

Virtual Symposium: School-Located Vaccination Strategies to Increase Child and Adolescent  
Immunization Rates During the COVID-19 Pandemic  
September 17, 2021 | 12:00-4:00 pm EST

**Speaker Biographies**



**Mark McClellan**

Director, Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy

Mark McClellan, MD, PhD, is the Robert J. Margolis Professor of Business, Medicine, and Policy, and founding Director of the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy at Duke University. Dr. McClellan is a doctor and an economist who has addressed a wide range of strategies and policy reforms to improve health care, including payment reform to promote better outcomes and lower costs, methods for development and use of real-world evidence, and strategies for more effective biomedical innovation. His current work on responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency spans virus containment and testing strategies, reforming health care toward more resilient models of delivering care, and accelerating the development of therapeutics and vaccines. Dr. McClellan is a former administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and former commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), where he developed and implemented major reforms in health policy. These include the Medicare prescription drug benefit, Medicare and Medicaid payment reforms, the FDA's Critical Path Initiative, and public-private initiatives to develop better information on the quality and cost of care. He has also previously served as a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers and senior director for health care policy at the White House, and as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy at the Department of the Treasury.



**Claire Hannan**

Executive Director, Association of Immunization Managers

Claire Hannan has served in her position since 2004. Claire has 18 years of experience in children's health and immunization. After working on Capitol Hill for 5 years, Claire spent 3 years lobbying for children's health issues. In 1997, she became the Director of Immunization Policy for the Association of State & Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), where she worked with state health officials, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and other partners to improve and enhance immunization policies and practices. She joined the Association of Immunization Managers as its first Executive Director in 2004. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Wagner College in Staten Island, NY and a Masters degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University.



**Bruce Gellin**

Chief of Global Public Health Strategy, Health Initiative, The Rockefeller Foundation

Bruce Gellin, MD, MPH, is the Chief of Global Public Health Strategy for The Rockefeller Foundation's pandemic prevention institute. In this role, he advances the development and execution of the strategic vision for global public health and pandemic prevention work. One of the world's premier vaccine and infectious disease experts, Dr. Gellin brings extensive experience and expertise in global public health to his role at the Foundation. Throughout his distinguished career, he has held numerous positions leading and advising on global immunization, strategic policy development, and pandemic preparedness and response at national, multinational, non-governmental, and institutional organizations and entities. He has led key federal vaccine initiatives, including developing the National Vaccine Plan at HHS, creating the HHS's first pandemic influenza preparedness and response plan, and representing the U.S. government on the research and development focus of the Decade of Vaccines Collaboration. He continues to carry this work forward as a member of the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine Consensus Study on Global Influenza Vaccination Coordination. At a global level, he has consulted as a technical expert to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and serves as a key advisor to the WHO on global immunization and vaccination. Dr. Gellin has spent decades driving forward critical work to protect the lives of millions across the country and globe from the threat of infectious diseases through effective, equitable vaccination and immunization strategies. Most recently, he served as the inaugural President of Global Immunization at the Sabin Vaccine Institute and is currently a member of the COVAX Independent Allocation of Vaccines Group.



**Rachel L. Levine**

Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Rachel L. Levine serves as the 17th Assistant Secretary for Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) where she fights every day to improve the health and well-being of all Americans. She's working to help our nation overcome the COVID-19 pandemic and build a stronger foundation for a healthier future - one in which every American can attain their full health potential. Dr. Levine's storied career, first in academic medicine, and as a physician then Pennsylvania's Physician General and then as Pennsylvania's Secretary of Health, has focused on the intersection between mental and physical health, often treating children, adolescents, and young adults.



**Tara Vogt**

Lead Epidemiologist, Program Operations Branch, Immunization Services Division, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Tara Vogt joined CDC’s Immunization Services Division as an Epidemiologist in 2008 after serving as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer in the Division of Viral Hepatitis. She has worked on a variety of immunization-related topics, including assessing the feasibility of alternative vaccination venues, understanding vaccination coverage disparities, and assisting with the COVID-19 vaccination response. She currently serves as the Lead of the Applied Research and Evaluation Team within the Program Operations Branch.



