



## Speaker Bios (in order of appearance)

### **Vanessa Thompson, MD**

**UCSF Division of General Internal Medicine/Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital**



Dr. Thompson is an Assistant Clinical Professor at UCSF and a primary care physician at Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG). She also serves as the Associate Medical Director for the Richard Fine People's Clinic at ZSFG. Her expertise is in medical education and care for underserved populations. Dr. Thompson is the Principal Investigator for the Champion Provider Fellowship Initiative, where her responsibilities include supervising the project coordinators, and working closely with UCSF faculty and collaborators on program development.

### **Caroline Kurtz, PhD**

**California Department of Public Health – Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch (CDPH – NEOPB)**



Dr. Kurtz is the Branch Chief of Program and Policy with the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch (NEOPB) at the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). She earned her BS and PhD in Nutrition at the University of California, Davis (UCD) where she still teaches a course in Nutritional Anthropology and Public Health. At CDPH, she has worked in multiple capacities in program as a section chief as the program underwent a transition to a new funding and organizational model. Currently, she works with her team to oversee partnership development and implementation of obesity prevention strategies, provide guidance and support to 60 of 61 local health departments who provide Supplemental Nutrition and Assistance Program-Education services to their communities; and coordinate training and technical assistance to state and local level staff and programs to implement obesity prevention strategies. Prior to her work with the state's obesity prevention program, Dr. Kurtz was the Chief of the Health Equity and Local Programs Unit at the California Tobacco Control Program (CTCP) at CDPH; where she worked with her team to develop, implement policy-focused community-level programs throughout the state; and coordinate the provision of technical assistance and trainings through the Capacity Building Network to assist



projects working with diverse populations in their community. She was also the lead for their tobacco waste issue and coordinated the campaign to develop resources, tools, and trainings to elevate awareness and support for secondhand smoke protection policies and/or counter pro-tobacco influences in the community. Previous to her role with program development, Dr. Kurtz worked as a research scientist in the private sector and then with the state's tobacco control program.

### **Alicia Fernandez, MD**

**UCSF Division of General Internal Medicine/Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital**



Dr. Fernandez is a Professor of Clinical Medicine at UCSF and an attending physician at ZSFG. Her research focuses on health and health care disparities, and she is particularly interested in diabetes, Latino health, immigrant health, and language barriers. In addition to her research and clinical practice at ZSFG, Dr. Fernandez is an active mentor of students, residents, fellows, and faculty. She has received several honors and awards, including the Arnold P. Gold Professorship for Humanism in Medicine. She has served as an advisor to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the California Endowment, the National Quality Forum, the Commonwealth Fund, the American Medical Association, the American Board of Internal Medicine, and other organizations focused on health care disparities, Latino health, and limited English proficiency populations. Dr. Fernandez was a standing member of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Health Care Quality and Effectiveness study section (2006-2010), and is currently a member of NIH Health Services Organization and Delivery (HSOD) study section. Most recently, Dr. Fernandez was appointed to the Board of Governors of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and the Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Literacy.



### **Claudia Borzutzky, MD**

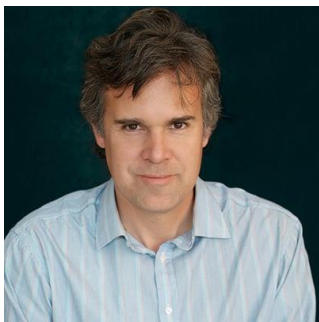
**Children's Hospital Los Angeles/ Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California**



Dr. Borzutzky is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine at USC, and serves as the founding Medical Director for the Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) Empower Weight Management Clinic, as the Program Director for the CHLA Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine Fellowship, and as a member of the leadership group for the CHLA Diabetes and Obesity Program. She has long-standing interests in the social determinants of health and how they impact adolescent and young adult health, particularly with respect to obesity and fitness, and reproductive health. Dr. Borzutzky has been a Champion Provider Fellow since 2014, and is the CHLA site PI for the national multi-site Pediatric Obesity Weight Evaluation Registry (POWER) study led by Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. She recently served on the Obesity Committee for the Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine (SAHM), which recently authored a SAHM Position Statement on the Prevention and Treatment of Adolescent Obesity, which appeared in the November 2016 issue of *The Journal of Adolescent Health*.

### **Garry Crummer, MD**

**Santa Cruz Community Health Centers/East Cliff Family Health Center**



Dr. Crummer has experience working in corporate medical practice and community health. He has worked with the Health Improvement Partnership and the Pediatric Vision Group in Santa Cruz. Previously he worked with the Indian Health Council, Inc., which served a consortium of nine Indian tribes in San Diego County. Dr. Crummer has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music Performance and Music Education from Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester. He has researched auditory neurophysiology and the neuroscience of music cognition at the University of Rochester School of Medicine.



