New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science

Community Engagement Core Kick-Off

October 2, 2019
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

The Rutgers Club
Piscataway, NJ

This event is also being sponsored by Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Community Health and Health Systems Program and Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Center for Advancing Research and Evaluation for Patient-Centered Care
# NJ ACTS Community Engagement Core Kick-Off

A Discussion on Community-Engaged Research, Dissemination, and Implementation Science to Advance Health Equity

The Rutgers Club

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am – 9:15 am</td>
<td>Check-In and Breakfast Buffet</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 am – 9:30 am</td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
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<td><strong>Welcome and Overview</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Reynold A. Panettieri, Jr., MD</strong></td>
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<td>NJ ACTS Program Director; Vice Chancellor, Translational Medicine and Science; Director, Rutgers Institute for Translational Medicine and Science</td>
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<td><strong>XinQi Dong, MD, MPH</strong></td>
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<td>Director of the Rutgers Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research; Henry Rutgers Distinguished Professor of Population Health Science</td>
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<td><strong>Shawna Hudson, PhD</strong></td>
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<td>Co-Director of Community Engagement, NJ ACTS; Professor and Research Division Chief, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health; Director of the Center Advancing Research and Evaluation for Patient-Centered Care at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Speakers</strong></td>
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<td>9:30 am – 10:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Implementation Science, CTSA, and Health Disparities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Geoffrey Curran, PhD</strong></td>
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<td>Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Psychiatry at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS); Director of the UAMS Center for Implementation Research</td>
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<td>10:45 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td><strong>Implementation Science to Lift Health For All</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Melissa Simon, MD, MPH</strong></td>
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<td>George H. Gardner Professor of Clinical Gynecology; Vice Chair of Clinical Research in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine</td>
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<td>12:00 pm – 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Lunch Buffet</td>
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| 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm  | Setting the Research Agenda for Health Equity in New Jersey | **Moderator**<br>Alfred Tallia, MD, MPH<br>Co-Director of Community Engagement, NJ ACTS; Professor and Chair, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
**Panelists**<br>Karen D’Alonzo, PHD, RN, APN-c, FAAN<br>Associate Professor in the Division of Nursing Science; Founding Director of the Center for Community Health Partnerships, Rutgers School of Nursing  
Diane Hill, PhD<br>Assistant Chancellor, University-Community Partnerships, Office of the Chancellor; Assistant Professor of Professional Practice at the School of Public Affairs and Administration, Rutgers University-Newark  
Anita Kinney, PhD, RN, FAAN<br>Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Director of the Center for Cancer Health Equity, Rutgers School of Public Health; Associate Director for Cancer Health Equity and Engagement, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey  
Amanda Medina-Forrester, MA, MPH<br>Executive Director, Office of Minority and Multicultural Health, NJ Department of Health  
Mariam Merced, MA<br>Director of the RWJ Barnabas Health System-Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Community Health Promotion Program  
Mary O'Dowd, MPH<br>Executive Director, Health Systems and Population Health Integration, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences  
Dorothy Reed<br>Co-Founder and President of Sister2Sister |
| 2:00 pm – 3:45 pm  | Fishbowl Discussions                              | **From Clearinghouses to Simulation Models: Advancing Research Dissemination for Population Health Programs**<br>Thomas, Mackie, PhD, MPH<br>Assistant Professor, Department of Health Behavior, Society and Policy, Rutgers School of Public Health  
**Needs Assessment of Family Functioning around Food Related Behaviors (NAF) (Head Start and Obesity)**<br>Pamela Rothpletz-Puglia, EdD, RD<br>Associate Professor, Nutritional Sciences, Department of Interprofessional Studies, Rutgers School of Health Professions |
| 3:45 pm – 4:00pm | Closing Remarks                                   |                                                                         |
Reynold Panettieri, Jr., MD
Director of the NJ Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science; Vice Chancellor, Translational Medicine and Science; Director, Rutgers Institute for Translational Medicine and Science

