

Todd Anderson is the Market President of Blue Cross Complete of Michigan, a health plan dedicated to promoting equitable health outcomes for its members by addressing whole-person care. Anderson is responsible for the general oversight of the plan's day-to-day operations, including medical affairs, quality, provider network management, communications and marketing, and community outreach.

Anderson has been with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan for 14 years, most recently serving as director of Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs. He also spent more than a decade in various leadership roles at the Michigan House of Representatives. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in public administration from Western Michigan University. Anderson also completed the *Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program* at Harvard University.

Bio sketch – Alison Arnold:

Alison Arnold, Ed.D., is the Executive Director for the Rural Health Equity Institute at Central Michigan University. The CMU Rural Health Equity Institute is an outreach initiative of the CMU College of Medicine and focuses on tangible ways to maximize cross-sector and academic collaborations to engage the full scope Michigan’s professional/clinical partners to work with local community-based services providers across health and education sectors. In this role, Dr. Arnold facilitates the Institute’s programs and offerings and has expertise in interdisciplinary research, program evaluation, data dashboard development, partnership linkages for improving rural population health, and health information exchange (HIE) strategic deployment. In 2023, she was appointed by Michigan’s Governor to serve as a member of the Health Information Technology Commission. CMU Rural Health Equity Institute is recognized for its programs and collaborations with the community for suicide prevention, Telemental health, psychiatry, family and pediatric medicine, health education pipeline partnerships and especially for engaging with medically underserved communities.

As a systems thinker and boundary spanner, Dr. Arnold’s experience cuts across education, business, and philanthropy. With over 20 years in education administration, she has led community engagement initiatives, grants, and partnerships to support learning for P-12 and higher education institutions. She serves on the board for the Utopia Foundation which is dedicated to help create a world where communities thrive and every child goes to bed feeling nourished, loved, happy and hopeful about tomorrow.

Dr. Arnold is a Master Trainer for the Michigan ACEs Initiative and delivers education and training for teachers, allied health and medical professions, community health workers, parents, and others who support children and individuals experiencing trauma and adversity in their lives. By creating awareness within communities, mobilizing health care professionals and educators, and giving them tools to productively and timely intervene, we can ensure that children, families, and adults receive life-changing assistance.



William Beecroft M.D., D.L.F.A.P.A.  
Medical Director Behavioral Health BCBSM/BCN

Dr Beecroft is currently responsible for the Behavioral Health medical administration of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan Behavioral Health strategy and planning team. He has been a strong advocate for the Collaborative Care Model expansion, Crisis services, Adult and Child intensive services, CCBHC and First Episode Psychosis programming.

Dr. Beecroft received his M.D. from Michigan State University. He is board certified in general psychiatry with added qualifications in Geriatrics and Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Dr Beecroft is the president elect of the Michigan Psychiatric Society. He was named a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association in 2018. He was awarded the NAMI 2023 lifetime achievement award recipient



**Government and Regulatory Affairs,  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan**

As the Director of Public Policy, Phyllis provides strategic direction on state and federal policy issues impacting health care. Phyllis' breadth of knowledge at Blue Cross spans responsibilities including regulatory communications, advocacy strategy, regulatory implementation, business impact analysis and long-term planning.

Prior to joining Blue Cross, Phyllis served in the state legislature as the communications director and press secretary for the Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives; and was appointed for two terms to the State Officer's Compensation Committee.

In her personal time, she founded Kind Cakes, a nonprofit providing Clinton County foster families with birthday cakes and celebrations. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from the University of Michigan. A native Michigander, Phyllis lives in the Dewitt area with her family.

On July 2nd, 1985, Tameka Citchen-Spruce was 6 months old, she was involved in a horrific car accident that left her paralyzed from mid-chest down. However, based on her experiences, she has developed a strong passion for disability advocacy and media. It started at 21 years old, as Ms. Wheelchair MI 2006. Later she studied Broadcast Television and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Journalism from Oakland University.

Because of the combination of her journalism knowledge, and activism she learned the importance of telling a person's story. Her short film, Justifiable Homicide, has been nominated and won an award and her documentary My Girl Story has been selected for film festivals and now available on Tubi and Amazon Prime.

Besides her film accomplishments, she has over 15 years advocating on issues of people with disabilities particularly women, girls and people of color. She advocated for affordable and accessible housing, voting access, racial and gender injustices, criminal justice and health equity. Currently, she's the Director of LEAD-IN, a leadership development program for non-profits who want to focus on more disability inclusion of BIPOC communities with disabilities for the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition. And she volunteers for Warriors on Wheels of Metro Detroit working on criminal justice reform for people with disabilities.

She has been selected for wonderful fellowships such as Americorp, Public Allies of Metro Detroit, and Detroit Equity Action Lab at Judge Damon Keith's Wayne State University Law Center. She was selected to be Disability Delegate at the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference. And she is a proud member of the National Black Disability Coalition.



## Mark Contreras, DNP, NP

Mark Contreras began at Catherine's in 2012 as a volunteer RN, and since then has worked a variety of jobs within the organization until becoming our Medical Director in January of 2021. Mark is dedicated to patient wellbeing and cares deeply about the patients he works with. He finds that his favorite part about working at Catherine's is the genuine culture of high quality, dignified patient care here.

