## THE PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES PA CARE PARTNERSHIP



Building Youth Wellness & Resilience

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dale Adair, MD, FAPA: Dr. Adair received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He currently is the Chief Psychiatric Officer and the Medical Director for the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS). In this role, he provides clinical expertise and consultation to the Deputy Secretary of OMHSAS and the Secretary of DHS. He provides input and guidance into the policies that affect the provision of mental health and substance use treatment throughout the state. He has been a leader in the development of the vision for PA's First Episode Psychosis program; PA team efforts with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Accelerator-Substance Use Disorder project; Centers of Excellence (COE) for the treatment of Opioid Use Disorder; Health Equity; and served as Project lead for the PA Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Program. He is involved with numerous efforts aimed at suicide prevention and currently serves as the lead on Pennsylvania's efforts to implement 988 as the new 3-digit number for the Suicide Prevention and Crisis Lifeline. He has worked on numerous projects for the Department with the aim of improving access and quality of care for Medicaid beneficiaries while containing costs. One of those projects is an Integrated Care Plan Program which requires the Physical and Behavioral Health Managed Care Organizations to work together caring for shared patients. He has served as Co-chair for the Behavioral Health Commission for Adult Mental Health. He serves on the PA Threat Assessment Steering Committee (PA-TASC). Past awards include the Governor's Award for Excellence in Leadership and the PA Rehabilitation & Community Providers Association Community Leadership Award. He is a fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

Cheryl Adams Is the wife of a Marine Vet and mom to two children that keep her smiling (most days). Her strong connection to mental health awareness and advocacy stems from intensely supporting her 16 year-old daughter through the years of her ongoing mental health journey. Cheryl uses her lived experience with systems of care and extensive family peer related training to aid other parents/caregivers and families to navigate their mental health journey and remain hopeful. She also uses her lived experience to highlight areas where systems of care can be truly child and family focused and lead to strength-based solutions.

**Robert Anderson, MSW** holds a Master's of Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh and possesses over a decade of experience working with students and clients who have autism, developmental disabilities, and others with various abilities. Serving as the director of training for Healthy Relationships, he plays a pivotal role in this innovative program that employs a unique approach to teaching essential life skills. As the sibling of an individual with autism, Rob has a

firsthand understanding of the profound impact that life's challenges can have on both the individual and their family as they seek to comprehend and navigate the world around them.

Victor Armstrong, MSW: Vic graduated magna cum laude from North Carolina Central University with a bachelor's degree in business management and received a Master of Social Work from East Carolina University. Vic is currently the Vice President for Health Equity and Engagement at the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Vic previously held many prestigious roles including serving as North Carolina's inaugural Chief Health Equity Officer; Director of the North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services; and, Vice President of Behavioral Health with Atrium Health. It was during his tenure with Atrium Health that Vic first developed a passion for suicide prevention and awareness, as he saw far too many individuals experiencing mental health emergencies ending up in the backseat of police cars, in acute care emergency departments, and sadly dying by suicide, a preventable health outcome. Vic serves on the Steering Committee of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. He is a member of the Board of Directors of East Carolina University School of Social Work and of the Council of Advisors for St.

Augustine's University and RI International. He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the North Carolina Institute of Medicine. He has been the recipient of numerous awards including the National Alliance on Mental Illness NC-Mental Health Professional of the Year.

**Yadira Ayala** is a former parent recipient of the High Fidelity Wraparound process whose son graduated the process. Yadira is now the Family Support Partner, High Fidelity Wraparound, Pinebrook Family Answers.

Jennifer Benjamin, Ph.D., LPC is a licensed professional counselor and has her master's in counseling psychology and her doctorate in Industrial and Organizational Psychology. She is the clinical fidelity specialist at the Philadelphia Child and Family Therapy Training Center. Previously she was an adjunct Professor in the school of Graduate Studies of Counseling at Rosemont College. As a former Clinical Director of a large community mental health clinic, she has extensive experience in assessing life-threatening behaviors and crisis management, systemic family therapy, and dialectical therapy.

**Scott Berry** earned his degree in Sociology from Washington and Jefferson College and has held various positions in the field of mental health. He is currently the Mental Health Director of Crisis, Emergency, and Disaster Services for Washington County Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Scott has assisted in the development of new and innovative mental health programs including a crisis stabilization and diversion unit, a mental health specialty court, a 90-day diversionary program at the magistrate level, a forensic liaison position working with individuals in the legal system, and a hospital liaison position working to assist those on inpatient psychiatric units return to the community and continue their journey of recovery.

Lyndra Bills, MD is a board-certified psychiatrist and Senior Medical Director with Community Care Behavioral Health. She completed an Internal Medicine and Psychiatry residency at West Virginia University. She also completed one year of specialized fellowship training in post-traumatic stress at West Virginia University. Her focus with CCBH is integrated care and trauma informed initiatives including Behavioral Health Home Plus, supporting the use of integrated approaches like the Collaborative Care model, and developing trauma informed and trauma specific expertise in mental health

Morgen Black-Smith, Esq. is a staff attorney at the Support Center for Child Advocates, specializing in education law. Morgen leads Child Advocates' Project for Youth Educational Success (Project YES!) where she provides direct representation to child clients in dependency and education matters and serves as an educational consultant for all of Child Advocates' dependency clients. Previously, Morgen represented students and their families in special education, disciplinary, truancy and other education matters in the private sector. Morgen earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia in 2001 and her Juris Doctor from the University of Pennsylvania in 2006.

Kimberly Blair, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist and an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh. She holds a doctorate in Applied Developmental Psychology and a master's degree in School Psychology from George Mason University. Dr. Blair's clinical, teaching, and research specialization is in early childhood mental health, with a specific focus on early childhood trauma. Dr. Blair holds a clinical appointment as the Program Director of Child and Adolescent Trauma Services at UPMC Western Behavioral Health and is the Primary Investigator of two SAMHSA grants that support UPMC's child trauma and early childhood mental health treatment services.

**Lisa Bollinger, M.Ed** current position is focused on School Attendance Improvement at Colonial Intermediate Unit 20. Lisa is a doctoral student at East Stroudsburg University. She is a philosophically oriented researcher who is focused on the existential study of chronic absenteeism, its underlying causes, and a solution focused approach to reduction.

Dani Bowman MBA is on the autism spectrum. She founded her company, DaniMation Entertainment, at age 14 in 2009 and launched DaniMation UK in 2019. She graduated with a BFA in Animation in 2018 and an MBA in Global Strategy and Leadership in 2020. Dani has premiered 14 animated short films, a PSA, and a musical at San Diego Comic Con. Over the next 14 years, Dani has led summer animation camps around the country, initially with Joey Travolta's Inclusion Films, and then expanding out on her own, adding programs at the University of South Florida, Plymouth University and Brunel University London in England, teaching over 2,500 youth with autism and other different abilities. Dani is also a cast member in the Netflix series "Love on the Spectrum."

**Carrie Breschi** is a socially engaged artist, with the foundation of her work built on the philosophy that the visual arts can ignite positive change in our communities. A past Executive Director of the Carlisle Arts Learning Center, Breschi currently consults and works with a variety of nonprofit organizations to encourage connectivity, collaboration, shared resources and the cultivation of change through the creative process. She holds a B.A. in Studio Art/ English from Denison University and an M.A. in Social Engagement through the Arts from Moore College of Art & Design.

**Joseph Burgess** is a lifelong resident of Greene County. He began working in the mental health field as a Certified Peer in 2008. During this time, he obtained a Master of Social Work through California University of Pennsylvania. He was employed as a Behavior Specialist Consult and later became an outpatient director in 2018. Joe has been pursuing his dream of becoming an LCSW. He is currently working with the PA Care Partnership/the Local System of Care as the Lead Cultural Linguistic Consultant for Greene County.

**Geneen Burris, MS** is an Implementation Specialist for Penn State EPIS and the Project Coordinator for the youth substance misuse pilot project Opioid Misuse Prevention Project (OMPP). She provides technical assistance to providers who are implementing evidence-based programs and strategies, and guides agencies and schools in high-quality implementation and sustainability of programs for youth. Geneen graduated from Penn State University with a B.S. in Rehabilitation Services Education, and earned her M.S. in Law and Public Policy from California University of Pennsylvania. She was employed for 18 years as a juvenile probation officer, working closely with school districts, families, and local community service providers to address the comprehensive needs of court-involved youth.

Tony Cammilleri Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA is a Board Certified and Licensed Behavior Analyst, as well as a Licensed Special Education Administrator. He completed his doctoral work in Developmental and Child Psychology at the University of Kansas in 2002. While completing his graduate studies, he served as the Principal of Century School in Lawrence, KS. Upon graduation, he served as a Behavior Analyst for the Somerset Hills Learning Institute in Far Hills, NJ. For the next 10 years, Dr. Cammilleri served as the Director of the Jane Justin School in Fort Worth, TX. After moving back to New England, Dr. Cammilleri served as the President/CEO of Crossroads School in Marlborough, MA from 2014 to 2019. Currently, Dr. Cammilleri is a Senior Consultant and the Director of Education at FTF Behavioral Consulting where he helps organizations build behavior analytic capacity in the areas of cultural design, instructional design, staff training, policy development, and the practical functional assessment and skill-based treatment of severe problem behavior. Dr. Cammilleri specializes in the design of individualized curriculum sequences, the use of measurement systems to assess the effectiveness of those sequences, and in the staff training required for the implementation of both. He is best known for leadership that promotes the virtues of citizenship, friendship, and scholarship – the elements of an inclusive community whose members care for their world and one another, and enjoy a lifelong love of learning.