Reynold A. Panettieri, Jr, MD, is Professor of Medicine, Vice Chancellor for Translational Medicine and Science at Rutgers University, and the Director of the Institute for Translational Medicine and Science. Dr. Panettieri’s basic science interests focus on airway smooth muscle function in asthma and the molecular and cellular mechanisms of airway smooth muscle function and growth. His lab also focuses on cytosolic signaling pathways that mediate gene expression and alter myocyte function. He is principal investigator on several NIH-sponsored grants and industry-sponsored clinical studies, is director of a program project grant examining novel approaches in modulating GPCR function, and is the Principal Investigator of the CTSA Hub entitled ‘New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science’. He is the author of over 475 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Panettieri is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the Robert E. Cooke Memorial Lectureship at the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting, the Joseph R. Rodarte Award for Scientific Distinction and the Recognition Award for Scientific Accomplishments from the American Thoracic Society. He is also an active member of national professional and scientific societies, including the American College of Chest Physicians and the American Thoracic Society. In 2013, he was elected Chair of the Respiratory Structure and Function Assembly of the American Thoracic Society.

In addition to his research and clinical interests, Dr. Panettieri served as chair of the NIH Lung Cellular, Molecular, and Immunobiology Study Section, is a member of the NIH Distinguished Editorial Panel, and is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation and Association of American Physicians. He manages the comprehensive clinical care of patients with asthma and is actively involved in clinical investigations focused on the management of asthma and COPD.

XinQi Dong, MD, MPH
Director of the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research

Dr. XinQi Dong is the Director of the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research (IFH) at Rutgers University as well as the inaugural Henry Rutgers Distinguished Professor of Population Health Sciences. Dr. Dong has published extensively on the topics of violence prevention with more than 220 peer-reviewed publications and is leading a longitudinal epidemiological study (The PINE Study) of 3,300 Chinese older adults to quantify relationships among culture, violence and health outcomes. Dr. Dong is the Principal Investigator of eight federally-funded grants and also has mentored many trainees and faculties to success. He is the PI of the National Institute of Aging funded P30 Center RCMAR.

Dr. Dong was the recipient of the Paul Beeson Award by National Institute on Aging, the National Physician Advocacy Merit Award by the Institute for Medicine as a Profession, the Nobuo Maeda International Aging and Public Health Research Award by the APHA, National Award for Excellence by APHA, the Maxwell Pollack Award in Productive Aging, the Joseph Freeman Award and the Powell Lawton Award by the Gerontological Society of America (GSA). Dr. Dong was elected to be a Commissioner for the Commission on Law and Aging of the American Bar Association (ABA). In 2017, Dr. Dong received the Eward Busse Award by the International Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics. In 2018, he was awarded the RWJ Foundation Health Equity Award.

Dr. Dong has been a strong advocate for advancing population health issues in under-represented communities across the local, national and international level. Internationally, Dr. Dong has worked with multiple institutions in China as well as Chinese National Committee on Aging to further dialogue between the US China collaborative on elder justice and mental health. He was the first geriatrician to receive the National Physician Advocacy Merit Award by the Institute on Medicine. Dr. Dong served as a Senior Advisor for DHHS under the Obama administration. His policy and advocacy work with the Department of Justice and Center for Disease Control and Prevention have also shaped the national agenda on the surveillance and preventive strategies combating the issues of violence prevention.
Dr. Shawna Hudson is Professor and Research Division Chief in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She is currently co-lead of the community core of NJACTS. She is a full research member of the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey in the Cancer Prevention and Control Program where she previously served as the Director of Community Research and Acting Director of Community Outreach. She has a secondary faculty appointment in the Rutgers School of Public Health in the Department of Health Education and Behavioral Science. She is the co-chair for the Rutgers Biomedical Health Sciences emerging signature program in Community Health and Health Systems.

Dr. Hudson is a medical sociologist and specializes in primary care research. She is internationally known for her research that examines long-term follow-up care for cancer survivors and their transitions from specialist to primary care. Her research uses qualitative and quantitative research approaches to explore the intersections of community health, primary care and specialty care. It is chronic disease focused with an emphasis on vulnerable populations, particularly underserved groups including cancer survivors and racial/ethnic minorities in health care settings. Her research aims to increase the capacity of patients, community stakeholders and health care organizations to understand and use evidence-based guidelines for chronic disease prevention and control.