Mark is passionate about supporting patients through their individual experiences, tailoring their care to be specific to their unique needs and considerations so that they have a fair chance at maintaining or regaining their health.

## **Neel Hajra**

Neel Hajra is the CEO of the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, a philanthropic foundation that distributes over \$35 million/year to improve the health and wellness of Michigan residents. His prior CEO roles were with the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation (during which he was named “CEO of the Year” by the United Way of Washtenaw County) and Nonprofit Enterprise at Work (where he was awarded national fellowships for nonprofit leadership by the Aspen Institute and American Express). For 13 years Neel taught a graduate course on nonprofit policy and management at the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy and was named to its teaching honor roll many times. He serves as a national board officer for Grantmakers for Effective Organizations and has previously served in board officer roles for the Council of Michigan Foundations and the Washtenaw County Health Department. Neel is a proud husband and father of three and excited to become an empty nester soon (please don’t tell his kids that).

## Biography:

Tiwanna Hatcher, MPA, currently serves as the Senior Strategy Manager at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. In this role, Ms. Hatcher leads cross-departmental collaborations to advance the state's Social Determinants of Health strategy. She oversees the Community Health Workers Advisory Council and directs projects focused on community health workers within the Office of Policy and Planning. Tiwanna leverages her extensive expertise in national best practices, health equity, relationship management, and cross-functional collaboration to develop and implement key project strategies aligned with the health equity priorities of the Policy, Planning, and Operational Support Administration at MDHHS.

Before joining MDHHS, Tiwanna Hatcher held executive roles at nonprofit organizations dedicated to social justice and health equity. She played pivotal roles in designing and implementing initiatives aimed at reducing health disparities and improving access to healthcare for underserved communities. Notably, Tiwanna led a COVID-19 health equity initiative at the CDC Foundation, supporting the Indiana Department of Health, where she designed and implemented statewide interventions targeting rural residents and faith communities.

Throughout her career, Ms. Hatcher has been a champion for health equity, employing her expertise to foster meaningful change in systems and policies. Her work continues to focus on advancing health equity and addressing social determinants of health to create more equitable health outcomes for all.

**Masters of Public Administration** specializing in Fiscal and Human Management  
Wayne State University

**Bachelor's of Arts in Women's and Gender Studies**  
Michigan State University



**Kenneth L. Hayward, Vice President, Special Assistant to the President for Community Relations**



Ken Hayward joined Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan in 2021 and is responsible for leading and overseeing the company's Social Mission and Community Responsibility efforts. He leads the teams that connect with communities and partners regarding the company's enterprise health initiatives and expansive grantmaking. These initiatives enhance health and wellness resources to K-12 schools statewide as well as increase access to care that improves equitable healthcare throughout the state. Hayward also manages Blue Cross' corporate partnership with the Strategic Neighborhood Fund, a significant investment designed to improve the Detroit neighborhoods, including East English Village, Morningside and Cornerstone.

Hayward currently serves as a board member of the Detroit Regional Chamber, Downtown Detroit Partnership, Detroit Sports Commission and Visit Detroit, the Michigan Economic Development Foundation, and The Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation, which oversees The Parade Company.

Prior to joining Blue Cross, Hayward spent over 35 years representing the iconic Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Michigan, serving as executive vice president and managing director. He was responsible for overseeing all operations, branding and promotion of the hotel and its properties.

Hayward is a lifelong Michigander with close ties to community and business leaders across our state. He resides in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with his wife, Nancy. He has two children, Alexandra and Zach. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.

## **ERIC ELLSWORTH HIPPLE - BIO**

Eric Hipple is a former National Football League (NFL) quarterback whose ten-year career was spent with the Detroit Lions. Born in Lubbock, Texas, raised in Downey California, Eric attended Utah State University to play football and to study business administration. Hipple earned first-team all-Pacific Coast Conference honors as a senior in 1979 and led Utah State to its only back-to-back conference championships in school history. After his graduation and collegiate football career, Hipple played in the 1979 Blue-Gray All-American All-star game and was then selected by the Detroit Lions in the fourth round of the 1980 NFL Draft. Hipple's 10-year career with the Lions included two playoff bids, a divisional championship, and the Detroit Lion's most valuable player award for the '81 season. In 1993 Hipple was named to Utah State's All-Century team. From 1995-2000 Hipple was the color analyst for the FOX NFL pre-game show in Detroit.

In 2000, Hipple lost his 15-year-old son Jeff to suicide. Since then, Hipple has devoted his life to building awareness and breaking down the stigma surrounding depressive illnesses.

In 2006, Hipple was awarded a presidential citation at the American Psychological Association's 2006 Annual Convention for his six years of national, community-based work combating adolescent depression and suicide prevention. He also co-authored a study examining depression among retired football players, which appeared in the April 2007 issue of *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*. In 2008, Hipple published his award-winning book, *"Real Men Do Cry."* That same year he received the prestigious *Life Saver Achievement Award* from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. In 2010, Eric received the *Detroit Lions' 2010 Courage House Award*, and in 2015, *the University of Michigan's Neubacher Award* for work with stigma associated with disabilities. Hipple has also received an Honorary Doctorate for his work in Mental Health from his Alma Mater, giving the commencement speech to the 2019 class at Utah State University.

