Meaningful Engagement:
Methods for Facilitating Continuous Improvement and Evaluation
Flagstaff Aquaplex, 1702 N Fourth Street | Friday, May 17, 2019 | 10 AM – 3 PM

PRESENTERS

Marney Babbitt-Pierce, MEd is the Council Director of Girls on the Run of Northern Arizona, a program of North Country HealthCare. In her role, Marney trains and supports volunteer coaches, and engages donors who change the world one girl at a time. Marney knows that girls who have a caring adult in their life and have learned to set and achieve life goals have limitless potential. Girls on the Run is the only national physical-activity based positive youth development program for girls with compelling evidence of program impact. The research-based curriculum, trained coaches and a commitment to serve all girls that sets GOTR apart as an exemplar PA-PYD program.

Before returning to Flagstaff, AZ where she was born and raised Marney held positions at The Orme School, The University of the South, Angelo State University, and Columbia College supporting student growth and development. Marney is a Certified Dare to Lead™ Facilitator. She has been honored by the Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce with the Athena Young Professional Award as an emerging leader who is a role model for young women both professionally and personally and by the NAU College of Public Health for her mentoring of student interns. Marney holds a Master of Education in Higher Education and Student Affairs from the University of South Carolina and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Trinity University (TX).

Mark Bauer, Ph.D. Dr. Bauer’s ability to direct research efforts on the Navajo Nation has been established through over 38 years as a member of the Diné College faculty teaching in the Division of Science and Math. Dr. Bauer developed a highly successful Summer Research Enhancement Program to teach public health research methods to undergraduate Navajo students and support their participation in internships in a variety of programs serving Navajo communities in areas of diabetes and cancer prevention, and promotion of wellness in general. Dr. Bauer has been a leader in expanding opportunities for Navajo students through course and program development in collaboration with research intensive institutions. Dr. Bauer served on the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board for 15 years, and also on several Navajo Division of Health-IHS-Diné College working committees designed to yield collaborative solutions to addressing the Navajo Nation’s epidemiological and public health planning needs. Dr. Bauer has conducted health research projects with NIH funding in areas of diabetes management and cancer screening, and with USDA funding in the area of nutrition, availability and affordability of healthy foods in trading posts and convenience stores on the reservation, the nutrition status of Head Start children using 24-hour dietary recall with their caregivers, and focus group research on barriers faced by parents of young children trying to provide nutritious meals to their families.
Kimberly Chen, BSPharm is the Director of Pharmacy at North Country HealthCare. From the beginning, Kimberly has always been passionate about her work as a pharmacist in program development, integrated care teams, teaching and leadership development. In 1999, Kimberly Chen graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. Having started working in pharmacy as a technician during her high school years, Kimberly has accumulated over 20 years of experience working in the outpatient pharmacy and ambulatory care setting. Prior to her time at NCHC, Kimberly worked with Northern Arizona HealthCare outpatient pharmacy for nearly 13 years. Additionally, she has worked in a clinic-based and community pharmacy in Ohio, and as a Certified Specialist in Poison Information in Cincinnati, and has experience with adverse event reporting for phase 4 clinical trials.

Throughout her career, Kimberly has demonstrated commitment to program development and expansion. Since starting at North Country HealthCare, the health center has begun placing pharmacists outside of the dispensing pharmacy and embedding them within the clinic setting as part of the integrated care team. Kimberly leverages many of the pharmacy and health center resources, such as the 340B program along with their ASHP/APHS accredited PGY1 Community-based Pharmacy Residency program to maximize the ability to increase access to pharmacy services. Through organizational strategic initiatives, grant supported programs and integrated workflows, Kimberly and her team have been able to improve patient care and outcomes.

Amanda Guay, MPH is the Director of Community Health Programs & Services at North Country HealthCare. In her role, Amanda oversees and develops community health and behavioral health programming for specific target populations. She has worked with multiple stakeholders from governmental agencies, local officials, community organizations, health departments and Tribes to educational institutions with the goal of conducting health outreach to targeted populations, as well as developing policy to achieve improved health outcomes. Ms. Guay has over twenty years of experience working with minority and under-served populations and is a native of Flagstaff, Arizona.

Prior to working at North Country, Amanda worked with affected communities on efforts to mitigate health impacts of environmental contamination at the state health department in Oregon. She also worked in a county health department and a school district to pass tobacco policy. Her current interests focus on identifying strategies to improve health outcomes by engaging the community and leveraging existing health resources. She previously served on the boards of the Flagstaff Leadership Program and the Coconino Regional Partnership Council for First Things First and is the board president for Housing Solutions of Northern Arizona. Amanda holds a Master’s in Public Health Promotion and Education with an emphasis in Women’s and Minority Health from Oregon State University.
Molly Larson-Wakeman, PharmD completed a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Humboldt State University. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy as well as a Master of Health Science in Health Informatics from Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Molly is currently a PGY-1 Community Based Pharmacy Resident at North Country HealthCare. She has an interest in rural health and ambulatory care pharmacy.

Robert T. Trotter, II Ph.D. is an Arizona Regents’ Professor in the department of Anthropology, and a senior scientist in the NAU Center for Health Equity Research (CHER). His research interests include cross-cultural health care issues, organizational models for change, social network impacts on health and social structures, innovation, exploring advanced ethnographic methods, and translational science. He has conducted research for the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, and the Surgeon General’s Office of HIV/AIDS Policy. His work in medical anthropology addresses cross-cultural issues in health care delivery and prevention, focused on cancer, cardiac care, HIV prevention and intervention, disabilities, and addiction studies. He also designs and conducts evaluation programs for complex partnerships (industry-university, government-university-community, community-scientist), creating cultural models of collaborative systems, ethnographic explorations of institutional dynamics, and organizational network analysis. His publications include books and articles on Mexican American traditional healing, cross-cultural alcohol and drug studies, migrant farm worker health and education, HIV/AIDS, alcohol and drug prevention studies, partnership design, diagnosis and intervention, and anthropological ethics.

Virginia Watahomigie, MA has a B.S. in psychology (minor in family studies) and a master’s degree in administration (leadership emphasis). For 12 years, Virginia worked with the oldest and largest child welfare/behavioral health agency in the state of Arizona. She began her career working directly with children and youth, most of whom had experienced severe trauma, in a residential treatment center. She then she worked with foster families and ultimately was directing the agency’s foster care, treatment foster care and ICPC programs for the Southern 5 counties of the State. Virginia is currently the Executive Director of the Coconino Coalition for Children & Youth. CCC&Y is engaged in collective impact strategies to promote child well-being across the county. Virginia additionally holds certification from the Institute for Integrative Nutrition. Virginia’s experience responding to trauma and directing programs that promote healing, as well as her extensive training has enabled her to understand trauma, healthy crisis response and has cultivated a strong interest in promoting resiliency for children. She makes use of positive energy, mindfulness strategies, group dynamics and collective impact strategies for communities while supporting mind, body and spirit health. Virginia is the proud mother of a daughter completing dual majors at Cornell University.