Dr. Hudson's research has been featured in a number of journals including Annals of Family Medicine, Medical Care, Lancet Oncology, JAMA General Internal Medicine, Journal of Cancer Survivorship and the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine. She has led and participated in various large research studies funded by the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She has served on numerous editorial boards, review panels and advisory committees. She has also served as a standing member of the NIH Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (DIRH) Study.

Dr. Alfred Tallia is Professor and Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick. (B.S. Fordham, M.D. RWJMS, M.P.H. Rutgers). He completed residency and fellowship at Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia. A university designated Master Educator, he has served in many university leadership roles, and is a Fellow in the Rutgers Center for Organizational Leadership.

Earlier in his career, in addition to managing a university affiliated primary care corporation, he served as vice chair and associate director of research, during which time he fostered the growth of the Family Medicine department’s research. He is currently co-lead of the community core of NJACTS. The primary author and editor of Swanson’s Family Medicine Review, an internationally used textbook now in its 8th edition, and more than 100 published abstracts, book chapters, and scientific publications, he has been principal or co-PI of multiple broadly funded grants focused on health system quality of care, organization, and function. While developing and leading the medical school's flagship New Brunswick based residency, recognized for providing innovative community-based training for family physicians, he won the STFM national Research Award for the landmark study (Academic Medicine 1994) demonstrating family medicine residencies reduce patient care costs for the healthcare system.

In addition to his roles at Rutgers, he is Chair of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), the preeminent international non-profit organization responsible for developing competency assessments of physicians and other health professionals around the world. He also is past chair of the Composite Committee governing the United States Medical Licensing Examination program, the common licensure assessment pathway for all foreign and domestic medical school graduates. He continues to serve on boards of Rutgers Health, the VNA Health Group, Parker Life, and numerous other public and private health-related organizations.
Geoffrey Curran, PhD

Dr. Curran is a medical sociologist. He is a Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Psychiatry at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). Dr. Curran’s broad research area has been health services research, with focus areas in 1) predictors of treatment engagement and outcomes for mental health and substance use disorders, and 2) diffusion of innovation in a variety of health care settings (e.g., primary care, specialty care, and community settings). For the past 15+ years he has been continually funded by the National Institutes of Health (US) and the US Department of Veterans Affairs to develop and test a range of implementation strategies designed to support the uptake and sustainment of evidence-based practices. Dr. Curran also has written widely on research design and methodology in implementation science. He is the Director of the UAMS Center for Implementation Research, which is partially supported by the Translational Research Institute, UAMS’s Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program from the NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS; UL1TR003107). The Center is devoted to developing and testing implementation strategies across a wide range of service contexts, assisting with the implementation of practices within community practices, and training the next generation of implementation scientists.

Melissa Simon, MD, MPH

Melissa Simon, MD MPH is the George H. Gardner Professor of Clinical Gynecology, Vice Chair of Clinical Research in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, the Founder and Director of the Center for Health Equity Transformation and the Chicago Cancer Health Equity Collaborative, a Northwestern Medicine physician, and co-program leader for cancer control and survivorship at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center. She leads a diverse portfolio of research and directly impacts local, state, and national level thought and policy regarding inclusion and health equity. Melissa supports a large group of mentees that span from high school-aged students through junior faculty and created the first health care workforce development Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), "Career 911: Your Future Job in Medicine and Healthcare." She has been recognized with numerous leadership and mentoring awards including the recent Whitehouse and NSF recognition with the Presidential Award in Excellence in Science Mathematics and Engineering Mentorship (PAESMEM) and the American Public Health Association’s Excellence Award for her research integrating Public Health and Medicine. She was appointed a Presidential Leadership Scholar through the Clinton, Bush and Johnson Foundations. She is a member of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), the National Academy of Medicine Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the NAM Leadership Consortium Innovation Collaborative on Care, Culture and Decision-Making. Raised in Detroit, Michigan, she completed her bachelor’s degree at the University of Chicago, her medical degree at Rush Medical College, her residency at Yale University, and her fellowship in family planning at Northwestern University.
Panelists

Karen D’Alonzo, PhD, RN, APN-C, FAAN

Dr. Karen D’Alonzo is an Associate Professor in the Division of Nursing Science and the founding Director of the Center for Community Health Partnerships (CCHP) in the School of Nursing. The mission of the CCHP is to develop sustainable community-linked infrastructures to improve the health of communities by: 1) Strengthening capacity for collaborative relationships; 2) promoting the conduct of community-based participatory research (CBPR) and 3) translation, implementation and adoption of evidenced based health interventions into community settings. Using a CBPR framework, Dr. D’Alonzo’s scholarship focuses on: 1) biobehavioral approaches to promotion of physical activity and the prevention/management of obesity and obesogenic diseases among diverse groups of women and 2) the role of acculturation stress as a barrier to healthy lifestyles among immigrant women. Her NIH-funded research projects have made use of lay community health workers/promotoras de salud to deliver health promotion interventions in the immigrant Latino community in New Brunswick, NJ.