## **Valencia Walker, MD**

**David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA**



Dr. Walker is currently an Associate Clinical Professor and faculty member at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in their Department of Pediatrics and Division of Neonatology. She is a Fellow at the American Academy of Pediatrics and an American Board of Pediatrics-certified neonatologist. Dr. Walker's career interests are focused on optimizing maternal-child health for local and international communities. She is extremely passionate about engaging her local community as well as the global community, previously serving on the Board of Directors for a nonprofit called Village Life Outreach Project, Inc., which provides healthcare and education to impoverished villages in Tanzania. In rural Tanzania, Dr. Walker advocated for the creation of an LEED-certified medical clinic building, in collaboration with local Tanzanian engineers as well as architects at the University of Cincinnati. She has volunteered her medical services in Haiti, India, and Guatemala. Dr. Walker is the president of the Association of Black Women Physicians and guides their work in traditionally underserved communities to decrease healthcare disparities.

## **Sabrina Adler, JD**

**ChangeLab Solutions**



As senior staff attorney, Sabrina works on a wide variety of public health legal and policy issues, including food marketing to children, maternal and child health, and alcohol policy. Before joining ChangeLab Solutions, she was a staff attorney at the Child Care Law Center, where she assisted legal aid attorneys with child care cases and did policy work on health and obesity prevention in the child care setting, due process protections for parents with child care subsidies, and child care licensing standards. In addition, Sabrina received a Skadden Foundation Fellowship to create the San Francisco Medical-Legal Partnership (a collaboration between Bay Area Legal Aid and San Francisco General Hospital), in which she provided direct legal services to low-income pediatric patients and their families. Her practice included advocacy in the areas of housing, health, public benefits, disability, education, and family law. Sabrina graduated from Brown University and Stanford Law School.



## **Jeff Ritterman, MD**

**Physicians for Social Responsibility (SF Bay Area chapter) and Touro University**



Dr. Ritterman retired as Chief of Cardiology at Kaiser Permanente (Richmond) in 2010, where he had worked since 1981. He is Vice President of the San Francisco Bay Area chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility. For the past 35 years, Dr. Ritterman has worked to put a human face on tragedies across the globe. He co-founded The Committee for Health Rights in Central America, The Salvadoran Medical Relief Fund, and the Southern Africa Medical Aid Fund. He has personally delivered medical supplies to Salvadoran refugees living in camps in Honduras and Costa Rica during the war in El Salvador in the 1980s. He has also delivered medical supplies to the African National Congress's clinic in Lusaka, Zambia, prior to the end of Apartheid. After returning from a Peace Delegation to the Iraqi border in 2005, Dr. Ritterman spoke widely about the "Medical and Human Rights Consequences of the War in Iraq." From 2008-2012, Dr. Ritterman served on the City Council of Richmond, CA. As a councilman, Dr. Ritterman has introduced legislation to turn health research into policy. Due to his efforts, Richmond's tobacco prevention ordinances are now models for the state. The first municipal Soda Tax campaign was initiated and led by Dr. Ritterman as a policy response to the worsening childhood obesity epidemic in Richmond. Dr. Ritterman is also actively working to educate the public on the adverse health impacts of climate change, rising income inequality, and our industrial food system. Currently he is an Associate Professor and Clinical Coordinator of the Joint PAS/MPH Program at Touro University.

## **Malia Cohen, MS**

**San Francisco Board of Supervisors**



Elected in 2010 and re-elected in 2014, Supervisor Cohen represents San Francisco's District 10, which includes the Bayview Hunters Point, Dogpatch, Potrero Hill, and Visitacion Valley neighborhoods. A San Francisco native, Supervisor Cohen prioritizes policies and legislation that keep residents of Southeast San Francisco safe and healthy. In 2016 she spearheaded San Francisco's sugar-sweetened beverage tax, which passed by 62% and is expected to generate more than \$14 million annually, with the revenue going toward citywide public health and physical education programs. As President of the San Francisco Employee Retirement System (SFERS), Supervisor Cohen has led efforts to divest from fossil fuels and thermal coal investments, and moved \$100 million into a fossil fuel-free index fund. She also authored the Pregnancy Information Disclosure and Protection Ordinance, which



requires all limited services pregnancy centers' advertising to be truthful about the limited nature of the services they provide for women seeking information about pregnancy, abortion care, prenatal care, and emergency contraception.

### **Eric Mar, JD**

**San Francisco Board of Supervisors (formerly) and San Francisco State University**



Former Supervisor Mar represented residents of San Francisco's District 1 (the Richmond) from 2009-2017. Prior to that, he had served as a Commissioner and President of the San Francisco Board of Education, where he led efforts to close the achievement gap, strengthen parental involvement in educational policymaking, and increase resources for public education. Mr. Mar currently teaches Asian-American and Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University, where he has mentored and supported hundreds of young people to become active in their communities and the political process. He is a former public interest attorney, an ally of the labor movement, and a past shop steward with SEIU Local 790.

### **Ana Vasudeo, MRP**

**San Francisco Bicycle Coalition**



Ana has worked in environmental planning and policy for more than ten years. She joined the SF Bicycle Coalition in 2016 because of their commitment to climate change mitigation. Prior to her current position, Ana directed the Blue Greenway Program for the San Francisco Parks Alliance, wherein she managed the implementation of parks and natural open spaces connected by pathways along San Francisco's blighted southeastern waterfront (the historic industrial heart of the city). She was also a non-profit consultant to the San Francisco Planning Department's Green Connections Project. Ana has a BS in Urban Studies and a Master of Regional Planning, both from Cornell University. During her Master's program, