

SEPTEMBER 13-17, 2021

CaraConference 2021
**Building
Health Equity**

Addressing Disparities,
Advocating for Change



CaraConference 2021

Building Health Equity

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

12:00 PM

Welcome and Introduction



Linda Seiter serves as the Executive Director of Caracole, Greater Cincinnati's AIDS service organization. Linda also served as president and trustee on the Board of Directors in Caracole's early days and was the first executive director of AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati. For more than 18 years, Linda has provided strategic direction and vision for Caracole by actively building partnerships, supporting community efforts and advocating for those at-risk for or living with HIV/AIDS as well as the Southwestern Ohio community and beyond. Prior to Caracole, Linda worked in the fields of domestic violence, mental health and substance abuse, experiences which inspired her deep passion for nonprofit work, human rights and social justice.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

12:00 PM

The Pattern of Disparities in Pandemics

Victoria M. Rodríguez-Roldán, JD

Followed by Gilead mini infosession

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

12:00 PM

Panel Discussion: Barriers to Care for Transgender and Non-binary Individuals

Lee Ann Conard, RPh, DO, MPH leads a panel discussion with Ariel Mary Ann, Kaeden Kass, MSW, LSW and Sarah Pickle, MD

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

12:00 PM

Intersectionality: Race, Gender and Sexuality

Kersha Deibel, MPH, MSW and Kimberley Mason

Followed by Theratech mini infosession

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

12:00 PM

Panel Discussion: How to Advocate for Policy Change

William Booth leads a panel discussion with Alana Jochum, Ali Trianfo and Mike Weir, MPH

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

6:00 PM

The Need to Modernize HIV Criminalization Laws

Bryan C. Jones and Adam Reilly

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

12:00 PM

Panel Discussion: Race and Health Care

JeMarr Jackson leads a panel discussion with Stephanie Dodd, Angelica Hardee, PhD, CHES, Kirk D. Henny, PhD and Charla B. Weiss, PhD

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

The Pattern of Disparities in Pandemics



Victoria M. Rodríguez-Roldán, JD is the Senior Policy Manager for AIDS United, where she brings her own unique intersectional specialties to the fight against the HIV epidemic. Her areas of expertise and focus are the intersections of issues affecting people living at the intersections of transgender identity, disability and mental illness through a social justice lens. She frequently speaks on discrimination issues impacting the trans and disability communities. She has been profiled in multiple national media outlets and has been published in multiple academic journals. Rodríguez-Roldán holds a bachelor's degree in psychology with honors from the University of Puerto Rico, and a JD from the University of Maine School of Law. Prior to joining AIDS United, she was the senior policy counsel at the National LGBTQ Task Force where she led the Trans/GNC Justice Project and the Disability Justice Project. She currently serves on the boards of multiple disability, LGBTQ and social justice nonprofit organizations.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Panel Discussion: Barriers to Care for Transgender and Non-binary Individuals



Ariel Mary Ann is an artist and activist in the Cincinnati area. She is an actor, playwright, first-generation college graduate and a dreamer. Her work and activism centers around queerness, transness and what it means to be Black in America.



Lee Ann Conard, RPh, DO, MPH is the Director of the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) Transgender Clinic. She graduated from Ohio Northern University with a degree in pharmacy and later went on to attain her degree in osteopathic medicine from the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences. Dr. Conard completed her pediatric residency at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus and a fellowship in Adolescent Medicine at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University. In addition, she has a Master of Public Health from UNC at Chapel Hill. Dr. Conard has been treating transgender adolescents since 2005 as an attending physician at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She has held her current position at CCHMC since 2012. Her passion and compassion for these patients and their families led her to establish and direct the CCHMC Transgender Clinic. The clinic, part of the Division of Adolescent Medicine, currently serves over 1,000 patients from all over the Midwest.