Diane Hill, PhD

Dr. Diane Hill is an Assistant Professor of Professional Practice at the School of Public Affairs and Administration and the Assistant Chancellor, University-Community Partnerships at Rutgers University–Newark. She has been a member of the Rutgers University administration since 1988 and has served in key senior leadership positions during her tenure. Dr. Hill received a Ph.D. in Urban Systems, a joint program administered by New Jersey Institute of Technology, Rutgers University and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Her research interests include advancing community engagement in higher education, with special emphasis on university-community partnerships in urban universities, school-based youth college and career development and engagement demonstration models, and community-based participatory research. She is the co-founding Director of the Center for Pre-College Education and Outreach at Rutgers-Newark. In 2002, she founded and directed the Office of Campus and Conference Services, which evolved into the Office of Campus and Community Relations (OCCR) because of the department’s expanded role in executing and promoting community engagement initiatives. In 2010, Dr. Hill collaborated with the Office of the Chancellor to expand the vision of OCCR and transformed it into the Office of University-Community Partnerships, the campus’s first institutionalized office to advance university-community partnerships. She is responsible for creating and promoting partnerships and research collaborations between the university and public, private and community-based organizations.

Anita Kinney, PhD, RN, FAAN

Dr. Anita Kinney is a Professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, and the Director of the Center for Cancer Health Equity. Dr. Kinney also serves as the Associate Director for Cancer Health Equity and Engagement at the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and Director of ScreenNJ, a statewide cancer prevention and screening program. She has sustained research funding by the National Institutes of Health almost 30 years with a focus on cancer prevention, community and clinical genetics, and survivorship. Dr. Kinney’s research program is internationally recognized for studying and reducing cancer health disparities and translating genomic discoveries into clinical and public health practice. Her research brings a combination of behavioral science, clinical, and epidemiologic perspectives to address unsolved cancer problems in diverse populations and settings. In her roles at the Rutgers Cancer Institute and the School of Public Health, Dr. Kinney seeks to advance cancer health equity in cancer prevention and care delivery through community partnerships and engagement, outreach and a team science approach.

Amanda Medina-Forrester, MA, MPH

Amanda Medina-Forrester is the newly appointed Executive Director of the New Jersey Department of Health’s Office of Minority and Multicultural Health. Prior to this role, Mrs. Medina-Forrester was the Hunterdon and Mercer County Regional Chronic Disease Coalition Coordinator where she led efforts to improve cancer-related policy, system and environmental changes in Hunterdon/Mercer County region. With the guidance and support from the coalition, Mrs. Medina-Forrester coordinated skin cancer screening programs, cervical and colorectal cancer healthcare system changes, survivorship research, and tobacco control initiatives. At the Rutgers Cancer Institute New Jersey under the Population Science leadership team, she facilitated skin cancer and other health disparities community research and programs. In Texas, Ms. Medina-Forrester managed a coaching team on youth sports to focus on life-skills programs for underserved communities in Dallas, Texas. Two of her most pivotal roles was her public health contribution to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Fort Worth’s health assessment, patient chart summaries, and focus groups on Black Infant Mortality in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, and program evaluation for a promotora heart-healthy program dedicated to Fort Worth Latino residents. She holds a MA in experimental psychology from University of Texas-EJ Paso and MPH with a concentration in community health from University of North Texas.
Mariam Merced, MA

