC in 2009 as a nurse midwife. She later served as the Chief of Midwifery Services for three years before transferring to the Phoenix Area Office in 2016. CAPT Dawson also completed her PhD from Capella University in 2016, with a concentration in Nursing Education. She has a special interest in education and enjoys working with students in various educational programs. She lives with her husband and they have five children ages two to twenty. She imagines if she had free time she would spend it outdoors or scrapbooking.



Rachel Hardeman, PhD, MPH
University of Minnesota

Dr. Rachel R. Hardeman is a tenured Associate Professor in the Division of Health Policy & Management, University of Minnesota, School of Public Health and the Blue Cross Endowed Professor in Health and Racial Equity. A reproductive health equity researcher, she applies the tools of population health science and health services research to elucidate a critical and complex determinant of health inequity—racism. Dr. Hardeman leverages the frameworks of critical race theory and reproductive justice to inform her equity-centered work which aims to build the empirical evidence of racism’s impact on health particularly for Black birthing people and their babies. Dr. Hardeman’s research includes a partnership with Roots Community Birth Center, in North Minneapolis, one of five Black-owned freestanding birth centers in the United States. Her work also examines the potential mental health impacts for Black birthing people when living in a community that has experienced the killing of an unarmed Black person by police. Published in journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine* and the *American Journal of Public Health*, Dr. Hardeman’s research has elicited important conversations on the topics of culturally-centered care, police brutality and structural racism as a fundamental cause of health inequities. Her overarching goal is to contribute to a body of knowledge that links structural racism to health in a tangible way, identifies opportunities for intervention, and dismantles the systems, structures, and institutions that allow inequities to persist.

Dr. Hardeman is the recipient of several award for her work as an early career investigator including the Dr. Josie R. Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Award from the University of Minnesota (2019) the 2020 recipient of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASSPH) Early Career Public Health Research Award. She was recently named a McKnight Presidential Fellow awarded for her excellence in research and scholarship, leadership and recently received the AcademyHealth Alice S. Hersh Emerging Leader Award for the impact her research has had on health policy. She is also active locally and nationally with organizations that seek to achieve health equity such as the Minnesota Maternal Mortality Review Committee and the Board of Directors for Planned Parenthood of the North Central States.

Dr. Hardeman earned an undergraduate degree in chemistry and Spanish from Xavier University of Louisiana, an MPH in Public Health Administration and Policy and a PhD in Health Services Research and Policy from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health.



Jeanne Murphy, CNM, PhD
George Washington University

Jeanne Murphy, PhD, CNM, FACNM, is an assistant professor of nursing in the faculty community of Policy, Populations and Systems. Prior to joining the George Washington University, Dr. Murphy was a program officer in the Healthcare Delivery and Disparities Research Program at Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute. She completed her post-doctoral Cancer Prevention Fellowship with the Division of Cancer Prevention at the National Cancer Institute, where she designed and conducted research projects on prevention of breast and cervical cancer. Her doctoral dissertation featured a randomized clinical trial of self-collected HPV testing and results counseling as an intervention to improve cervical cancer screening in a group of women living with HIV infection. Dr. Murphy is a practicing certified nurse-midwife with special interests in lactation, colposcopy and care of underserved women. She works as a nurse-midwife at University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center and has been a fellow of the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology since 1998.



Vivienne Souter, MD
University of Washington

Vivienne is originally from Scotland and graduated as a physician (MBChB) from the University of Glasgow in 1988. She has a postgraduate research degree (MD) also from the University of Glasgow. She has worked in Ob/Gyn both in the UK and in the US. She is a Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and board certified in the US in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Genetics. Vivienne works part time as an Ob/Gyn in Seattle and spends the rest of her time working on research and quality improvement with OB COAP (Obstetrical Care Outcomes Assessment Program), at the Foundation for Health Care Quality. Her research interests include the role of midwifery care in the US, quality improvement in health care, and predictive modeling and risk stratification in obstetrics.