Kaeden Kass, MSW, LSW is a licensed social worker at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) Transgender Clinic, where he works alongside a diverse clinical team to support the

physical, mental and emotional health of transgender youth and their families. Prior to his position at CCHMC, Kass spent many years as a sexuality educator and HIV care coordinator at Planned Parenthood and Equitas Health, with a particular focus in queer and trans populations. As a transgender male, Kass is passionate about advancing social justice and health equity among marginalized populations, both on the micro and macro levels.



Sarah Pickle, MD is a board-certified family medicine physician who is fellowship-trained in women's health and a transgender medicine specialist. Dr. Pickle is an Associate Professor in Family and Community Medicine and a physician at UC Health. She is passionate about training the next generation of physicians in best practices of transgender medicine. With her colleagues, she developed a nationally recognized curriculum on training physicians in transgender medicine. Her recently published research outlines how to train more healthcare providers in transgender medicine in order to care effectively for transgender persons across the lifespan. As a physician, Dr. Pickle provides comprehensive, whole person care in a family medicine model at UC Health and University of Cincinnati Student Health.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Intersectionality: Race, Gender and Sexuality



Kersha Deibel, MPH, MSW is the President & CEO of Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio (PPSWO) Region. Prior to joining the southwest Ohio team, Deibel spent over eight years leading and

organizing with Planned Parenthood Federation of America and Planned Parenthood Action Fund in Washington, DC. There, she led the team to run winning electoral campaigns that centered the lived experience of BIPOC communities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, young people and patient advocates at the local, state and federal levels. Currently, she serves on the boards for the National Abortion Federation and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. Deibel's reproductive health and rights foundation was built while working in a Planned Parenthood St. Louis health center as a patient educator, where she interviewed patients and provided counseling of health care options. Her experience is enhanced by her Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Cincinnati and a Master of Public Health and Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis.



Kimberley Mason is the Community Education Manager and Abortion Doula Program Manager with Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio (PPSWO).

Mason works to promote anti-racist sex education, while advocating for and teaching sex-positive, comprehensive, and inclusive sexuality education. She has delivered education to youth, people with disabilities, staff, parents and professionals in schools, juvenile justice centers, community organizations and other spaces, including virtual platforms. A native of Florida, Kim has been an advocate and activist for human rights and sexual health for 20 years and counting.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Panel Discussion: How to Advocate for Policy Change



William Booth is an advocate for those living with HIV/AIDS and serves as an educator and mobilizer for AIDS Healthcare Foundation. In addition to his experience in health care, Booth is also a retired professional horse trainer who coached numerous National Champions.



Alana Jochum is an attorney and Executive Director at Equality Ohio. Through her volunteer involvement with Humsafar Trust, a nongovernmental organization working to advance LGBTQ

equality in India as well as the Human Rights Campaign, Jochum has passionately engaged in the fight for LGBTQ equality at the local, state, national, and international level. After pursuing her law degree at the Cleveland Marshall College of Law, Jochum became an Associate at Squire Patton Boggs, LLP where she focused her legal practice on complex civil litigation, international law, product liability disputes and other commercial litigation. In 2014, she left Squire to work with Equality Ohio full time where she has the privilege of continuing her advocacy work for LGBTQ equality. In addition, Jochum proudly serves as a board member for the Equality Federation, a national organization focused on capacity building and support for statewide LGBTQ organizations across the country.

Building Health Equity



Ali Trianfo is the Director of Operations and Community Affairs at Government Strategies Group (GSG). Trianfo has a passion and proven history of effectively leading community affairs and engagement strategy. She joined GSG in 2018 after serving as Director of Community Affairs for Cincinnati City Councilman Greg Landsman. At GSG, Trianfo manages operations, contracts, compliance and local community engagement. She is active in city and county policy, representing clients to Cincinnati City Council and the Board of Hamilton County Commissioners on budget and regulatory issues for nonprofits. Trianfo is a graduate of Xavier University and its Philosophy, Politics, and the Public Honors Program and is a juris doctorate candidate at the Salmon P. Chase College of Law's evening program.