Mariam Merced, MA has been the Director of the RWJ Barnabas Health System-Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Community Health Promotion Program for the past 27 years. In this role, she is responsible for the coordination of accessible quality preventive health care services and educational programs for communities in Middlesex County. She partners with houses of worship, health institutions and community-based organizations, in the design and implementation culturally appropriate community-wide health promotion initiatives. Ms. Merced works closely with local organizations and community residents to develop innovative programs that utilize the art to promote health information among diverse communities in Central Jersey. Ms. Merced is also very active in many health, social service and religious organizations. She is the Co-Chair of the New Brunswick Community Food Alliance Community Engagement Group, Chair of the Puerto Rican Action Board of Directors, a member of Partnership for Healthy Kids of New Brunswick, a member of the Elijah's Promise Soup Kitchen Advisory Board and Elder and past Vice-Chair of Consistory at the Suydam Street Reformed Church. Ms. Merced has received numerous awards for her contributions towards improving the quality of lives of our residents. She holds a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Psychology and Labor Studies from the University of Puerto Rico, and a Masters Degree in Labor Studies from Rutgers University.

Mary O’Dowd, MPH

Mary O’Dowd is the Executive Director of Health Systems and Population Health Integration for Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences. O’Dowd leads and supports multi-disciplinary population health-related programs, research opportunities and projects through strategic planning, project management, engaging key stakeholders and partnering with Rutgers-led initiatives. She develops partnerships with healthcare and public health partners at the state, local, and community level. Prior to joining Rutgers, O’Dowd held various leadership roles in the New Jersey Department of Health including serving as Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff. At the Department she focused on promoting population health while supporting healthcare providers during extraordinary delivery system transformation. O’Dowd previously held positions in hospital finance at NYU Langone Medical Center and health policy at the New Jersey Hospital Association and the New Jersey General Assembly. O’Dowd serves on the University Hospital Board of Directors as the designee of the President of Rutgers University and is a member of several advisory boards including the Rutgers Institute for Women’s Leadership, New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science, and the New Jersey Action Coalition - Future of Nursing for the Health of Our State. She has previously served as a board member for Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey and the Association for State and Territorial Health Officers. O’Dowd is a graduate of Douglass College, Rutgers University and the Institute for Women’s Leadership Scholars Program. She holds a Master in Public Health from Columbia University and completed a hospital finance fellowship at NYU Medical Center.

Dorothy Reed

Dorothy J. Reed is the Co-Founder and President of Sister2Sister, Inc (S2S). She became a breast cancer survivor in 1998. After a mastectomy and treatments, Ms. Reed dedicated herself to spreading the gospel of early detection in the Minority community. In the absence of local support or culturally sensitive resources for Minority women diagnosed with the disease, Ms. Reed formed Sister2Sister (formerly Sisters Network of Central New Jersey) in 2000 with three other breast cancer survivors. S2S was renamed and rebranded in January 2018. Active in her community, Ms. Reed is a board member of St. Peter’s Hospital Cancer Community Public Education, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Community Relations Committee, the NJ ACTS Community Engagement Core Advisory Committee, and the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey Community Advisory Council. On a national level, in July 2015 Ms. Reed was selected as a White House Honoree of Precision Medicine “Champions of Change”; and is one of the original advocates for HR Bill 5116, the Dean and Betty Gallo Cancer Patient Compassion Act. She has spent extensive time on Capitol Hill with the National Breast Cancer Coalition. In May 2005, Ms. Reed was selected to participate on the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program committee for the U. S. Army Medical Research Command. Ms. Reed has received numerous honors and awards including an appearance in a 2005 National Television Commercial Campaign by Astra Zeneca “If You Were My Sister” and being selected as one of Lifetime Hero’s by Lifetime Television in 2006. Ms. Reed holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Cum Laude, from Pillar College.
**Thomas Mackie, PhD, MPH**

Tom Mackie, PhD, MPH, is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Health Systems and Policy at the Rutgers School of Public Health and core faculty at the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research at Rutgers University. Dr. Mackie’s research leverages interdisciplinary and mixed methods to bring new evidence to long-standing mental health policy and practice dilemmas for children, adolescents, and their caregivers. His current research portfolio examines the implementation, effectiveness and diffusion of innovations in an array of policy and practice arenas, including trauma-informed systems of care and psychotropic medication oversight among Medicaid-insured children. Dr. Mackie also routinely consults with federal and state agencies to expedite translation of research evidence into practice and policy; most recently, he led a “Guidance on Strategies to Promote Best Practice in Antipsychotic Prescribing for Children and Adolescents,” supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. In addition to this substantive area expertise, Dr. Mackie has also conducted research and published methodological articles in patient-centered quality metrics, stakeholder engagement, and the implementation sciences. His work has received financial support from W.T. Grant Foundation, Casey Family Programs, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, National Institute of Mental Health, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Dr. Mackie received a Joint-Doctorate in Social Policy and Sociology at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Brandeis University.