**Joanne Cashman, Ed.D.** currently serves as an interagency consultant after a career in local schools, higher education and state support. Building on her nationwide work in stakeholder engagement, she serves as the facilitator of the Communities of Practice convened by the PA Care Partnership.

James Clark is a transformation champion that uses his life experience to help others heal. Spending his life "in-service" after overcoming major life challenges including addiction, mental health, and incarceration. He has been an alcohol and drug recovery (AOD) counselor for the past decade. James is an advocate for healing and he uses a combination of his life experience and education to transform the lives of those he serves. As a certified AOD counselor and speaker, James

speaks about recovery, engagement and healing from trauma as a person who has overcome his own and understands the importance of individualized planning for children, families and communities.

Laura Clary, MSN, RN, FNE-A/P, SANE-A, SANE-P is a Registered Nurse, Forensic Nurse Examiner and Program Director of the GBMC Sexual Assault Forensic Examination, Domestic Violence & Child Protection Program located in Baltimore, Maryland. She has been a nurse for over 14 years, and has experience in emergency, trauma, pediatrics, and forensics. She is certified to care for patients across the lifespan that have been victim of sexual assault, child abuse, intimate partner violence and human trafficking. Mrs. Clary holds National professional certification as a SANE-Adult/Adolescent and SANE-Pediatrics from the International Association of Forensic Nurses. She is an Accredited Forensic Nurse Examiner Instructor in the State of Maryland and has provided training to nurses, physicians, law enforcement, and social workers from all over the country.

Doran Coley, MS, LPC grew up in the inner city of Philadelphia in a single parent household with his mother and twin brother (fraternal). His childhood experiences presented challenges being a young black male that grew up in drug infested, socioeconomic impoverished environment without a consist father figure. The exposure to this fast paced and chaotic environment presented difficulties throughout his childhood and adult life. Doran was driven to not allow his environment to place limitations on his life. This determination manifested into a passion to support individuals with similar life experiences. This resulted in him attaining his Bachelor of Art in 2001 from La Salle University and his Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling in 2007 from Springfield College. He continued to make strides professionally in the mental health field and became a Licensed Professional Counselor in 2014. Doran brings more than 20 years of professional experience in leadership and direct service in a multitude of settings including outpatient clinics, at-risk youth programs, school-based services, managed care, individualize treatment and utilizes a variety of therapeutic modalities including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Structural Family Therapy, Mindfulness, and Trauma Focus Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Doran's therapeutic approach mirrors his approach to every aspect of his life. He believes in meeting individuals where they are with compassion and empathy. Doran currently retains a role of a Senior Clinical Director in the Children's and Families Division at Merakey.

Wanda Cummings, MSW is the Family Peer Training Coordinator for the PA Care Partnership. She is a family member with over twenty- five years advocating for her family and professionally supporting other families with mental health challenges. Being the parent of a child with a mental health diagnosis advocating for appropriate support and services presented its own challenges and Wanda's journey into unfamiliar territory. This led to her motivation to pursue formal education in mental health and eventually my career as a behavioral health therapist. Her strength is having a genuine understanding of family's challenge with connecting their child with appropriate supports. Her greatest sense of accomplishment comes from supporting families and increasing their knowledge of mental health and the child serving systems so they can advocate for their own family.

**Connor Dalgaard** is a sophomore majoring in Psychological Science at Vassar College. As a high school student in Imperial, PA, he developed a passion for mental health advocacy and amplifying youth voices. Through involvement with his school's Stand Together club, the PA Youth Advocacy Network, and freelance journalism, Connor drew attention to the mental health crisis facing youth. Recently, he has partnered with Mental Health America to speak on a Pride Month Webinar and worked with Doors to Wellbeing to design a youth peer support conference.

Rose Daniels is currently the Youth Drop-In Coordinator for Catholic Youth Center, as well as the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator for the Youth Revolution / Healthy Transitions Grant. Rose grew up in foster care and was adopted at the age of 12, after being placed in several homes. Her biological mother lost her rights due to mental health and substance abuse. Rose has endured many traumatic experiences due to these placements which have been physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. These hardships have fueled her passion to build resilience for the youth in her community. At a young age she was able to learn the value of mentorship, which has helped her become the strong individual she is today. She is now the 3rd Vice President of the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of the NAACP where her outreach efforts to the BIPOC community are elevated.

**Ashley Danny** graduated from Mercyhurst University in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Forensic Science with a concentration in Forensic Anthropology and a minor in Biology. She graduated from Binghamton University (SUNY) in 2018 with a Master of Science in Biomedical Anthropology and is the Program Coordinator at the Youth and Family

Training Institute (YFTI). She is responsible for verifying and entering data from the counties implementing High Fidelity Wraparound across Pennsylvania as well as conducting interviews, verifying, and entering data for several grants which are funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Lee Davis is the Co-owner/President of SLG Sports & Ent., the CEO of Lee Davis & Associates Consulting LLC., President of Sports Marketing Firm (Atlanta/Pittsburgh), and Co-founder of "A Hand Up" LLC (Workforce Development initiative). Mr. Davis also co-founded the Woodland Hills School District's Commission on Youth Affairs and The KidNation Foundation, serves on the boards of Homewood Homes (Transitional Living Houses) and The Allegheny Co. Homicide Review. He is a former member of the Braddock Carnegie Library board of trustees.

Shashi DeHaan, LSW, MSW, IMH-E, CFTP is a current President (2024) of PA-AIMH. Shashi received a Master's in Social Work from Marywood University and a Master's of Advanced Study in Infant Family Practice from Arizona State University. Shashi currently works for Community Services Group, as an Outpatient Therapist/Psychological Evaluator for children, adolescents and families. She also provides contractual services including Training and Reflective Consulting. Previously, Shashi DeHaan worked in Outpatient Behavioral Health as an Infant Mental Health Clinician for nearly 3 years.

Leah Doghramji is a Clinical Research Coordinator (CRC) in the David Farber ASPIRE Center at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Leah attended the University of Richmond for college, working as a lab coordinator in multiple research labs and earning a B.A. in Psychology. As a CRC, she works closely with the Garret Lee Smith (GLS) grant team, helping with data analytics and presentations to partnering counties. She also works as the Project Director on the SAMHSA National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (NSSP) grant, which focuses on suicide prevention readiness in adult-serving mental health systems (Crisis Services, Emergency Departments/Rooms, Law Enforcement) and improving collaboration between Crisis Services and Law Enforcement when responding to mental health crises.

**Charma Dudley, Ph.D., FPPR** is the Associate Director of Behavioral Health Services with Carelon Behavioral Health and a licensed psychologist; she has served in this capacity for more than 13 years.

Mark Durgin is the Director of the PA Care Partnership, a Statewide System of Care Grant in the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Department of Human Services, overseeing the Partnership's grant operations supporting staff, county human services, and training. Mark is also the President of Keystone Leadership Coaching, LLC., providing coaching and training to individuals and organizations across the country. Mark has overseen the statewide system of care grant for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania since 2016, addressing the implementation and sustainability of the grant activities. Through the grant, he worked collaboratively with 13 counties to implement a system of care on a local level. Mark has led a team of trainers, providing the Coach Approach to Adaptive Leadership to implement a Pennsylvania coaching model to over 1,000 youth, family, and system partners.

**Darren Eckert** is 23 years old and a graduate from Crestwood High School, Class of 2019. Darren has a podcast called "High on the Mountain" and also creates music as "Crimedog." He started his mental health journey in 2019 and graduated the HOPE program, which is a first episode psychosis treatment team, in March of 2023. After graduating the HOPE team he became a member of the team within a few short months. Darren has become passionate about helping other youth and young adults in their journeys. He has since achieved becoming a Certified Peer Specialist. Darren has told his story for CIT, Crisis Intervention Training for law enforcement, and for the community

Josh Ercole As Executive Director of the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania, Inc., Josh leads the organization, direction, and coordination of all administrative functions of the Council. A team member of CCGP since 2013, Josh has also conducted hundreds of trainings and seminars throughout Pennsylvania in an effort to raise awareness of problem gambling. To date, Josh has trained thousands of clinicians, industry members, students and other professionals about warning signs of gambling problems and available resources for help.

**Kimberly Ernest, Ph.D.** is the President at Pennsylvania Counseling services with a demonstrated history of working with mental health, addiction, and co-occurring disorders. She is skilled in Crisis Intervention, Couples and Family Therapy, Treatment with Evidence-Based Practices, Research Design and Psychometrics, Public Speaking, Forensic Psychology, community re-entry, and working with those with a history of substance use disorders or sexual offending behaviors. Dr. Ernest received her Ph.D. from the University of North Texas.