After ten years as an outreach coordinator, at the University of Michigan's Comprehensive Depression Center, Eric co-founded the *After The Impact Fund* supporting mental health treatment for NFL legends and military veterans. He works now as a national and international speaker on mental wellness, providing workshops and messages throughout the community, with an emphasis on the military, veterans, youth, and employees in the workplace. This is his fourth year partnering with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, to share his messages of resiliency, mental wellness, and eliminating the stigma surrounding mental health.

Eric's commitment to helping others find a quality in life is additionally demonstrated through his ongoing community support as a board member for several nonprofit organizations. He and his wife Shelly, reside in Fenton, Michigan.

With more than 25 years of progressive experience in communications, community relations, corporate giving and diversity and inclusion, **Bridget Hurd** has worked in the health care industry helping facilitate stronger linkages among the community and health care institutions and fostering a culture of inclusion in the health care community and among employees.

Hurd is the chief diversity officer and vice president, Inclusion and Diversity, at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan where she is responsible for leading and executing the corporate diversity and inclusion strategy and shaping a culture of inclusion that emphasizes the recognition, understanding and acceptance of the differences and similarities in people, and that is culturally competent in providing services to its members and customers. She facilitates the Diversity Leadership Council and oversees diversity and cultural competency learning opportunities for employees and 10 employee resource networks. Hurd is also responsible for leading the Health Disparities Action Team, which focuses on systemic approaches to addressing health and health care disparities. She also cultivates strong stakeholder relationships and partnerships in diverse and ethnic communities. Hurd currently represents Blue Cross on the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities, appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer in April 2020. She is a recipient of the DentaQuest 2020 Health Equity Heroes award which recognizes the work of individuals working to achieve equity during this time of coronavirus.

Prior to that, Hurd was the director of Community Responsibility at Blue Cross. In this role, she developed and led strategic community partnerships to encourage healthy, active lifestyles at every age and advanced the Blue Cross brand in local communities. She oversaw corporate giving, stakeholder relationships, the employee and executive volunteer programs and corporate internal and special events.

A community steward serving on numerous advisory committees and boards in the Metropolitan Detroit community, Hurd is a board member of LAHC – Leaders Advancing and Helping Communities, the Michigan Diversity Council, and an advisory board member of the Council of Asian Pacific Americans. She is also a member of the President’s National Advisory Council for Henry Ford College and the President’s Community Advisory Group for Wayne State University. Hurd is a former board member of One Detroit Credit Union, which focuses on providing access to financial resources to underserved communities, Special Olympics of Michigan, the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Southfield Community Foundation.

She has a master’s degree in business administration from Wayne State University and a bachelor’s degree in communications from University of Michigan. She is a certified diversity professional, a certified administrator of the Intercultural Development Inventory and has a certificate for Corporate Citizenship Leadership from the Boston College Carroll School of Management Center for Corporate Citizenship and is a graduate of Leadership Detroit XXXI.

Hurd also participated in the Disparities Leadership Program of the Disparities Solution Center at Boston Massachusetts General Hospital.

## **Laura J. Lederer Short Biography**

Laura J. Lederer, J.D., is a Subject Matter Expert (SME) on Human Trafficking and President of Global Centurion, an anti-trafficking NGO. Over the past fifteen years she has worked extensively with survivors of human trafficking to document their experiences with first responders, particularly in health care. She is the primary investigator and author of a landmark study entitled, “The Health Consequences of Sex Trafficking,” published in the University of Loyola Chicago Annals of Health Law, in which she interviewed domestic survivors of sex trafficking about their physical and mental health problems. This study was read into the record of the House of Representatives in 2017. In 2023, she was Primary Investigator of a retrospective survey of survivors about their health and health insurance needs, particularly related to Medicaid.

She serves as Subject Matter Expert on Trafficking in Persons for U.S. government agencies including the U.S. Department of Defense, Department of Health and Human Services, and Department of Justice. As DoD’s SME on human trafficking, she helped develop a data collection instrument for tracking labor and sex trafficking cases in the Department of Defense; created the content for a new Student Guide to Preventing Human Trafficking and an accompanying Parent Resource Guide; designed a specialized training for Defense Health Agency on health and human trafficking. Most recently she developed a Military Chaplains training on trafficking that includes information on healing spiritual injury of human trafficking that addresses survivors’ guilt, moral injury and other related issues.

As a SME for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, she helped develop the HHS “SOAR to Health and Wellness” training on human trafficking for healthcare professionals. In addition, she created training and technical assistance efforts on human trafficking for HHS’ Family Youth Services Bureau (FSYB); and served as SME in the creation of a specialized training and supplemental materials on human trafficking for the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) Title X Family Planning Clinics.