**Tiffany Tate**

Executive Director, Maryland Partnership for Prevention

Tiffany Tate is Executive Director of the Maryland Partnership for Prevention, a non-profit organization that is the parent to Maryland’s childhood and adult immunization coalitions. She is a Commissioner on the Maryland Advisory Commission on Immunization, a member of the National Influenza Summit, and a member of the National Association of County and City Health Officials’ Immunization Workgroup. Ms. Tate speaks and trains locally and nationally on coalition-building, health literacy and plain language, diversity, community outreach, program planning and evaluation, and strategic planning. She possesses a certificate from the Health Literacy Institute and is a certified tutor with Literacy Advance. Tiffany uses these skills to assist public and private health care providers in developing campaigns and materials in plain language.



**Sara Rigel**

Health Services Administrator for School-Based Partnerships and Child Care Health, Public Health – Seattle & King County

Sara Rigel has served much of her career in the public sector, supporting the health and wellbeing of youth and young children in school and child care settings. She holds a Masters Degree of Public Health from Tulane University. She is currently serving as a Health Services Administrator at Public Health-Seattle & King County primarily supporting investments and community capacity building in child care health consultation and school based health centers across King County. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, she has also been leading a COVID response Task Force aimed at supporting both schools and child cares with the implementation of mitigation strategies and reduction of transmission amongst children.



**Kaetlin Miller**

Program Manager, COVID-19 Vaccine Program, Public Health – Seattle & King County

A Health Educator by training, Kaetlin is passionate about supporting youth and young adult health and wellbeing. She holds a Master’s Degree in Public Health from Columbia University and a Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Southern California. In her current role she is the lead Program Manager for the Youth and Young Adult COVID-19 Vaccine Program at Public Health—Seattle & King County where she supports vaccine access for people birth-24, their families, and

systems that serve them. For the last decade, she has supported school-based health center operations in King County, WA including launching youth-led health promotion campaigns on high school campuses.



**Gabriella Duran Blakey**

Chief Operations Officer, Albuquerque Public Schools

Dr. Gabriella Duran Blakey has worked in education for over 20 years as an advocate for systemic change in school districts to meet the needs of students. She began her work in education as an AmeriCorps member in Las Cruces, New Mexico. After receiving her Bachelor of Science in Education from New Mexico State University she taught high school in Everett, Washington and Albuquerque, New Mexico. She continued her education to pursue work in school administration and received her Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership from the University of New Mexico where she was recognized with the University of New

Mexico Educational Leadership Program Distinction Award. She received her Doctorate in Educational Leadership at the University of New Mexico. Dr. Duran-Blakey has worked as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal at both the middle school and high school. She was the founder of Health Leadership High School in Albuquerque, a charter school focused on project based learning around the social determinants of health. At the district level she has served as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Professional Development for Santa Fe Public Schools, Associate Superintendent for Middle School Education, and Associate Superintendent of Leadership and Learning of Learning Zone 1 in Albuquerque Public Schools. She is currently the Chief Operations Officer for Albuquerque Public Schools where she assists in promoting overall efficiency and maximizing operational and administrative services in support of educational opportunities for over 75,000 PreK – 12th grade students and 143 school sites.



**Ronald Balajadia**

Immunization Branch Chief, Hawai'i Department of Health

Ron Balajadia has over 20 years of experience working in Immunizations in the Pacific region. He started as the Immunization Program Manager on Guam and worked there for 10 years. He then transitioned to being the Regional Pacific Immunization Consultant for the US Associated Pacific Islands working as a contractual employee for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention providing Immunization guidance and assistance to the islands of Palau, Guam, CNMI (Saipan), FSM (Federated States of Micronesia), Marshall Islands and American

Samoa for 7 years based out of Honolulu, Hawaii. Upon completion of that contractual work, he then started with the Hawaii Department of Health as the Immunization Branch Chief and is currently serving in that capacity. Ron has a Bachelor's in Biochemistry from the University of Arizona and a Master's in Microbiology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He is currently on the Executive Board for the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) and has held a post as Treasurer/Secretary and Executive Committee member numerous times in the past providing a voice for immunizations for the Pacific region. He also serves in various task force groups, work groups and committees dealing with immunizations in Hawaii and nationally.



**Eva Stone**

Manager of District Health Services, Jefferson County, Kentucky

Selected as the 2019 Kentucky Nurse Association Nurse of the Year and named a 2020 Louisville Business First Health Care Hero, Eva is the Manager of District Health for Jefferson County Public Schools and is an adjunct professor with the University of Kentucky College of Nursing. She has worked in public school health for 20 years where she has experience supervising nursing as well as other student support programs. She has successfully advocated for Kentucky to amend the state Medicaid plan to allow for expanded billing for school health services as a means

to help increase access to care for children.

