



2024 Mini College
May 22, 2024, San Diego, CA

Speaker Bios (Listed in alphabetical order)

Muriel Bañares, Account Manager, Brown Miller Communications*:



A veteran communications expert specializing in consumer health education and multicultural communications, Muriel develops and manages integrated communications campaigns aimed at educating consumers and changing and improving behaviors. She directs audience research, discerns areas of opportunity and crafts unique strategies to influence and educate specific audience segments. In many cases, this means addressing varying language and cultural issues among key populations and subpopulations. Her execution of the award-winning comprehensive social marketing campaign, Steps to a Healthier Salinas, resulted in groundbreaking and lasting health improvements.

Berké Brown, Founder, Berké Brown International LLC



Berké Brown is the founder of Berké Brown International LLC and a managing partner at Fogbreak Justice LLC. He is a leading expert in motivation and behavior change and has worked with numerous fortune 500 companies, organizations and municipal governments to create mission-driven and sustainable change in culture, performance and service. Berké was awarded summa cum laude for his research at UC Berkeley on internal motivation and the psycho-motivational forces of personal and group behavior change. From both his research and his consulting experience, Berké continues to create powerful behavior change programs that increase human motivation and engagement in work, mental health, business and life.

Maxmillian Chambers, DDS, Champion Provider Fellow Cohort 5, Imperial County



Dr. Chambers is a dedicated general dentist based in Imperial County, California, where he serves the community through his work at a 501(c)(3) FQHC Inncare in El Centro. As a UCSF Champion Provider Fellow, he leverages his extensive expertise in dentistry and healthcare access to advocate for improved health outcomes among underserved populations. Beyond his professional pursuits, Dr. Chambers is a committed father of five and avid gamer, balancing the demands of his career with his love for family and passion for video games. His vision extends to establishing a nonprofit multi-site specialized dental clinic aimed at serving intellectually and developmentally disabled adults and adolescents, reflecting his deep commitment to inclusivity and care for all.



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Erica Eilenberg, MPH, RD, California Department of Public Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Branch:



Erica completed her BS in Health Education at SFSU and MPH at SJSU, both with an emphasis in community-based health. Erica is also a registered dietitian (RD) and completed the Nutritional Science program at SJSU, concentrating in dietetics. She completed her dietetic internship clinical rotations at the California Pacific Medical Center in Oakland and Berkeley. Prior to her role as Nutrition and Physical Activity Branch (NPAB) Chief, she was the Project Director for SF where she developed, implemented, and evaluated PSE-level change initiatives at the local health department level in San Francisco. Erica's previous experience includes working with children and families in community and nonprofit settings, overseeing outpatient nutrition services, and developing health and nutrition related programs to prevent chronic disease and ease disease management.

Trang Hoa, MD, Champion Provider Fellow, Cohort 5, Riverside County:



Dr. Trang Hoa currently works as a Medical Consultant for The Children California Services at Riverside County. She was born in Vietnam and immigrated to Canada when she was 5 years of age. After completing her Medical School at St. George's University, she completed her General Pediatric Residency at SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn, New York. During her training, she had a great fondness for pulmonary medicine, particularly asthmatics. She completed her Pediatric Pulmonary Fellowship at The University of California, Irvine/Long Beach Memorial. Prior to joining Riverside Public Health Department, she practiced as a General Pediatrics for a Federally Qualified Health Care Center in Garden Grove for a predominately Vietnamese community.

Mike Miller, President, Brown Miller Communications*:



As president and founder of Brown·Miller Communications, Michael has worked to address public health and agricultural issues for over three decades. Through ongoing involvement and relationships with nonprofit foundations, government agencies and private industry, he is uniquely versed in the issues affecting a wide range of public health fields. Michael draws on his 40 years of public relations experience to translate the needs and news of his clients into messages, campaigns and materials that reach and stimulate the media, public and policymakers. His skills as a strategic communicator have helped to address a broad spectrum of critical issues, from educating the public about COVID-19 to reshaping community behaviors, policies and expectations around emerging health realities. Through his communication leadership and management, Michael has won a host of awards for his clients, including the nation's highest public relations honor, the Silver Anvil, on four separate occasions. He serves on several client, community and industry boards. His writings on public relations in public health are widely published, and he regularly speaks and trains on a variety of communications topics.



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Lanelle (Lani) Nakamura, MD, FAAP, Champion Provider Fellow, Cohort 5, Riverside County:



Dr. Lanelle (Lani) Nakamura was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii. She completed her medical school at the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine and pediatric residency program at University of Hawai'i based at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children. She pursued her passion in oncology by completing a pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship with Baylor College of Medicine at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, Texas. Upon completing her fellowship, she joined the faculty Loma Linda University Children's Hospital as Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Attending, subsequently transitioning to Pediatric Pulmonary Hospitalist. She continues to serve as the Continuing Medical Education Director for Pediatrics. Her clinical experience inspired her to expand her patient advocacy in her current position at Riverside County Public Health with California Children's Services (CCS).

Wagahta Semere, Director, MD, MHS, Champion Provider Fellowship, University of California San Francisco*:



Wagahta is an Associate Professor of Medicine at UCSF in the Division of General Internal Medicine and a primary care provider in the Richard H. Fine People's Clinic at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. She is trained in health services research, with a background in quantitative, qualitative, and community-based participatory research (CBPR) methods. Her work is focused on developing strategies, informatics-based tools, and using CBPR and computer science to better engage racially/ethnically diverse patients and their caregivers with providers in chronic disease management. Her current work focuses on examining communication between culturally and linguistically diverse patients, their caregivers, and providers. She has applied machine learning, natural language processing, and novel computational linguistics techniques to characterize secure message communication. She is particularly interested in leveraging technology-based platforms and clinical informatics methods to develop communication tools that promote safe and effective family-centered care.

David Thai, DDS, Champion Provider Fellow, Cohort 5, Sonoma County



Dr. David Thai received his Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and received his Bachelor of Science in Microbial Biology from the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley). Dr. Thai had been a guest lecturer at UCSF School of Dentistry (2012-2018), co-founder of Bay Area Sleep Apnea Solutions (2014-2016), and practiced in private dental clinics prior to venturing into dentistry at Federally Qualified Health Centers in 2017.

As West County Health Centers' Dental Director, Dr. Thai is passionate about improving access to quality dental care for the West County community and excited to work multidisciplinary with West County Health Centers' Medical team to enhance overall patient health and wellness through the practice of relationship-based care.

*Champion Provider Fellowship Team