Prior to her work at Global Centurion she served for eight years in the U.S. Department of State as Senior Advisor on Trafficking in Persons to Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs where she helped to stand up the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. From 2002 - 2009, she was also the Executive Directorship of the Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking in Persons, a policy group that staffed the President’s cabinet-level Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons. She founded and directed The Protection Project at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1997 and moved it to Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in the year 2000. At Georgetown Law Center, she developed and co-taught the first law school course on human trafficking from 2001 – 2014.

She was an expert consultant for “The Day My God Died,” a feature-length documentary that casts a spotlight on the devastating impact child sex trafficking has upon the lives of children trafficked from Nepal to India. She was an advisor for the New York Times article that served as the basis for "Trade," a feature length drama based on real cases of international sex trafficking and starring Kevin Kline.

She is the author of numerous articles on trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation including “Sold for Sex; the Link Between Street Gangs and Human Trafficking,” “Addressing Demand: Why and How Policymakers Should Utilize Law and Law Enforcement to Target Customers of Commercial Sexual Exploitation,” and “Is There Justice in Johns Schools?” During the course of her work, she has spoken at over 500 governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental events.

Her most recent book is *Modern Slavery: A Documentary and Reference Guide to the Development of the 21<sup>st</sup> Anti-Trafficking Movement*, published in 2018 by Greenwood Publishing Company. The book tells the story of the modern day anti-slavery movement through a primary source materials including documents, speeches, pamphlets, treaties, laws, and articles spanning more than 300 years, and tracks a rising consciousness about the many forms of modern-day slavery and the people and organizations that worked and are working to combat it. Her new book is entitled, *Human Trafficking: The Facts*, to be published by Bloomsbury Publishing in February 2024. Currently, she is at work on a book entitled, "Voices in the Wilderness," to be published by Forefront Books and distributed by Simon and Schuster, in 2025.

**Jonathan Linder, Director, Federal Public Policy**

Jon Linder joined the federal public policy team for BCBSM's Government and Regulatory Affairs Department in May 2009 and was named director in January 2014. Linder has a master's degree in health services administration from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to graduate school, Linder was a sportswriter and editor in Wisconsin.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Meade, Michelle A.

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): mameade

POSITION TITLE: Professor of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and Family Medicine

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Loyola College, Baltimore, MD	BA	05/1992	Psychology
Ohio University, Athens, OH	MS	03/1995	Clinical Psychology
Ohio University, Athens, OH	PhD	05/1998	Clinical Psychology (Health Emphasis)
University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX	Internship	05/1998	Clinical Psychology (Health /Rehabilitation Focus)
University of Michigan Health Systems, Ann Arbor, MI	Postdoctoral Fellowship	08/2000	Clinical Rehabilitation Psychology (SCI Focus)

**A. Personal Statement**

I will serve as Principal Investigator (PI) and Project Director (PD) for this R01 research project, connecting and providing oversight for all components while worked with faculty experts (co-I), community partners, and my talented research team to complete project activities. I am a Professor with tenure in the University of Michigan (U-M) Departments of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Family Medicine and the Director of the U-M Center for Disability Health and Wellness (CDHW), an interdisciplinary centered focused around conducting innovative research, educational and clinical activities in order to ensure that all individuals with disabilities have access to quality care. I have been working to identify and address health and healthcare disparities for adults with physical disabilities for over 15 years, leading and collaborating on numerous observational and interventional studies around the topic. I am currently the PI and PD on three NIDILRR-funded center grants associated with enhancing the health and wellbeing of individuals with physical disabilities: the IDEAL RRTC, the AHEAD-DC RRTC, and the MI-SCIMS. The *Investigating Disability Factors and Promoting Environmental Access for Healthy Living Rehabilitation Research and Training Center* (IDEAL RRTC), which is currently in a one-year no cost extension, has explored the interactions of personal and environmental factors on healthy aging for adults with long-term physical disabilities. We have not only found higher rates of chronic and secondary health conditions among adults with long-term physical disabilities but also identified the importance of social determinants of health and related environmental factors on health outcomes. The *Advancing Health Equity for Adults with Disabilities from Diverse Communities* (AHEAD-DC) RRTC began in 2022 and expands our focus to adults with physical, cognitive, sensory, and developmental disabilities from marginalized communities, layering on a recognition of intersectional identities on all research, training and knowledge translation. Finally, the *Michigan Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems* (MI-SCIMS) is designed to enhance the health and reduce secondary condition, among individuals with SCI with a particular focus on racial minorities and those from underserved communities. My personal focus is on enhancing health and participation, and reducing healthcare disparities and costs, among individuals with disabilities through (1) identification of modifiable factors; (2) development and validation of culturally relevant interventions; and (3) implementation of (tailored) dissemination and knowledge translation strategies. I am also a clinical rehabilitation psychologist and disability advocate, roles that interact with and reinforce my research focus.