Mike Weir, MPH is a senior manager on the Policy and Legislative Affairs team at NASTAD (National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors). In his role, he assists in the implementation of NASTAD's legislative and policy priorities on HIV and hepatitis-related federal appropriations and legislative priorities. Weir currently serves as an elected member and Co-Chair of the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership (FAPP) and HIV Prevention Action Coalition and on the board for the North Carolina AIDS Action Network (NCAAN). Prior to NASTAD, he interned at the White House in the Employee Benefits Division and the Office of National AIDS Policy, as well as at the Regional AIDS Interfaith Network (RAIN) in Charlotte, NC. Weir received his Master of Public Health from the George Washington University and BA in Communication Studies from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

The Need to Modernize HIV Criminalization Laws



Bryan C. Jones has been living with HIV for the past 38 years and advocating for persons living with HIV/AIDS for more than half that time. He is a founding steering committee member and ambassador of the global U=U movement and prevention campaign. He has presented on HIV prevention and HIV housing and instability both nationally and internationally. In addition, Jones is responsible for mobilizing Ohio around modernizing their HIV criminalization laws. As a response to his advocacy efforts over the years, Ohio now has an Ohio Health Modernization Movement, a coalition dedicated to modernizing health laws. Jones is also the founder of the "DIRT" Advocacy Movement and the Sankofa HIV Initiative, which provides an educational, healing weekend for persons living with HIV/AIDS.



Adam Reilly has worked with the HIV+ community and in HIV prevention for 14 years. During this time he has provided testing and counseling services along with one-on-one and group work with those living with HIV/AIDS. Reilly also spearheaded local syringe exchange efforts to better serve the community of those who inject drugs and was a driving force behind the 2014 Ohio law that allowed for syringe exchange/access throughout the state. He was voted "Advocate of the Year" in *Citybeat's* 2011 Best of the City issue, received the Oscar Armstrong award from Public Allies in 2013, and The Cincinnati Exchange Project was awarded the 2015 Health Care Heroes award from the *Cincinnati Business Courier*. He is a fellow for Caring Ambassadors and also sits on the Ohio Health Modernization Movement steering committee.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Panel Discussion: Race and Health Care



Stephanie Dodd is a native of Cincinnati and works as the Provider Relations Manager for Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio (PPSWO), where she has been employed for the past 10-plus years. In her role, she forges mutually beneficial partnerships with other agencies, organizations and providers and engages them in learning more about Planned Parenthood's health care and educational services. Dodd explores with these organizations how she can help them access PPSWO's direct and indirect services, including internal training and program development. Her past experiences as a health center assistant and then health center manager has equipped her to understand goals and needs of the communities that Planned Parenthood serves.



JeMarr Jackson is currently a Health Educator at Caracole specializing in prevention and community outreach. In his role, he helps to change the lives of those who are living with HIV/AIDS as well as work to ensure the prevention of HIV/AIDS for those at high risk. A native to Cincinnati, Jackson received his bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Cincinnati. In his short time at Caracole, he has successfully demonstrated his passion for those living with and at risk for HIV/AIDS and continues to exhibit their organizational values through his work in the community. Prior to his work at Caracole, Jackson also worked with various other populations, including homeless and at-risk youth.



Angelica Hardee, PhD, CHES is a health equity leader, professor and Vice President of Health Strategy at the American Heart Association. She received her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Cincinnati (UC) studying public health, health policy and global health systems. Dr. Hardee teaches the next generation of public health leaders at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. She is passionate about her community and previously served as President of the Urban League Young Professionals of Greater Southwestern Ohio, Board Member for the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio and Governing Councilor of Community Health Planning and Policy Development with the American Public Health Association. Dr. Hardee also serves on the executive board of the Hospice of Cincinnati, Cancer Justice Network, UC Community Advisory Board, St. Aloysius, Greater Cincinnati Regional Food Policy Council and others.