Jamal Ford is the Youth Resources Coordinator for PA Care Partnership. Jamal has been in this position since 2018, as the first Youth Resource Coordinator. Jamal's goals are to collaborate with the youth organizations across the state and collect information on what those organizations do so that he can effectively guide counties contracted with the PA Care Partnership SOC grant in the right direction for technical assistance. Jamal's previous experience includes seventeen years at a residential treatment facility. In his time there, he acquired a wealth of experience in the various positions he worked, including direct care, ropes course coordinator, Assistant Director and Director of Therapeutic Activities, and One-to-One care, giving him a desire to deepen his understanding and further his advocacy for the youth voice. He helped to implement the Sanctuary Model at the RTF and doing that led him to an opportunity to learn about Trauma-Informed Care from Lakeside Global Institute through Philadelphia University and The United Way.

**Kate Fox, DrPH (c), MPH** leads efforts in her work at Children First to improve school-based mental health, increase access to services, and promote healing-centered approaches to children's mental health. Prior to Children First, Kate spent ten years working in public service at Philadelphia's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS). Kate is also a doctoral candidate in health management and policy at Drexel University's Dornsife School of Public Health, where she is working on a dissertation around coalition-building and participatory advocacy to advance the inclusion of people with mental illness in mental health policy work.

Jennifer Foxworthy, LMSW, VASII, MSM, DTM served our country for 21.7 years. She is a retired U.S. Navy combat veteran, and CEO of Inspirationally Speaking, LLC, and Unstoppable You Ministries, Inc. Jennifer is a sought-after motivational speaker and internationally published author of Tomorrow My Sunshine: Memoirs of Women Who Survived Domestic Violence. Jennifer travels around the country using her life experiences to engage audiences boldly, authentically, and transparently on topics like intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and self-actualization strategies. Jennifer's experience as a post-domestic violence thriver and victim's advocate drives her dynamic presentations. Jennifer is dedicated to making a greater impact on the world.

Christina Frazier brings a wealth of educational experience, spanning roles from teaching 6th-8th grade ELA to serving as an Instructional Coach and school administrator. As the Training and Consultation Coordinator at the AIU, she specializes in Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) for academics and behavior. Christina supports schools in implementing School-wide Positive Behavior and collaborates with educators to optimize classroom management through evidence-based practices. Academically, she holds a Bachelor's degree in Illustration, a Master of Education in Elementary Education, and a Principal Certification in Educational Leadership from Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania and Indiana University of Pennsylvania, respectively.

**Kellie Gavran, M.S., NCC, LPC** was hired at Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration in 2008 to build an infrastructure for the High-Fidelity Wraparound Program, the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool, KIDnet (Children's Outcomes Management Center), as well as CASSP and the System of Care initiative. She has been working with children and their families for over 35 years and it brings her much joy.

**Daniel Gilmore, LPC** is a Senior Clinical Director with Merakey's Children and Family Services division. With 15 years of clinical experience in community mental health, Dan has extensive knowledge and experience with youth and families that he enjoys sharing with others. He has developed training and workshops on topics like trauma, family systems, ethics in home-based family therapy, and supervision in Eco-Systemic Family Therapy (ESFT). He is an adjunct professor at Eastern University's Graduate Counseling program and faculty member at the Center for Family Based Training. Dan has a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from Eastern University.

**Kenneth Ginsburg, MD, MS Ed** is a pediatrician specializing in adolescent medicine and is co-founder and director of programs at the Center for Parent and Teen Communication. He also serves as director of health services at Covenant House Pennsylvania, an agency that serves Philadelphia's homeless and marginalized youth. His research focuses on facilitating youth to develop their own solutions to social problems and to teach clinicians how to better serve them. He co-developed the Teen-Centered Method, a mixed qualitative/quantitative methodology that enables youth to generate, prioritize, and explain their own ideas. The theme uniting his clinical practice, teaching, research, and advocacy efforts is that of building on the strength of teenagers by fostering their internal resilience. He works to translate what is known from research and practice into practical approaches parents, professionals, and committees

can use to building resilience. Dr. Ginsburg received his MD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and his MSEd from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Shoshi Goldfus, LCSW, J.D.** is the Outcomes in Behavioral Health Clinical Coordinator at the Support Center for Child Advocates, providing direct service advocacy for children with complex behavioral health needs and consultation, training, and capacity-building to other child welfare professionals. She holds an AB from Bryn Mawr College, an MSW and JD from the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to her work with the Support Center for Child Advocates, Shoshi has worked in prisons, elementary schools, and varied court settings. She has extensive training experience on topics such as trauma, mandated reporting, behavioral health advocacy, and the dependency system.

Mayank Gupta, MD, CPE is the Medical Director of Inpatient Services for Southwood Hospital and is Triple Board Certified in Adult, Child, and Adolescent Psychiatry, and Addiction Medicine. Dr. Gupta's previous experience includes being Medical Director at the Penn Highlands Healthcare Department of Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist at Clarion Psychiatric Center. He has published numerous articles and received awards for leadership and scientific papers.

Marci Hall, MS, LBS is currently the Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities/Early Intervention Administrator for Clarion County. She has held various clinical and administrative positions in the public and private social services systems including Behavior Specialist Consultant, psychiatric hospital social worker, and CASSP Coordinator.

Misty Hannah, MA, LPC, CSFT, CCTP-2 is an LPC, who has worked in the mental health field since 1999. She obtained her master's in counseling from Waynesburg University. The majority of her career has been working in and supervising Family Based services. Her experiences of providing family therapy in rural, southwestern Pennsylvania inspired Misty's journey into specializing in trauma work. In 2022, she became a private practice therapist with the T.H.S. Network where she helped launch programs such as CANVAS.

**Brad Hartman** is a Public Health Program Administrator with the PA Department of Health. In this position, Brad coordinates maternal and child health block grant programs, as well as conveying, interpreting, and explaining the programs' services and objectives. Brad received his BA in Social Work from West Chester University.

**Rusty Hewitt** currently serves as a Transition Age Youth Coordinator for Allegheny County's Office of Behavioral Health. Rusty has nearly 24 years of experience working in the behavioral health field in the areas of local government, community psychiatric crisis and in the clinical hospital setting. Rusty graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a BA in Sociology in 2001, and from Hagerstown Junior College with an AS in Administration of Justice in 1996.

**Amy Hill** is Allegheny County's Department of Human Services Continuity of Care Supervisor for the Bureau of Mental Health Services. Amy has 22 years of experience in the mental health system and 19 years in the child-serving system specifically. Amy graduated from Ohio University with a BA in psychology and Robert Morris University with an MA in Human Resource Management.

Ashleigh Hillard is a graduate of Wyoming Valley West High School. Knowing she wanted to work with children she obtained employment at a day care center as a classroom aide. She worked diligently and became certified to become a Pre-School teacher and continued in that position for a total of six years. She then went on to obtain her Associate's degree in Criminal Justice. Ashleigh completed her internship at the Children's Service Center. Later, when an employment opportunity came available at the Children's Service Center, she applied and obtained the position. She started as the Support Staff of the HOPE Team, which is a First Episode of Psychosis program. After being in that position for two years, Ashleigh wanted to further herself within the field. She took the course and became state certified as a Certified Peer Specialist. She has been a Certified Peer Specialist for a year now and uses her own life experiences to relate to the participants she works with. Ashleigh feels she has found her true purpose in life in this position.

**Gordon Hodas, MD** is a Board-Certified Adult and Child Psychiatrist, who has been a policy consultant for the PA Children's Bureau and the PA Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) since 1992. He received his medical degree from the Pearlman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. His residency in Adult and Child Psychiatry was at Boston University Medical Center, and his Child and Adolescent Fellowship at the Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic. Dr. Hodas is a Distinguished Life Fellow of both the American Psychiatric Association and the

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. In his role with the Children's Bureau, Dr. Hodas has advocated for trauma-informed care since approximately 1999. In 2006, Dr. Hodas' paper, "Responding to Childhood Trauma: The Promise and Practice of Trauma-Informed Care," was published by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD). Currently, Dr. Hodas is helping OMHSAS and the Department of Human Services in its efforts to implement trauma-informed care and related trauma-informed practices.

Mark Hugh, LPC, LBS serves as Community Care's Associate Clinical Manager for Child and Adolescent Services in Allegheny County. Mark has nearly 25 years' experience working with Community Stakeholders to support improved access and treatment outcomes for Children's services in Allegheny County. Mark graduated from Slippery Rock University in 1997 with an MA in Community Counseling and is a Licensed Professional Counselor.

James Huguley is an Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work. He is also the chair of the Race and Youth Development Research Group at the Center on Race and Social Problems. Dr. Huguley's research focuses on school- and family-based interventions that promote positive academic and mental health outcomes for African American youth. Dr. Huguley is the Principal Investigator for the Just Discipline Project, an initiative that aims to curb the use of punitive discipline in schools. He is also the Principal Investigator for Parenting While Black, a program that provides Black primary caregivers with supports and resources around best practices in racial socialization, educational involvement, and promoting positive mental health in Black families. Dr. Huguley also serves on the executive board of the Human Services Center Mon Valley, the advisory board of the Office of Child Development, and as a cohort lead for The Pittsburgh Study. Prior to his academic career, Dr. Huguley was a youth program director and middle school teacher. He received his bachelors in Secondary Education from Providence College, and both his master's in Risk and Prevention and doctorate in Human Development and Psychology from Harvard University.