My ongoing and recently completed projects that I would like to highlight include:

Ongoing Research Support

NIDILRR / ACL RRTC

Meade (PI/Director) with McKee (PI) and Chapple (Co-PI)

09/01/2022-08/31/2027

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Equity in Health and Functioning of Adults with Physical, Cognitive, Sensory and Developmental Disabilities from Marginalized Communities

NIDILRR / ACL SCI Model Systems

Meade (PI/Director)

09/01/2022-08/31/2026

Michigan Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems

W81XWH-20-SCIRP-IIRA, DOD SCIRP IIRA

Mahmoudi (PI), Role: Co-Investigator

9/30/2021-9/29/2024

Examining the Risk of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia among People with Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury: A Mixed Methods Study Comparing Veterans and Civilians

90RTHF0001, NIDILRR/ACL RRTC

Meade (PI/Director)

09/30/2018-09/29/2024 (with 1 year NCTX)

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Promoting Healthy Aging for People with Long-Term Physical Disabilities, National Institute of Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research

Completed Research Support

UL1TR002240, NIH / U-M MICHR Accelerating Synergy Award

Meade / McKee (Co-PIs)

03/09/2020-10/31/2021

Health and Healthcare Disparities Among Adults Aging with Disabilities

NIDILRR / ACL RERC (H133E130014)

Meade (PI/Director)

10/01/2013-09/29/2020

Technology Increasing Knowledge: Technology Optimizing Choice Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (TIKTOC RERC)

DOD SCIRP Qualitative Research Award (W81XWH-12-1-0589)

Meade (PI)

09/30/2012-09/29/2015

Cognitions, Decisions, and Behaviors Related to Successful Adjustment Among Individuals with SCI: A Qualitative Examination of Military and Nonmilitary Personnel

NIDIRR / DOE ARRT (H133P090008)

Tate (PI), Role: Co-Director and Co-Investigator

09/01/09-08/31/14

The UMHS-AACIL Rehabilitation Research Training Program

**B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors**

**Positions and Scientific Appointments**

2020 – Present

Director, University of Michigan Center for Disability Health and Wellness,  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2020 – Present	Full Professor with Tenure, Departments of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and Family Medicine, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2013 – 2020	Associate Professor with tenure Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2012 – Present	Faculty, Institute of Health Care Policy and Innovation, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2007 – 2013	Assistant Professor, Instructional Track, Chief Psychologist, Spinal Cord Injury Service Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2005 – 2007	Associate Professor, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
2001 – 2005	Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

### **Editorial Positions, Boards, and Peer-Review Service**

2011	Guest Editor, Special Issue on Health and Health Care Disparities, Topics of Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation, 17(2), 2011.
2005 – 2006	Guest Editor, Special Issue on Spinal Cord Injury and Vocational Rehabilitation Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation 25(1), 2006
2004	Guest Editor, Special Issue on Community Integration following Spinal Cord Injury, Neurorehabilitation 29(2)
2004	Sectional Editor, Special Issue on Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems, Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, November 2004

### **Editorial Boards**

2020 – Present	Disability, an International Open-Source Journal
2020 – Present	Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine
2017 – 2020	Associate Editor, Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine
2005 – 2021	Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation
2005 – 2007	Rehabilitation Psychology

### **Grant Review Committees**

2021	Member, Review Panel for applications on DRRP on Social Isolation, NIDILRR, ACL
2017	Panel Member, Field Initiated Grant Review Panel, NIDILRR, ACL
2017	Ad-Hoc Reviewer, Orthopedic Injuries Review Panel, DOD
2016	Reviewer, Swiss National Science Foundation
2011	Panel Co-Chair, Field Initiated Grant Review Panel, NIDIRR, DOE
2009	Member, Review Panel for applications on RRTC on Secondary Conditions for Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury, NIDIRR, DOE
2009	Panel Chair, Field Initiated Grant Review Panel, NIDIRR, DOE
2007	Panel Chair, Burn Injury Model Systems Review Panel, NIDIRR, DOE, National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research
2007	TBI Concept Award Proposals, Department of Defense
2004 – 2007	Member, Standing Review Panel for Field Initiated Grants, NIDRR, DOE
2003	Member, Review Panel for Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers, National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), U.S. Department of Education (DOE)

### **Honors**

2019	University of Michigan Center for Education of Women (CEW+) Carol Hollenshead Award for Excellence in Promoting Equity and Social Change
2017	University of Michigan, Diversity Leadership Award (Team)
2016	Fellow, American Psychological Association (APA)
2011	Certificate of Appreciation, Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals
2011	Certificate of Appreciation, Division of Rehabilitation Psychology, APA

2010  
2009  
2007

Certificate of Appreciation, Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals  
Certificate of Appreciation, Division of Rehabilitation Psychology, APA  
Award of Recognition, Old Dominion Chapter, NSCIA

### C. Contributions to Science

My research has advanced science in the areas of health and healthcare disparities among individuals with disabilities, health behaviors and self-management of individuals with physical disabilities, and health, participation and quality of life outcomes for individuals with spinal cord injury (SCI). In addition, I have made contributions through my skill in developing interdisciplinary collaborations to conceptualize and begin to address complex challenges.

1. *Health and Healthcare Disparities among Individuals with Disabilities*: My research and publications that center in this area are a result of my interest in understanding and creating more supportive and facilitating environments that are tailored and specific to the strengths and needs of individuals with disabilities. Within this area, I have identified factors associated with healthcare disparities, including those associated with social determinants of health, and worked with collaborators to articulate my conceptualization for this in the *Model on Healthcare Disparities and Disability (MHDD)*. I have also developed an interactive e-learning program to teach primary care providers how to facilitate the self-management of SCI as a way of improving access to knowledgeable providers while integrating the expectation of self-management into the health care systems. The following representative publications reveal how health care barriers and relevant factors impact health care for these individuals. I served as the primary investigator or co-investigator in all of these studies, including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods.
  - a. Peterson MD, Berri M, **Meade MA**, Lin P, Kamdar N, Mahmoudi E (2022): Disparities in morbidity following spinal cord injury across insurance types in the United States Mayo Clinic Proceedings: Innovations, Quality & Outcomes, 6 (3), P279-290.
  - b. Mahmoudi E, Zazove P, **Meade MA**, McKee MM. (2018). Association between Hearing Aid Use and Health Care Use and Cost among Older Adults with Hearing Loss. *JAMA Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery*, 144(6):498-505. PMID: PMC6145737
  - c. **Meade MA**, Mahmoudi E, Lee, SY (2015). The Intersection of Disability and Healthcare Disparities: A Conceptual Framework. *Disability & Rehabilitation*, 37(7): 632–64.
  - d. Mahmoudi E, **Meade MA**. (2015). Disparities in Access to Healthcare among Adults with Physical Disabilities: Analysis of a Representative National Sample for a Ten-Year Period. *Disability and Health Journal*, 8 (2), 182–19.
2. *Health behaviors and Self-Management of Individuals with Physical Disabilities*: My research uses theoretical understanding of the self-management processes to examine the role of specific health behaviors on health and participation outcomes. Moreover, I have developed innovative evidence-based interventions and discussed their integration into health care systems. These contributions advance the science by translating concepts from health psychology to rehabilitation populations and articulate modifiable personal factors that can influence health and participation outcomes. I have served as the primary investigator for all of the intervention studies and either PI or co-investigator for the descriptive studies, though not always the first author of publications.
  - a. **Meade MA**, Maslowski E (2018).: Development of a Serious Gaming App for Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury. *Journal on Technology & Persons with Disabilities*, 6: 162-180.
  - b. Forchheimer M, **Meade MA**, Tate D, Cameron A, Rodriguez G, DiPonio L. (2016). Self-Report of Behaviors to Manage Neurogenic Bowel and Bladder by Individuals with Chronic Spinal Cord Injury: Frequency and Associated Outcomes. *Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation*, 22(2): 85-98. PMID: PMC4896324
  - c. **Meade MA**, Trumpower B, Forchheimer M, DiPonio L. (2016). Development and Feasibility of *Health Mechanics*: A Self-Management Program for Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury. *Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation*, 22(2): 121-134. PMID: PMC4896320
  - d. **Meade MA**, Cronin LA: The Expert Patient and the Self-Management of Chronic Conditions and

3. *Facilitating Interdisciplinary Collaboration*: One of my key contributions to science is bringing together interdisciplinary groups to consider and address the aforementioned issues of self-management and healthcare disparities. While these collaborations are most evident through my grants, representations can also be seen in publications that have resulted from team science projects.
  - a. **Meade MA**, Perera M, & The TIKTOC RERC SOS Workgroup: Mobile Technology to Facilitate Self-Management and Independence among Adolescents and Young Adults with Disabilities – Best Practices and the State of the Science. *Everyday Technologies in Healthcare*, Christopher Hayre, David Muller & Marcia Scherer CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group, 2020. 12
  - b. Salgado TM, Fedrigo A, Omichinski DE, **Meade MA**, Farris KB (2018). Identifying medication management smartphone app features suitable for people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities: a Delphi consensus study. *JMIR Mhealth and UHealth*, 23;6(5):e129. PMID: PMC5990856
  - c. Ackerman MS, Buyuktur AG, Hung PY, **Meade MA**, Newman MW: Socio-technical Design for the Care of People with Spinal Cord Injuries. *Designing Healthcare that Works: A Socio-technical Approach*, Ackerman MS, Goggins SP, Herrmann T, Prilla M, Sary C. Elsevier, London UK, 2017. 1-18.
  
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## **Henry (Hank) Millbourne**

### **BIO**

Henry (Hank) Millbourne is a licensed master social worker, certified in both micro and macro practice with over 45 years' experience as a social work professional. He has a broad range of experience including non-profit management, program development and implementation, grant writing, community engagement and mobilization, mental health services for adults and children, HIV care and prevention services, LGBT+ advocacy and is a skilled trainer and workshop facilitator.

He currently works as a clinical therapist at a Detroit area community mental health agency providing individual and group therapy to adults with severe mental illness while also operating his own LLC for the past 30 years focused on providing grant writing and program development primarily with non-profits, state and local governments throughout the United States.

For the past 5 years he has also been the principal grant writer and now works as the Grants Manager for the SASHA Center, a culturally specific organization providing services and advocacy African American women sexual assault survivors.