Kirk D. Henny, PhD is the Acting Associate Director for the Office of Health Equity (OHE) in the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He received his bachelor's degree in sociology from James Madison University and his master's and doctoral degrees in medical sociology from Howard University. His CDC experience includes extensive work in the field of HIV prevention and care as a behavioral scientist and epidemiologist. Dr. Henny has authored over 35 papers in scientific peer-reviewed journals and other publications. His research addresses a range of HIV-related topics including HIV behavioral interventions for African American heterosexual men, housing, interpersonal violence, eHealth interventions and other related topics. Most recently, Dr. Henny completed a 120-day assignment as the Assistant Deputy of Program Operations for the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative. Additionally, Dr. Henny has been involved in several CDC emergency responses including the 2015 Ebola Response in Sierra Leone and Liberia, and the 2016 Zika Response.



Charla Weiss, PhD is the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) where she manages diversity and cultural competency programs for both non-clinical and clinical staff. Weiss received her master's degree from Indiana University and a doctoral degree in social psychology from the University of Michigan. She also works as an adjunct instructor at the UC College of Medicine. Prior to returning to Cincinnati in 2010, Weiss worked as executive director for several San Francisco/East Bay organizations. Having lived in two countries and seven US states, Weiss views the health care nonprofit area as a perfect niche for her curiosity and appreciation for people, culture and change.

CaraConference 2021

Building Health Equity

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

The Pattern of Disparities in Pandemics

Introduction: Linda Seiter and Adam Reilly

Presenter: Victoria M. Rodríguez-Roldán, JD

Followed by Gilead mini infosession



Use this QR code or the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NS63SQS> to access this session's evaluation. To receive CEUs you must attend the session for at least 50 minutes and complete the evaluation by the end of the business day (5:00 PM EST) on September 13. If you do not complete the evaluation by the end of business day you will not receive a CEU certificate for this session.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Panel Discussion: Barriers to Care for Transgender and Non-binary Individuals

Introduction: Zoey Peach | Moderator: Lee Ann Conard, RPh, DO, MPH

Panelists: Ariel Mary Ann, Kaeden Kass, MSW, LSW and Sarah Pickle, MD



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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Intersectionality: Race, Gender and Sexuality

Introduction: Megan Green

Presenter: Kersha Deibel, MPH, MSW and Kimberly Mason

Followed by Theratech mini infosession



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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16: 12:00 PM SESSION

Panel Discussion: How to Advocate for Policy Change

Introduction: Adam Reilly | Moderator: William Booth

Panelists: Alana Jochum, Ali Trianfo and Mike Weir, MPH



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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16: 6:00 PM SESSION

The Need to Modernize HIV Criminalization Laws

Introduction: Muggs deMayo

Presenter: Bryan C. Jones and Adam Reilly



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Building Health Equity

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Panel Discussion: Race and Health Care

Introduction: Leah Majesky | Moderator: JeMarr Jackson

Panelists: Stephanie Dodd, Angelica Hardee, PhD, CHES, Kirk D. Henny, PhD and Charla B. Weiss, PhD



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ABOUT CARACOLE

Caracole is Greater Cincinnati's nonprofit devoted to positively changing lives in the fight against HIV/AIDS. For people living with HIV, we provide housing, case management and pharmacy services to improve health and well-being. Our prevention services focus on outreach, testing, education and harm reduction to help people reduce their risk for HIV. The work we do to end the HIV epidemic is central to a healthy community. Volunteer, donate or find out how we can help you or someone you love at caracole.org

OUR VISION

To be a relentless force for health equity.

OUR MISSION

We positively change lives in the fight against HIV/AIDS through prevention, housing and care.

OUR VALUES

Unconditional Inclusivity

We believe that being open-minded, non-judgmental and empathetic creates an environment of safety essential to preserving dignity.

Relentless Advocacy

We champion causes to eliminate negative impact and stigma from our local communities and beyond.

Practical Innovation

We are problem solvers that find new solutions to improve the lives of those we serve.

Absolute Accountability

We uphold the highest standards to not only be the best we can be but also the most effective.

Radical Optimism

We allow humanity and hope to have a visible presence and be a driving force in all we do.

Visit us at
caracole.org
or find us on



@wearecaracole