**Title:**

**Abstract:**
Challenges of incorporating available evidence into population-level mental health policies and programs are well-documented. For example, mental health screening programs are challenged by inconsistent use of evidence-based screening tools, the need for contextual adaptation, and limited capacity to address identified mental health needs in a timely manner. The system sciences includes a suite of methods to optimize implementation of population-level mental health programs for specific contexts based on prior theory, research evidence, and stakeholder input. As a case example, we demonstrate how integration of the social and system sciences can generate models responsive to the information needs of decision-makers seeking to optimize protocols for screening trauma among children and adolescents entering foster care.

**Pamela Rothpletz-Puglia, EdD, RD**

Dr. Pamela Rothpletz-Puglia is an Associate Professor and Program Director at Rutgers University School of Health Professions who specializes in participatory approaches to teaching, research and administration. After spending nearly 30 years in various roles as a nutrition care provider for children and families living with HIV, educator, director, and researcher, Pamela knows that collaborating with stakeholders to solve problems develops capacity and supports sustainable solutions. Due to this belief, Pamela has led patient-centered approaches to research and supports faculty at the Rutgers School of Health Professions to incorporate participatory, qualitative and mixed methods in health research. Pamela received several federal cooperative agreements to provide education and to conduct community-based participatory research, has mentored over 40 graduate student research projects, and implemented a training to increase research methodology capacity among staff at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre. Pamela is a registered dietitian nutritionist and holds a doctorate of education from Columbia University.

**Title:**
Needs Assessment of Family Functioning around Food Related Behaviors (NAF) (Head Start and Obesity)

**Abstract:**
The family is integral to pediatric obesity programs, but there is a need for more research about family systems and functions around food related behaviors and with low-income, racial, and ethnic minority families. Dr. Rothpletz-Puglia is participating in today’s Fishbowl activity to discuss a project aimed at assessing preschool children’s weight status and food security risk, and learning more about family systems and functions around food related behaviors. The Fishbowl activity will invite discussion about the specific data collection tools framed within a broader discussion about creating mutually beneficial and effective academic community partnerships.
PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE

Benjamin F. Crabtree, PhD
Distinguished Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health Research Division
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Carolyn Heckman, PhD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Division of Medical Oncology, Section of Population Science
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Shawna Hudson, PhD
Co-Director of Community Engagement, New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science
Research Division Chief, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
Director of the Center Advancing Research and Evaluation for Patient-Centered Care
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Thomas Mackie, PhD, MPH
Assistant Professor, Department of Health Systems and Policy
Rutgers School of Public Health
Core Faculty, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research
Rutgers University

Gregory Peck, DO
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Acute Care Division
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

NJ ACTS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Karen D’Alonzo, PhD
Associate Professor
Rutgers Division of Nursing Science

Benjamin F. Crabtree, PhD
Distinguished Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health Research Division
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

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Professor and Associate Dean for Research
Ying Wu College of Computing
New Jersey Institute of Technology

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Rutgers School of Public Health

Thomas Mackie, PhD, MPH
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Rutgers School of Public Health
Core Faculty, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research
Rutgers University

Mariam Merced, MA
Director
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Community Health Promotion Program
RWJ Barnabas Health System

Dorothy J. Reed
Co-Founder and President
Sister2Sister, Inc

Nancy E. Reichman, PhD, MBA
Professor of Pediatrics
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Visiting Professor, Department of Economics
Princeton University

Denise V. Rodgers, MD, FAAFP
Vice Chancellor of Interprofessional Programs, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS)
RBHS Chair of Interprofessional Education,
Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Jaymie Santiago, MS
President
New Brunswick Tomorrow

Michael J. Yedidia, PhD, MPH
Research Professor and Senior Medical Sociologist
Rutgers Center for State Health Policy