**Colleen Igo** has over 30 years of experience in communications, strategic leadership, brand enhancement, problem-solving, and project management. Currently serving as the Manager of System & Community Initiatives at York County Human Services, she has spearheaded innovative programs and projects, including the "Shine the Light on Mental Health" campaign. Her previous roles include directing comprehensive sales and marketing operations, overseeing the communication department for a healthcare facility, and serving as an account executive for an advertising and strategic marketing agency. Colleen is passionate about contributing to community wellbeing and helping to connect people with partners and other services.

**Roxanne Johnson** loves the concept of family, so she considers herself blessed to be the eldest of ten and a part of God's ministry since birth. Roxanne Johnson grew up in Clairton, PA where she graduated from High School and Bradford Business School and later met her soul mate Pastor Eric T. Johnson. Roxanne has worked as a Family Advocate for SOC for 3 years and a Family Support Partner for the last 4 years. She is a successful self-made business woman who started JW Catering, where she catered for doctors and educational programs through the Pennsylvania Food Program. She and her husband are certified Foster Care Parents who have opened their home to more than ten youth and have had permanent custodianship of 4 youth. Roxanne recently completed her credentialing as a Family Support Partner. More than any other calling, Roxanne Johnson counts herself blessed to have been chosen by God for her greatest responsibility of serving people.

**Jennifer Jones** is currently the CASSP Coordinator and System of Care Project Director for CMSU Behavioral Health. She possesses a Bachelors of Arts in Sociology. As the CASSP Coordinator for CMSU, she manages the largest joinder in Pennsylvania, working with multiple child welfare and juvenile justice agencies, along with system stakeholders including school districts to support the behavioral health needs of children and families. She is a tireless advocate and innovator.

**Maureen Joyce** is a ceramic artist with a love for clay and alternate firing practices. While the human face and figure are commonly used in her work she also makes functional ceramic wear. Recently Maureen has been motivated to develop work that speaks about social issues. Maureen's work and purpose is focused on community engagement and mental health conversations.

**Crystal Karenchak** is the Family Policy and Engagement Consultant and Family Lead Contact at PA Care Partnership. Crystal and her family have a long history of multi-system involvement including mental health, juvenile justice, adult criminal justice, education and drug and alcohol. She began her advocacy work for her own family and then for others in the 1980s. Crystal has worked with youth and adults in group home settings, as a counselor advocate for

sexual assault domestic violence, and other serious crime victims. She partnered with the founding youth leaders of Rallying Youth Organized Together (RYOT) Against Rape helping to create the training manual for this youth-adult partnership. Crystal graduated from the PA Victim Assistance Academy through Scranton University where she won the George Award, providing the voice of victims for the Project Point of Light team, a sex offender treatment program. Her training talent includes NAMI's Family to Family training, being a STOP Grant trainer to provide training to advocates, police, other systems, and the community on Rape Trauma and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Family Group Decision Making, Family Involvement in PA Juvenile Justice System, and is a certified trainer for Team Up for Families Roadmap since 2014.

Anna Katona Linn, Ed.D., BCBA is the Owner of Katona-Linn Consulting, LLC, specializing in educational and behavioral consultancy. She helps education leaders create safe, supportive and successful schools through training and coaching. Formerly, she was the State Project Co-Director for the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Partnership. With a background in special education and behavioral analysis, Anne has contributed to several statewide initiatives in Pennsylvania and other states. Anne has also published a book, Shedding Lies: Living Beyond Childhood Trauma. Beyond her professional roles, she enjoys stand-up paddleboarding and family time, and she is a certified trainer for the Coach Approach.

Amy Kelly, MBA, MNM is the mother to Danny, Annie, and Ryan. Annie is diagnosed with moderate to severe autism, verbal apraxia, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and general anxiety disorder. Amy is the National Director of Family Engagement for Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health, one of the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit providers of behavioral healthcare and serves as a family representative on several special needs boards in the community, locally and nationally. In addition, she participates with other patients and families in efforts supported by the Autism Care Network and serves on an executive committee for the American Academy of Pediatrics to assist children and adolescents with special needs and the importance of quality care.

**Lisa Kennedy** is a Family Peer Support Specialist with the York County Department of Human Services in York, Pennsylvania. She has been serving families in this role for over 4 years and has remained focused on doing work with families for more than 25 years. Lisa transitioned from the corporate world of hospital administrative management into human services when she became a Foster Parent many years ago. Lisa has, through her time of learning the needs of her own children and serving others, been successful in creating several programs to serve families in meaningful ways. The Parent Network Series is a training arm of her FPSS role which informs families on how to navigate systems and empowers them with educational resources and tools to make the best choices for their families. Additionally, The State of Black and Brown Mental Health Series is fast becoming some of the most rewarding work in intersecting the world of mental health and all systems to specifically focus on the impact to communities of color. Her work in Trauma has led her to become an adjunct Trainer for Lakeside Global Institute. Lisa is a fun-loving yet hard working and driven person who has 4 adult children and 5 grandchildren who bring her joy every single day. They are a part of the reason she embraces the unique role of FPSS and continues to imagine how the work of systems can always improve the way we serve others. She firmly lives the words she always shares and that is the desire to build systems that are welcoming to those we are serving and removing barriers to successful outcomes. She is also an independent consultant, Kennedy's Education Consulting Services, LLC and serves other organizations, agencies and others with educational services and resources.

**Kara Kessel** is a Clinical Consultant for the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in the Bureau of Children's Behavioral Health, focusing on statewide children, youth, and young adult crisis initiatives. She has a master's degree in Psychology, a post-master's certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis, and is a Board Certified Behavioral Analyst. Additionally, Kara is a senior certified instructor in crisis intervention and has served as a Program Director, Clinical Supervisor, and Clinical Director of services in the home, community, and licensed private schools serving Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Scott Kilpatrick** is a detective with over 18 years with the Baltimore County Police Department. He is currently assigned to the Crimes Against Children Unit and works with victims of sexual abuse and sex trafficking. Detective Kilpatrick works daily to speak with victims of sexual abuse, their families, witnesses, and suspects. He is a certified instructor and trauma-informed interviewing trainer. Detective Kilpatrick has also been trained in interview and interrogation techniques, identifying deceptive behavior, and forensic interviewing.

Larissa Kimmel has worked in a variety of roles in the mental health field including case management, crisis, early intervention, outpatient and in-home services. She has worked closely with families and professionals and currently serves as the System of Care Coordinator for Carbon Monroe Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services. Larissa is a parent of two young adults with lived experience of mental illness. She strives to learn more about helping, advocating and supporting others through her work on many committees including the Children's Round Table, Suicide Prevention Coalition and the Trauma Coalition of Monroe County.

Amy Kincade is the supervisor for the School Based Services Liaison Team at Community Behavioral Health in Philadelphia, PA. She received her Master's Degree in School Psychology from Gwynedd Mercy University. She started her career at Community Behavioral Health 20 years ago. She left after 3 years to develop and manage school-based programs for CBH providers. She returned to Community Behavioral Health 7 years ago and after spending time as the team lead for the Child Acute Services team at CBH she joined the School Based team as the supervisor.

**Gregory Krausz** As a Licensed Professional Counselor and Certified Addictions Counselor Diplomate, Greg brings extensive knowledge and experience in the area of counseling into training sessions. He has worked with adolescents and adults in groups and individual sessions in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Greg is an official trainer for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for training counselors to treat problem gambling, and currently works throughout PA as a consultant trainer for the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania, Inc.

**Summer Krochta** is one of the Vice Presidents of Programs at Children's Service Center. Summer is a licensed clinical social worker with over 20 years of mental health experience. Summer attended Marywood University for her Master's Degree in Social Work. Summer has been working with Children's Service Center for 10 years. Summer's focus has been providing trauma informed care to at risk youth. Summer also has administrative leadership experience and program development.

**Lauren Kryston, MSCD, IMH-E** is an infant, early childhood, and lifespan relational health enthusiast and carries her fascination with all things interpersonal into her mom, partner, professional, and student roles. Lauren works as an Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant for the Pennsylvania Key in support of Pennsylvania's Office of Child Development and Early Learning.

Licia Lentz, EdD serves as the Director of Alternative Education for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU). The Alternative Education Program (AEP) educates students in two AEDY approved community schools in Allegheny County as well as the juvenile education at the Allegheny County Jail. Previously, Dr. Lentz was the statewide regional school improvement team manager for the Pennsylvania Department of Education. In that role, she supported 96 schools across the Commonwealth that were designated for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) through ESSA.

**Walter Lewis** is the President and CEO of Homewood Children's Village, where he oversees HCV's work and partnerships across the cradle to career pipeline. Walter began his journey at HCV as a volunteer. Over the past 10 years he has served at every level of the organization, from part-time after school work, to program management and later as a director. He received his BS from Cheyney University in computer science and his MS from Carnegie Mellon University in computational biology.