Eva earned her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from West Virginia University & her Masters and Doctorate degrees from the University of Kentucky. She is passionate about the need to address health as a means to ensure students are ready to learn and to increase educational outcomes for children as a measure to improve their long-term health.

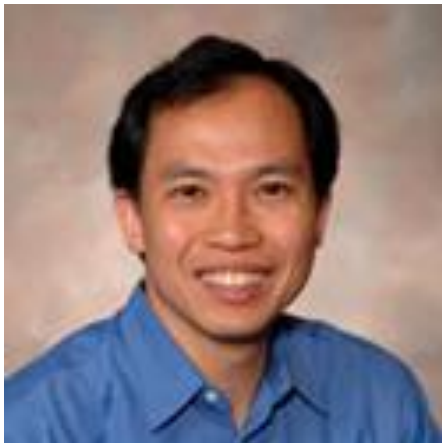


**Judith Shlay**

Associate Director, Public Health Institute at Denver Health

Judith C. Shlay, MD, MSPH is the Associate Director of the Public Health Institute at Denver Health and a Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She has been working on various programs at Denver Public Health for over 30 years. Dr. Shlay has been the principal investigator for a number of projects focusing on health promotion and disease prevention, HIV-related metabolic and neurologic disorders, immunization delivery, reproductive health, sexually transmitted infections, substance misuse, teen pregnancy prevention, and tobacco prevention. She is the medical director of the Denver Health Center for Addiction Medicine.

In addition to her public health work, Dr. Shlay is a primary care provider through Denver Health's Ambulatory Care Services Department.



**L.J. Tan**

Chief Strategy Officer, Immunization Action Coalition

L.J. Tan, MS, PhD is the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)'s Chief Strategy Officer, and he co-founded and currently co-chairs the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit. Prior to joining the IAC, he was the director of medicine and public health at the American Medical Association (AMA). Dr. Tan was a voting member of the Department of Health and Human Services' National Vaccine Advisory Committee from 2009 to 2013, where he served on the adult immunization, vaccine safety, and healthcare worker immunization working groups, and chaired the immunization infrastructure working group. For more than ten years, he was the AMA's liaison to the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, where he served on the influenza, pneumococcal, zoster, and adult immunization working groups. Dr. Tan has addressed international, national, and state immunization audiences on issues ranging from vaccine financing to risk management in vaccine safety to emerging infectious diseases, and has received several awards for his advocacy work.



**Judy Klein**

President and Founder, Unity Consortium

Judy is President and a Founder of Unity Consortium and has deep expertise in healthcare and vaccines. Judy's passion is supporting individuals to lead healthy lives by proactively focusing on preventive healthcare and immunizations. Toward this end, Judy actively engages with organizations that advance this approach including the National HPV Roundtable Steering Committee and the National Adolescent and Young Adult Health Information Center Advisory Committee. Judy was recently selected, on behalf of Unity, as the winner of the 2021 Vaughn

Rickert Vaccine Research Award by the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine.



**Kathleen Ryan**

Associate Division Chief for Pediatric Infectious Disease, University of Florida Health

Kathleen Ryan, MD, is the Associate Chief for Pediatric Infectious Disease at University of Florida Health, an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Florida, and the Medical Coordinator of the Alachua County's school-located influenza vaccination program, *Control Flu*. Dr. Ryan obtained her undergraduate degree in Microbiology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and her MD from the University of Massachusetts Medical School. She completed her pediatric

residency and pediatric infectious diseases fellowship at the University of Tennessee, Memphis.



**Timothy Benally**

Founder, Indigenous Peoples Student Association, Penn State University

After recently graduating from Penn State University (Psychology B.S.), Tim is taking a gap semester before graduate school to serve his Alma Mater as a Residence Life Coordinator for over 500 students. During his senior year of college, Tim worked full-time for the [Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker](#) while taking classes remotely. Additionally, Tim was awarded honors such as the [Rock Ethics Institute's Stand-Up Award](#) and [Multicultural Resource Center's Outstanding Senior award](#) for his advocacy

efforts to found the [Indigenous Peoples Student Organization](#) and Penn State's first [official Acknowledgment of Land](#). Although his eventual goal is to earn his Ph.D. in Recreation Management, Tim is looking forward to taking this season to grow in his faith, professional skills and strengthening student efforts he started as an undergraduate.