His work and interests continues to be centered and grounded in issues of social justice and health equity and the intersectionality of race, class, gender, ability and ethnicity.

# **Suzanne Miller Allen**

## **Senior Director, Community Responsibility and Social Mission**

Suzanne Miller Allen employs her substantial experience in management, public relations and fundraising every day as Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan's Senior Director of Community Responsibility and Social Mission. In her leadership role, Allen's focus is on driving the Blue Cross mission for improving health and access to quality care. Her role in accomplishing this mission includes leading strategic partnerships between Blue Cross and stakeholders, managing numerous external and internal events and overseeing corporate giving, leadership service on charitable and business boards, and employee volunteer programs in Michigan.

Allen has a Master's Degree in public relations from Michigan State University; as well as a Master's Degree in labor relations and a Bachelor's Degree from Wayne State University. Allen earned her APR Accreditation from the Public Relations Society of America in 2022.

Laura Mispelon is the Social Drivers of Health Manager at the Michigan Center for Rural Health. She has a Bachelor's in Applied Science and a Master's in Healthcare Administration. She practiced as a registered dental hygienist for over ten years before joining the Michigan Center for Rural Health team. She is passionate about health equity and is an advocate for health and well-being, especially for those who reside in rural communities. She believes strongly in the power of prevention and ensuring people have the resources they need to thrive.

# Beth Nagel

**Senior Deputy Director of the Policy, Planning and Operational Support  
Administration  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services**

Beth Nagel is the senior deputy director for the Policy, Planning & Operational Support Administration for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Nagel helps with the development and coordination of new policies and solutions to further the department's mission across multiple administrations. She is responsible for the direction and oversight of the Policy and Planning Division, the Bureau of Organizational Services, Community and Faith Engagement, Office of Workforce Engagement and Transformation, Workforce Engagement/Process Improvement and the Office of Workforce Development and Training

Nagel has held several positions at MDHHS, and in her most recent role as director of Policy and Planning, she and her staff increased health care providers in Michigan's underserved areas and promoted access to high quality and low-cost healthcare services statewide.

During the COVID-19 crisis, her leadership and assistance have been invaluable in such areas as testing in long-term care facilities and expanding hospital capacity. Another key project of note is her work on expanding the use of Health Information Technology and the exchange of electronic patient information through the state.

She has a Master's degree in telecommunications policy from Michigan State University.

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Melissa Riba is director of research and evaluation at CHRT. She has more than 20 years of experience conducting applied research to inform policy and program improvements, including program evaluation, need assessments, survey research and equitable evaluation frameworks. She is also skilled in stakeholder engagement and collaborative research partnerships. Her areas of expertise include behavioral and health care integration, maternal and reproductive health, social determinants of health and health equity. as lead for CHRT's Research and Evaluation Team, Melissa directs key projects such as the evaluation of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic demonstration project for the state of Michigan, as well as numerous behavioral health integration projects involving primary care and criminal justice. In 2009, Melissa began CHRT's first statewide survey o of care consumers, Cover Michigan which tracks insurance status, access to care, health status, social needs, and other timely topics. In 2012, the Michigan Physician Survey was launched to collect and track data on physician experience, impact of policy change on practice environment, stress/burnout, and timely topics impacting the practice environment in Michigan.

In addition to her role at CHRT, Melissa is a lecturer within the UM School of Public Health where she teaches a course on health policy and advocacy, in addition to numerous guest lectures about applied evaluation approaches. She currently serves on the Ingham County Racial Equity Taskforce, as well as the Housing Trust Fund.

Melissa earned her bachelor's degree in Sociology and Philosophy from California State University, Fresno and her master's degree in Sociology from Michigan State University. She currently serves

Ninah Sasy currently serves as the Policy and Planning Director with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Within this role, she is responsible for leading the development and implementation of Michigan's statewide Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) Strategy. She is also responsible for directing program areas including the Office of Nursing Programs, the Strategic Alignment and Engagement Section and the Workforce Access and Grants Section. Throughout her career, she has managed several statewide public health, environmental health, and emergency response initiatives. Most recently she served as the inaugural Chief of the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate. Throughout her nearly 20-year career, she has gained experience in continuous quality improvement, project management and strategic planning. Her diverse career working for several State agencies has equipped her with the background knowledge to understand the importance of bridging our regulatory, policy and funding efforts to support health communities.

Meghan Sifuentes Vanderstelt currently serves as the Division Director of the Program Policy Division charged with overseeing Medicaid policy within the Behavioral Physical Health and Aging Services Administration in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Prior to rejoining MDHHS, she served as the Director of the Health Policy Unit at MSU's Institute for Health Policy where she led an emerging area aimed at supporting IHP's strategic partnerships with MDHHS, community-based organizations, other health care delivery systems. She has over a decade's worth of experience working in state government and has often collaborated with diverse stakeholders across the health policy spectrum. Meghan holds undergraduate teaching degrees in History and Spanish and a Master of Public Administration, both from Western Michigan University.