**Emily Lichvar, Ph.D.** is Chief of the Child, Adolescent, and Family Branch, Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). She is also an adjunct faculty member at a number of universities including Georgetown University and University of Maryland. She received her Ph.D. from Fordham University as well as her MA in Applied Developmental Psychology.

Sandra List is a highly effective presenter, trainer, and project management consultant to state and nonprofit agencies. Her passion and energy spark change that helps organizations address human-centered issues including affirmative outreach; diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility (DEIA); Equal Opportunity investigations; workforce federal compliance regulations; and DEIA program planning. Certifications include Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University, Coach Approach training, Trauma Awareness, and Mindfulness meditation, plus extensive training in EEOC and Accessibility topics. Sandy has a master's in counseling from the University of Maryland, and a bachelor's in psychology from Millersville State University.

**Benjamin Lohr, NCC, MS** is a masters level, outpatient therapist that has worked in the field since September 2022. Through Walden University, he received his Clinical Mental Health Counseling degree with a specialization in family, couples, and marriage counseling. Initially starting off at Healing Bridges in Washington, PA, he transitioned to working under Misty Hannah in outpatient, private practice in April 2023. Benjamin currently provides therapy services focused on resolving trauma-based issues and family therapy.

Christoper Lunsford is a diverse and charismatic individual with a passion for advocacy and support towards other human beings, particularly youth and young adults that live with mental illness. He has lived experience with bipolar disorder, depression and ADHD since early childhood and has developed an ever-growing skillset for successfully working through recovery. Chris has worked in a wide variety of fields before mental healthcare including electrical work, foodservice, transportation, technical support, content creation, and more. Through it all, he has developed an increasingly wide understanding of diverse groups of people. Chris was trained as a Certified Peer Specialist in 2020 and previously worked as a Case Management CPS in the Lehigh Valley and Northampton Counties at Sevita; formerly known as The MENTOR Network. He has also been providing intentional peer support to gamers of all ages on the online platform Twitch since 2014. There, he shares his experience with others and give people a place to make their stories and voices heard, receive support, and build meaningful connections with their peers. Chris believes the power of connection, support, and representation is crucial to the wellbeing of humanity and the world around us. With his lived experience, broad worldview and passion for supporting others, Chris is now the Call for Change & Youth Care Coordinator at the Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association (PMHCA) and hopes to make a positive impact in the way that mental health services are provided to youth and young adults. To Chris, everyone has a story worth hearing and knows that the voices of young people will tell the stories of our future.

**Brent Maguire, Ph.D.** is a clinical psychologist with an extensive background in clinical practice, teaching, and consulting. Current interests include positive psychology, mind-body practices (mindfulness, imagery, hypnosis), and enhancing well-being, especially for caregivers.

**Kimberly Malayter, LCSW** is the Executive Director of Clinical Services for Merakey's Children and Family Services Division. In her role, she supports clinical best practice integration and oversees the continuous quality improvement processes for the divisional programs, which include: education services, foster care, blend case management, family-based, outpatient, IBHS, transition services, and ABA programs. Kim leads the Children and Family Service division's suicide prevention initiatives, which have been largely informed by the ZeroSuicide framework. She has her Master of Social Work degree from New York University.

**Beth-Ann McConnell, LSW** is a family member of the State Leadership Management Team. As an adoption parent and social worker, opportunities to learn the various child serving systems through lived experience has occurred. This history has provided an ability to voice what changes may benefit families and their children who need extra system support. The ability to engage in various systems with other families, shows others how to make a true difference for children and their families who are potentially going through a similar journey. She is a mental health, trauma, school crisis and suicide prevention trainer at her Intermediate Unit.

Lindsay McGaughey, MS has more than 19 years in the education field and has supported students, ages 3 through 22. Her career started serving as a special education teacher, behavior consultant, and program supervisor at an Intermediate Unit. For the last nine years, Lindsay has been the Director of Special Education for the Deer Lakes School District. During this time, she has received multiple grants for inclusive practices, addressing dyslexia, and developing future special educators. In addition, Lindsay oversees the Title III programs and is the Homeless Liaison.

**Bonnie McNally-Brown, LPC** is a licensed professional counselor with over 30 years of experience working with children and families. Ms. McNally-Brown is in private practice at Child Family and Community Inc. She specializes in working with children who have experienced preverbal trauma. Her interests include early loss, attachment after loss, medical trauma in infancy, and parental incarceration. Ms. McNally-Brown is a founding member of the Pennsylvania Association for Infant Mental Health.

Janice Meinert, MSW is a Paralegal in the Pittsburgh office of the PA Health Law Project. She is a master's level social worker and has been with PHLP for 23 years in a case handler position. Her expertise focuses on access to behavioral health services for PHLP's clients. She has authored, "The Many Doors to Consumer Empowerment" and "How to Obtain

Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Services" in Pennsylvania. Together with consumers, Janice also co-authored, "Person-Centered Service Planning: What Pennsylvanians with Disabilities Need to Know about Getting Long Term Services and Supports in Community HealthChoices". Janice is an expert in Medicaid eligibility.

**Dana Milakovic, PsyD.** serves as the Mental Wellness & Trauma Specialist with the Office for Safe Schools for the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). As a passionate mental health and trauma specialist with over 20 years of experience in school mental health, community mental health, pediatric neuropsychology, school administration, and school psychology, she supports schools as the trauma lead for PDE. Dr. Milakovic also supports PA in moving forward as a trauma-informed state by participating on the leadership team for HEAL PA, as well as serving as the co-chair of the educational committee and participating on multiple other HEAL PA committees.

**Rose Milani** is a Clinical Research Lead at the David Farber ASPIRE Center at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. She also serves as the Program Director for the Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention Grant in Pennsylvania. She has been working in the field of suicide prevention for the last 10 years and aids in facilitating the Higher Education Suicide Prevention Coalition and is on the executive board of the Delaware Valley Medical Student Wellness Collaborative. She is currently getting her Master's in Public Health.

Mary Morgan is from southwestern Pa where she has raised her four children as a single mom. Mary has worked in the field of Early Childhood Education for over 20 years before going through the HFW process for her stepson in 2015. In September 2016 Mary started her journey as a Family Support Partner at Allegheny Family Network in the Joint Planning Team/ HFW process. Mary is a credentialed Family support partner since August 2018 and is currently becoming a credentialed Coach. Mary's son Kadin was diagnosed with ADHD, Bi-Polar and being on the Spectrum. With these diagnoses, Mary navigated the following services: Mobile therapy, family based, medication management, and outpatient services. She collaborated closely with her son's district on his IEP and helped him connect to adult services upon graduating from high school. Mary is a foster parent as well and has a bonus child that she is currently navigating the physical health system, along with CYF, Mental health services from inpatient treatment and RTF placements and juvenile court involvement. Mary's one daughter is receiving services for Anxiety, and her youngest are twins, have IEPS in place for reading disabilities. Mary is enthusiastic about the HFW process as she had gone through it herself as a family. She helps to show other families and providers the benefits of thinking and supporting families with an outside of the box process while building them up and showing them their strengths. She offers hope and encouragement when a family feels overwhelmed.

**Olive Mowery** is a research coordinator at The David Farber Aspire Center at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Proudly from Harrisburg PA, they moved to Philly while attending La Salle University, where they earned a B.S. in Biology. They are currently studying for their Master's of Public Health degree at TJU in addition to working there.

**Deborah Murdoch, MPH** is a senior program manager of community health at the Jewish Healthcare Foundation. In this role, she provides leadership for the Adolescent Behavioral Health Initiative (ABHI) and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI), including grants management, quality improvement coaching, facilitation of collaborative learning and peer-exchange, analysis of program data, and documentation of lessons learned. She earned a bachelor's in neuroscience from the College of William and Mary and an MPH from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

**Scott Muso** is a recent high school graduate with a passion for advocating for youth who are bullied, especially those involved in special needs / special education classroom settings. Scott is involved in the advisory council to Youth Revolution and is currently involved in the Luzerne-Wyoming Counties Crisis Intervention Team training for law enforcement and other first responders.

**Coco Naggy** is a 16 year old high school student from Latrobe, PA. They enjoy art, music, and do some standup comedy from the perspective of person in the LGTQIA2S+. Their favorite pet is a tabby cat named Luke who acts as muse for many artworks.

**Erin Naggy, OTD, OTR/L** is an occupational therapist at Torrance State Hospital where she works in mental health. She graduated from Gannon University in 2000 and has worked in a variety of settings since then. As an early intervention OT, she spent 17 years working directly with children and their families. She attained her doctoral degree from Chatham University in 2017. She has worked as a Program Director for two occupational therapy assistant programs, and as an

assistant professor for two universities. She has presented at the AOTA Annual Conference, AOTA Education Summit, Early Childhood Education Summit, Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Conference, & the Assistive Technology Industry Association Conference. She is mother to four children, including Coco Naggy, who will share their experience.

Megan Naylor is currently the Acting Human Services Analyst Supervisor for the Learning Development & Analytics Unit. She started with the Commonwealth in 2019 as a ChildLine Caseworker and was promoted to a ChildLine supervisor in 2020. While previously working for YWCA-York, ACCESS from 2011 to 2019, Megan was a member of the York County Human Trafficking, Sexual Assault, and Domestic Violence task forces. During her eight years at ACCESS, Megan held multiple positions, including Victim and Medical Advocate, Human Trafficking and Residential Case Manager.

**Falon Nonnemacher** is a co-Youth & Young Adult Coordinator with the Youth Revolution / Healthy Transitions Grant. Falon also works in childcare and the Catholic Youth Center's Youth Drop In Center. Falon is also a Certified Peer Specialist and has a passion for working and advocating for those in the Human Services field to avoid burnout.

**Nicholas Orlando, MA, LPC, C-PD, C-DBT, TGM** has 11 years of experience working in outpatient mental health settings. They obtained their Masters in Counseling from Waynesburg University. They were sought out to lead and facilitate a local Gay-Straight Alliance for Greene County youth in 2015; which lead to Nicholas seeking specialization in trauma therapy and human sexuality. In 2019, they founded the T.H.S. Network; where they have helped launch and facilitate local adult and youth therapy programs, such as CANVAS.

**Chad Owens** is the Statewide Youth Support Partner Specialist/Mentor at the Youth and Family Training Institute (YFTI) and a Certified Peer Specialist. He is responsible for working with a variety of youth and other stakeholders to help develop youth advisory components as well as various informational, educational, and training materials to help youth navigate the behavioral health system and other child serving systems. Chad also creates training videos, posters, comics, and cartoons.

Dave Ozias worked as a HFW Facilitator for nearly four years in Fayette County prior to coming to the Youth and Family Training Institute (YFTI). He became certified as a co-trainer for the Five-Day High-Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) Team Training shortly before joining YFTI. Dave loves the HFW process because it reminds him of our country's roots... a time when people helped their neighbors. He believes that no one should go through life alone. The HFW process helps identify natural supports for youth and families. High Fidelity Wraparound capitalizes on an individual's strengths and builds confidence in families as they develop reciprocal relationships. Dave has worked in the social service field for over 20 years. This includes residential treatment facilities, partial hospitalizations, shelters, and diagnostic studies. He is currently working on his Facilitator Coach credential at the Youth and Family Training Institute. Dave's family was on public assistance when he was young. Because of this experience, Dave has a strong desire to give back to others by volunteering his time and being a role model for his own children as well as the children in his community. He has worked as a church youth leader for 20 years, as well as a wrestling, football and baseball coach in his community.

**Tracy Palazzotto** is a wife and mother of 3 children. She's also a Family Support Partner Supervisor with PA Parent and Family Alliance. She has two children that struggle with mental health issues and is the reason that she became so involved in speaking up about mental health challenges in our community and offering hope and support to other parents that are struggling. Tracy offers parents who are raising a child(ren) involved in any of our systems the support they need and serves as a caregiver representative for many committees for the statewide family run organization who advocate for children who have mental health diagnoses, behavioral or emotional challenges, and their families.

**Elizabeth Pask, Ph.D.** is a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist who works with youth and families in a community mental health agency/ approved private school setting, conducting psychological evaluations and providing individualized intervention and therapy. Dr. Pask is a graduate of Duquesne University's School Psychology doctoral program, located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Areas of specialty include individuals with autism spectrum disorders, children and adolescents who have experienced chronic and complex trauma histories, and emotional/behavioral disorders. Dr. Pask is a contributing author of the Healthy Relationships & Autism curriculum and part of her research interests include investigating its effectiveness.

**Lori Paster, MS** is the Clinical Coordinator for the School-Based Services Liaison Team at Community Behavioral Health in Philadelphia, PA. She received her Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. She has worked in Philadelphia in both direct care and leadership roles, overseeing school-based mental health services in

Philadelphia schools from within provider agencies, the School District of Philadelphia and Community Behavioral Health to ensure equity of access to services and supports, effective care coordination and trauma-informed supports for children and families throughout Philadelphia.

**Pinky Patel, LMFT** is a licensed marriage and family therapist and an approved AAMFT supervisor. She is the associate director of the Philadelphia Child and Family Therapy Training Center, former Program Director of the COAMFTE Post Graduate Certificate Program, and a Program Director at Creative Health Services. She has a QPR Gatekeeper Instructor Certification.

Christina Paternoster, MS is the director of Pennsylvania's statewide family network, PA Parent and Family Alliance. She is the mother of three children; including one who is navigating the challenges of depression, anxiety, ADHD, dyslexia, and dysgraphia. She holds a Masters' degree in Instructional Design. While raising her children in rural PA, Christina ran a Family Literacy program at the local university, then while serving as the executive director of the county's sexual assault and domestic violence crisis shelter, converted the center's work to embrace a trauma informed approach. Christina is a co-author on the study, Delphi Survey of Maintenance Lithium Treatment in Older Adults with Bipolar Disorder: An ISBD Task Force Report. She has served as a technical assistant for the PA Dept. of Education, consulted with juvenile probation departments and the American Academy of Pediatrics on programs for students with significant disabilities and is a contributor at Understood.org.

**Tara Pavlocak, MSW** is a Research Program Administrator for UPMC Western Behavioral Health and is responsible for managing the Theiss Complex Child and Adolescent Trauma Project. She has a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Pittsburgh with a specialization in Community Organizing/Social Administration. Tara has 20 years of community and non-profit experience with an emphasis on federal/state and foundation grant writing and grant project implementation and management. Tara has managed the NCTSN Theiss Center for Child and Adolescent Trauma for the past 11 years and has had a vital role in the program's growth and continued funding since its inception in 2012.

**Terry Pentz, LPC, IMH-E** has worked with children and families for over 25 years in early intervention and early childhood mental health. She has a master's degree in Counseling Psychology, is a board certified Licensed Professional Counselor, and holds endorsement in Infant Mental Health (Clinical-Mentor level). She has been a direct service provider, service coordinator, and supervisor within several agencies and counties, helping children of all ages. Currently, Teri works at the Theiss Center for Child & Adolescent Trauma as a supervisor, therapist, and trainer, specializing in Child-Parent Psychotherapy and working with young children with trauma histories and children of adoption.

Maria Lynn Perrotta, Ph.D, MA, LPC is currently the Director of Assessment and Outpatient Services at Human Services Center. She oversees the Diagnostic Assessment Center, Outpatient Therapy Department, Crisis Department, Family Reunification Program, and School Assistance Program. She is also a faculty member for the graduate program at Yorkville University and a faculty member for the undergraduate programs at Southern New Hampshire University and Easter Gateway Community College. Dr. Perrotta also serves on the Board of Directors for Glade Run Lutheran Services.

**Sarah Pesi, MSPPM** is a policy associate with the Jewish Healthcare Foundation, focusing on mental health initiatives. Ms. Pesi is a lead coordinator in the PA Youth Advocacy Network, which brings youth and youth-serving organizations together to advocate for mental health system change and center youth voice. She also supports the Teen Mental Health Collaborative, which seeks to extend the continuum of care and support out-of-school time organizations. She has an MS in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University. She also holds a BA in public policy studies and a minor in social services administration from Chatham University.

**John Prater** is a senior at Wilkes Barre Area High School. John is active in the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of the NAACP as a Youth leader. Chapter of the NAACP as a Youth leader. John is involved in the advisory council to Youth Revolution. John is a co-developer in the Luzerne County's "For Kids By Kids" meal distribution program.

**Sonya Price** is a co-Youth & Young Adult Coordinator with the Youth Revolution / Healthy Transitions Grant. Sonya is pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work at Misericordia University. Sonya's history in foster care and other youth placements shaped her to be a tremendous Certified Peer Specialist. Sonya was a previous award winner at this conference as a youth leader.

Samantha Pulleo is a Project Analyst at the Youth and Family Training Institute (YFTI) which is a part of the University of Pittsburgh. She is responsible for working with incoming data from counties across Pennsylvania implementing High Fidelity Wraparound as well as several grants which are funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). She executes data analysis and develops interactive dashboards, enabling YFTI partners to utilize their data to make informed decisions and improvements. Samantha has attended and presented at several national conferences and continues to innovate novel ways to share and utilize data.

**Kevin Puskaric, CPS, CPSS, CRS, CFRS** is the Program Director at Youth Move Pennsylvania, where he specializes in empathetic leadership, youth engagement, and has overcome experiences in his life to support representing the voice of our youth. To fully support the community, he has dedicated time in his professional career to become certified as a Peer Specialist, Recovery Specialist, and a Family Recovery Specialist. Kevin continues to deepen his knowledge and share his experience within the youth population by serving as a co-chair to the Children's Committee of Mental Health Planning Council and the Transition Age Youth and Young Adult Advisory (TAYYA) Subcommittee, as part of the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS). He showcases his knowledge, dedication, and fierce advocacy through youth peer support initiatives within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Eric Ramsay** is the Executive Director of RAM Consulting Solutions, LLC. With more than 24 years of hands-on experience, he is a well-known and highly respected expert on the development, management, and growth of registered apprenticeship programs nationwide. It is here where Eric worked with employers to ensure that federal regulations for equal opportunity provisions were followed. Eric is currently the DEIA lead for PA Department of Labor and Industry. In this position, Eric is in charge of implementing DEIA strategies throughout the Agency. Eric also served as a football coach for 20 years where he worked with young men and women to mentor them into making good choices so that they can become model citizens in their communities.

**Emma Rarich** is a High Fidelity Wraparound Coach at Pinebrook Family Answers and has extensive experience in the High Fidelity Wraparound model. She started as Youth Support Partner serving youth in the Philadelphia area. She later moved into a Facilitator role for the programming as well as moving to the Lehigh Valley where she joined the team at Pinebrook Family Answers. In her years with Pinebrook, she moved into the role of coach where she is able to apply her first hand experience in various roles.

**Stephanie Romero, EdD** is the Founder and Executive Director of Awaken Pittsburgh. Stephanie is an educator with 20+ years of experience teaching elementary, middle school, high school and college students. She has been a meditator and mindfulness practitioner for more than 15 years. In 2013, seeking to bring others the same benefits she was experiencing, Stephanie was trained in the Path of Freedom Mindfulness Curriculum, which she delivered through the HOPE pre-release program in the Allegheny County Jail. Stephanie's dissertation was the culmination of three years of research into mindfulness in education. She is a member of the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Mindfulness and Consciousness Studies.

**Peri Rosen, Ph.D.** is a consulting psychologist at the Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) at the Department of Human Services (DHS) in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She is also Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) and licensed psychologist in Pennsylvania. Dr. Rosen co-chaired the Governor's Suicide Prevention Task Force, which was launched in May of 2019, and she has remained part of the state leadership team for the Task Force. At OMHSAS, Dr. Rosen has also helped lead several school and community-based youth mental health and suicide prevention initiatives, including the Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention grant and the Pennsylvania Network of Student Assistance Services.

Caren Rosser-Morris, Ph.D. Caren Rosser-Morris, Ph.D. is a Licensed Psychologist and Trauma informed Care Consultant to the Pennsylvania office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the Bureau of Children's Behavioral Health Services since September 2016. Having completed her professional training at Vanderbilt University in 1993, she has gained over 30 years of experience providing trauma-informed and developmentally individualized psychological treatment & social/emotional education services to youth and families struggling with mental health and behavioral challenges in a wide variety of Inpatient, Outpatient, Residential Treatment and Education Facilities.

**Terri Rudy, MPS** is the Thrive Initiative Research Portfolio Manager at the Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness at Penn State. She provides oversight of and contributes to the curriculum and content development, implementation and

dissemination, and evaluation of universal and secondary prevention parent-education programming that focuses on child/family well-being. Her responsibilities managing the outreach and communication efforts for Thrive helps to advance existing and future work funded through the Department of Defense and community partnerships that aim to promote health among military families. Terri received a Bachelor of Psychology and a Master of Public Administration from Pennsylvania State University.

**Pamela Rueda** is a High Fidelity Wraparound Facilitator at Pinebrook Family Answers. She immigrated to the United States from Ecuador in 2020 and had recently obtained US citizenship when applying for the High Fidelity Wraparound Bilingual Facilitator position. She brings colorful life experience with her and is an integral part of Pinebrook's culturally diverse team.

Jessica Sachs has been working with Children's Service Center since the beginning of the FASD Pilot Project in 2021 as the FASD Family Navigator. Jessica has been promoted to FASD Educator to assists in providing ongoing education to the clinicians, community and services providers to ensure families raising children impacted with FASD have clinicians who understand the neurodiversity and assist with modifying appropriate strategies to help families be successful.

**Michael Sandella** is a Clinical Research Coordinator at the David Farber ASPIRE Center at Thomas Jefferson University, where he provides support to suicide prevention grants surrounding youth and adult populations. He received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Pennsylvania State University in May 2023. Michael hopes to attend graduate school to receive a PhD in Clinical Psychology while further researching the development and psychotherapeutic treatment of anxiety and mood disorders in adolescents and young adults, with particular attention to the role of maladaptive cognitive structures in depression.

Bernadette Schmeltz, OTD, OTR/L, CLT, BCTS, DRS is an occupational therapist and driver rehabilitation specialist, with over 23 years of clinical experience working with individuals with diverse medical conditions. She graduated with her bachelor's degree in occupational therapy in 2000 from the University of Pittsburgh and her doctorate in occupational therapy from Chatham University in 2019. She has worked in acute care, outpatient, skilled nursing, cyberschool, home health, and inpatient rehab settings with the entire lifespan of clients aging from young children to the elderly. Bernadette is a Clinical Assistant Professor and former Doctoral Capstone Coordinator. She has obtained multiple certifications in addition to driving rehabilitation including the following: Certified Lymphedema Therapist, Board Certified Telepractice Specialist, and Handwriting Without Tears level 1 certification. She has published multiple articles and presented at both local and national conferences on various topics. Bernadette is a member of various professional organizations including AOTA, NLN, POTA, NCOTA, and ADED. Bernadette is licensed in both the states of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Jeffrey Schmidt is a Crisis Specialist for SPHS Crisis Intervention Services in Washington County. Jeffrey received his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from West Liberty University and a PA Teaching Certificate through Carnegie Mellon University. His experience working in alternative schools and being trained in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention has given him the opportunity to excel in working with kids who struggle with mental health. Jeffrey also serves as a Mental Health Delegate for Washington County. He is a certified crisis negotiator and serves as an active member of the Washington Regional SWAT Team. Working in collaboration with law enforcement allows him to bring mental health awareness to everyone in the community.

AnnaMaria Segreti is the Research Project Coordinator at the Youth and Family Training Institute (YFTI), which is at the University of Pittsburgh. She is responsible for evaluating data from the counties implementing High Fidelity Wraparound across Pennsylvania as well as several grants which are funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). She supervises a team of research associates and develops interactive data dashboards for survey results using the iDashboards software. AnnaMaria has 16 years of research experience working with mental and behavioral health and has co-authored over 20 depression-related peer-reviewed articles in psychiatric journals.

**Dennis Sheffield** is a Human Services Analyst in the Well Being Unit within the Division of Policy. Denise worked as a Technical Assistant in the SWAN Network for 7 years, in a Private Foster Adoption Agency, and as a Supports Coordinator for the Intellectually Disabled. Denise's assigned subject matter is prevention, foster care, adoption, and permanency, as well as ICWA, and Family First Prevention Services.

**John Siegler** provides consultation to the care management team, reviews community-based service requests, and supports children's service providers striving to provide effective and accountable treatment services to the individuals and families they serve. Prior to joining Magellan, Dr. Siegler held clinical leadership positions in psychiatric inpatient, psychiatric residential treatment, extended acute care, intensive behavioral health services, and outpatient settings.

**Steve Simms, Ph.D., LMFT** is a licensed psychologist and marriage and family therapist in the state of Pennsylvania. He is the director of the Philadelphia Child & Family Therapy Training Center. He has previously been the director of CHOP's oncology unit and was a professor at Chestnut College. He is the author of numerous publications.

**Rebecca Slavinsky, LCSW, CPT-E** Rebecca Slavinsky, LCSW is a School Social Worker for the CAIU. In this role she provides direct and consultation services to private schools in Dauphin County. She is also the Family Engagement Lead and the Co-Lead for the Crisis Team. She earned her Trauma Certification from Elizabethtown College. She is also a PREPaRE, QPR and Youth Mental Health First Aid trainer.

Jennifer Smith is currently Deputy Secretary, PA Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Previously she was Secretary PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. As DDAP Secretary, Smith led DDAP's efforts to fulfill its mission of engaging and coordinating the commonwealth's efforts to prevent and reduce substance use disorder and problem gambling and to promote recovery. Smith was integral in the formation and implementation of Pennsylvania's first licensure program for recovery houses as well as leading Pennsylvania's treatment system transition away from the Pennsylvania Client Placement Criteria to ASAM Criteria. Deputy Secretary Smith received her BSBA from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

Lyndsay Smith, MS is Senior Program Specialist for the National SOGIE Center at Innovations Institute, University of Connecticut School of Social Work. She has worked on initiatives that serve LGBTQ+ youth and adults for over a decade and has developed trainings for thousands of professionals, including K-12 faculty, health care providers, and community-based organizations on LGBTQ+ culturally responsive practices. For the SOGIE Center, Lyndsay develops training curricula, online learning, presentations, and tools for the field. She also provides technical assistance and coordinates a national webinar series on LGBTQ+ affirming practices for SAMHSA's Center of Excellence on LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Equity. In 2021, Lyndsay completed her Master of Science in Women's and Gender Studies with a concentration in Women, Public Policy, and Social Change from Towson University. She is currently an EdD student in the Educational Leadership Doctoral program at Frostburg State University, with a specialization in Adult and Professional Learning Facilitation.

Lawrence Sutton, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist who is employed with St. Vincent Seminary and the Wesley Family Services. He is the former manager of the Western Region Office of Bureau of Autism in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Dr. Sutton earned his doctoral degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1980. He is the co-author with Wesley Family Services of the curriculum Health Relationships and Autism; A Guide into Adulthood a program administered in schools, clinics and some criminal justice settings in Western Pennsylvania as well as in many states in the eastern U.S.

**Scott Talley** is the Director of the Bureau of Children's Behavioral Health Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, PA Department of Human Services. The Bureau of Children's Services promotes the emotional well-being of children and ensures that children with emotional disorders live, learn, work, and thrive in their communities. Scott is responsible for managing and supporting the policy, program, and operations of the Children's Behavioral Health delivery system.

**Dawn Traill** is a Human Services Analyst for the Division of Policy, at the Department of Human Services (DHS), Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF). Currently assigned as the lead analyst, Subject Matter Expert, and point of contact at the state level regarding educational stability of children in foster care, Mandated Reporting Curriculum and Best Practice guidance for the LGBTQIA+ community. She best serves her role by planning, developing, and implementing new and revised regulations, program clarifications, trainings and orientation. Most importantly, Dawn coordinates and provides technical assistance for OCYF regional office staff and service providers.

**Melanie Trauth** is the CASSP & System of Care Coordinator for Greene County. She has been employed by Greene County Human Services since 2004. Her role is to assure quality coordination and facilitation of multidisciplinary needs to children, transition-age youth and families with various agencies and services in order to meet their mental health

needs, and act as a forum in bringing together various social service departments and/or schools to problem solve and coordinate an array of needs. She holds a BA in Psychology/Human Services from Waynesburg University. Melanie grew up in Greene County and is passionate about working to make a positive impact on youth and families in her county.

Sarah Treven began her career with ChildLine in 2013 and has since served in the positions of ChildLine Caseworker, Human Services Analyst (HSA) Trainer, HSA Supervisor and Acting Manager for the Division of Operations. Following completion of Lakeside Global Institute's trauma professional curriculum in 2021, Sarah had the opportunity to cofacilitate trauma courses to OCYF staff and CCYA Administrators and join the OCYF Trauma Team. Trauma competency has supplemented Sarah's prior experience of advocating for those impacted by domestic violence, and sexual assault and has helped to shape current training and quality assurance efforts surrounding ChildLine processes.

**Erin Troup, LPC, NCC, CT, IMHE-E(IV)** is a Licensed Professional Counselor and the owner of Sprout Center for Emotional Growth and Development, LLC a private practice in Pittsburgh, PA specializing in early childhood social emotional needs, particularly attachment, grief & loss, trauma and anxiety. The practice has over 20 gifted clinicians and specialists serving over 300 children per year. After leaving the Central Pennsylvania area to continue to pursue her passion for work with children and families. Erin earned her undergraduate degree in psychology and child development from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She attended Chatham University for her MS in counseling and earned her Infant Mental Health Certificate in Pennsylvania's first Infant Mental Health cohort.

Anna Trout is the Mental Health Crisis & Diversion for the Montgomery County Office of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities/Early Intervention. She oversees contracts for crisis services, collaborates on training for first responders, and is the liaison for emergency departments. In addition to her professional work with the public mental health system, Anna also draws from personal experiences to inform her understanding of how we seek and connect to help.

**Timothy Truckenmiller, MS** began working in social services with foster youth in 1990 and was hired at Adelphoi Village in 1991 as a caseworker. From working in foster care and then adoption, Tim transitioned into in-home services. In 2008, he began working with Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration on a pilot program called High Fidelity Wraparound. Tim's focus for much of his career has been on helping families and youth move forward by empowering them with support and planning.

Christy Unger has over 20 years of experience working in schools, youth-serving organizations, and government agencies. Christy joined the PA Network for Student Assistance Services in 2022 as the Region VI SAP Coordinator. She also serves as a member of the Commonwealth Prevention Alliance (CPA). Christy has a Bachelor's degree from the University of South Florida and has a variety of work experience, including teaching high school, working in prevention, supervising SAP liaisons, coalition work, being an SCA Administrator, and now as a SAP Regional Coordinator. Christy is committed to supporting schools, children, youth, and families.

Renee Urick, LSW has been an SAP Regional Coordinator for the PA Network for Student Assistance Services since 1995. She is currently an ad-hoc state representative on the PASAP Board. She was SAP trained in 1990 for her role as a mental health youth caseworker. She also worked as the CASSP Coordinator in Greene County, fostering collaboration with all the child-serving stems. She received her bachelor's degree in special education and psychology and her master's in social work. She is dedicated to helping schools and agencies collaborate with and support children and families.

Mark Van Bibber Mark began working with High Fidelity Wraparound in 2009. Being a Pastor for the past fifty years has made his role as a Family Support Partner a perfect fit. Mark has a genuine concern for people and looks for ways to lift them up using the High Fidelity Wraparound process of support and planning. He enjoys helping youth and families build their family team by identifying and connecting with their natural supports and collaborating professional services in the community. Along with his extensive life and work experience, travel, training and certifications, Mark has learned to work with and appreciate the diverse strengths, cultures, and goals of the people he works with.

Lindsay Van Dyke, M.Ed. holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Education in Elementary and Secondary School Counseling from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. Additionally, she became provisionally licensed as a LPC and completed trainings in many areas including TF-CBT. Her vast work experience includes supporting children and their caregivers in settings such as school and childcare, in-home therapy, outpatient therapy and working with children and counselors at a camp for children with special needs. Her passion lies in working with young children and caregivers in supporting them to grow in their home and natural environment.

Jarred Vermillion is a Wraparound Expert Consultant and a highly respected and recognized individual in the field of child and family services. He has a deep understanding of Wraparound and is able to use that to help transform systems, programs and communities. He uses his expertise to help organizations and communities transform the way they support children and families. As a niche expert, he is often sought after by organizations and communities that are looking to implement the Wraparound process. He provides guidance and support on everything from planning and implementation to training and evaluation. He also has played a key role in advocating for Wraparound services and raising awareness of benefits.

Miranda Virone, OTD, MS OTR/L is an Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy, Educational Consultant, and passionate advocate for youth mental health. She serves as the co-facilitator of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) School Mental Health Community of Practice, the AOTA representative for the National Center of School Mental Health Advisory Board and served as a co-author of the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association School Based Guidelines. Dr. Virone educates and advocates for occupational therapy's role in school mental health by presenting at the state and national level, conducting and mentoring research projects, and leading student fieldwork experiences in school mental health initiatives.

**Crystal Vogtsberger, EdD.** brings a decade of diverse education experience, from special education teacher to administrator in various settings. Her expertise lies in guiding students with Autism, learning, emotional, and complex disabilities, particularly during her tenure at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit. Serving as the Director of Special Education for Clairton City School District, she later joined the Training and Consultation Team (TaC) at the AlU, focusing on behavior and special education initiatives. Academically, Crystal holds an undergraduate degree in Special Education from Lee University, a Master of Education in Administration from California University of PA, and completed a Doctoral Program in Special Education at Slippery Rock University.

**Kara Vojsik** is a former school social worker, school based therapist and therapeutic emotional support therapist. She has maintained a private practice for over ten years and is also a mental health public speaker. Kara is passionate about working with families who have experienced trauma, anxiety, depression and suicide prevention. Kara draws on her knowledge from working in the schools to the experiences in her office. She is trained in EMDR and IFS and utilizes these models in her work with families.

**Rebecca Wallace** joined the Office for Safe Schools at the Pennsylvania Department of Education as the Learning Environment Specialist, and became part of SAP Interagency, in December 2022. She was previously the Program Officer overseeing Refugee School Impact, in the Division of Student Services. Rebecca has worked in Education for almost 20 years, teaching at both the Primary and Secondary levels before moving into Higher Education as a full-time Professor. Her mission, and primary focus, has always been to support students, families, and educators, to create environments that are both welcoming and safe, for all.

**Melissa Wasson** is a Family Support Partner/Family Lead for the PA Parent and Family Alliance in Greene County. She's a Highlander from McGuffey High School, Claysville, PA who believes that parents and children thrive when the parent gets the support and education that they need, and that self-care is the key to a good and happy life. She is a parent to four children. Two of whom are identified with mental health diagnosis and one with physical disabilities. This gives her the tools and compassion to help and support other parents on their journey. Melissa also enjoys reading, cooking, baking, gardening and many other hobbies.

**Matthew Wintersteen, Ph.D.** is the Director of the David Farber Center for the Advancement of Suicide Prevention, Intervention, Research, and Education (ASPIRE). He has provided clinical care, training, and supervision in evidence-based practices for working with suicidal youth for over 20 years. In addition to his education and clinical roles, Dr. Wintersteen has an extensive portfolio of more than \$30 million in federal and foundation grant-funded research

**Evie Wolbert** is a Research Project Support Specialist at the Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness at Penn State. She earned a B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Human Development and Family Studies from Pennsylvania State University and holds a dual certification in Early Childhood and Special Education from Clarion University. Evie has worked as a parent coach for an NIH grant-funded project and has over 10 years of teaching experience in early childhood education. At the Clearinghouse, Evie contributes to the development, implementation, and evaluation of Thrive's parenting initiatives.

**Lucas Zullo, Ph.D.** PhD has over a decade of experience providing family-focused, evidence-based suicide prevention care in a variety of settings, including intensive outpatient, inpatient, consult liaison, and the emergency department. Throughout his career, he has gained expertise in the most cutting edge suicide-prevention treatments by working directly with the developers of these interventions themselves. Dr. Zullo has a passion for community-partnered, equity driven care.