Alyssa Stewart (she/her) currently serves as the Chief Community Impact Officer at the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, which is nearing its 100<sup>th</sup> year of mobilizing people, resources and expertise to advance racial, social and economic justice in Kalamazoo County. Alyssa has 15 years of nonprofit leadership experience encompassing time in workforce development at the W.E. Upjohn Institute and leadership of grantmaking and community change initiatives across six counties at the United Way of South Central Michigan. Alyssa serves as co-chair of the Governance Board of Cradle Kalamazoo, a community initiative focused on eliminating racial disparities in Kalamazoo County's Infant Mortality rates. Alyssa holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science & Public Policy from Albion College and a Masters of Public Administration from Western Michigan University.

Stanley Stinson currently works as an Emergency Room Nurse at Corewell formerly Beaumont Hospital, and volunteers as a Street Outreach Nurse. He has vast experience with at-risk populations. He has dedicated his life to providing healthcare to unsheltered and at-risk individuals in their own environment.

Due to his own experience of homelessness as a young man; Stanley developed compassion and understanding for unsheltered individuals, marginalized and the forgotten.

As an adult, Stanley went searching for those living on the streets, offering assistance, medical care, transportation, and a listening ear. He became motivated to start a street medicine team that offered consistent medical and social services.

These experiences have grown his intuition to nurture the patients he encounters in the emergency department, and on the streets. He is driven to keep striving for street medicine and social services to be normalized.

He is a Bachelorette trained Registered Nurse, Advanced and Wilderness EMT, Certified Foot Care Nurse, and an Ordained Chaplain.

Stanley lives in Southeast Michigan with his four daughters. In his free time, Stanley enjoys: hiking, camping, and exploring God's creation with his children.

# Larry West

## Biography

Larry West joined the Center for Behavioral Health and Justice (CBHJ) as a project coordinator in January 2023. Larry has a passion for challenging injustice and advocating for marginalized communities, and his experience living and working within these communities brings a unique perspective of those most directly impacted by social systems. Prior to arriving at the CBHJ, Larry worked in mental health and substance use recovery, pursuing his social justice passions on both sides of the state. At the Recovery Institute of Southwest Michigan, Larry worked in the specialty treatment courts, Kalamazoo Public Library's Peer Navigator Program, and on the development of the Kalamazoo Defender's Village Program. At Integrated of Services of Kalamazoo, Larry worked in crisis response as part of the Opioid Overdose Response Program. He continued his advocacy for marginalized communities working at Easterseals MORC and Hope365 Peer Respite, providing support and advocacy to the unhoused, justice impacted, and those receiving behavioral health services in urban communities. As a volunteer legislative advocate, Larry has championed health and health insurance policy change at the state and national level with the Hemophilia Federation of America and the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan.

## Responsibilities

As a project coordinator for the Crisis Response Initiative, Larry coordinates emerging crisis response projects across Michigan. He leads interviews with mobile crisis managers, compiles and presents behavioral health data from dispatch and law enforcement agencies, and promotes best practices among public crisis response systems.

Larry also works on the School of Social Work Peers to Professionals project where he explores pathways to credentialing and degrees for paraprofessionals working in behavioral health settings.

## Degrees and Certifications

- Certified Peer Support Specialist
- Certified Peer Recovery Coach
- A.S., Network Engineering (IT), Berks Technical Institute
- A.B.A., Kellogg Community College

Ta'Sheena Williams is the Policy Director at the Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health (MCMCH). MCMCH is an advocacy organization focused on policy change for optimal maternal and child health outcomes. MCMCH contributes to the legislative advocacy for RX Kids and is a long-time supporter of the program. Ta'Sheena is from Flint, Michigan. She earned her Master of Science in Global Health and a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, both from Michigan State University.

## **Patrick Yankee**

Chief Development Officer

Patrick Yankee (He/Him) is the Chief Development Officer at Corktown Health. He has over 30 years of experience with managing state and federally funded programs for persons living with HIV. Patrick has held key positions as a consultant to the Michigan Department and Health and Human Services and the City of Detroit.





**Jim Yates, GySgt, USMC Ret., MPA**

Jim ended his rewarding career as a U.S. Marine in 2008. For the past two years Jim has been working at the Michigan Center for Rural Health as the manager of the HRSA funded, *Improving Rural Enrollment, Access, and Health in Rural Veterans (I-REACH Rural Veterans)* grant.

The I-REACH Program Manager plans, organizes, and implements the ***I-REACH*** grant. This includes technical assistance to rural hospitals and Veterans in the Upper Peninsula and Thumb Area of Michigan. I-REACH helps Veterans and health care providers connect with available resources through outreach and addresses barriers to those resources through collaboration with hospitals and community resources.

Jim provides benefit and resource information to Veterans, their families, and their caregivers in an effort to connect them with the benefits they've earned, and deserve, which can improve their quality of life. Jim also provides Veteran resource information to health care providers so they can help make connections, and better serve their Veteran patients.

Jim also coordinates the UP Together With Veterans program. Together With Veterans (TWV) is a community-based suicide prevention program for rural Veterans. TWV is funded by the VA Office of Rural Health.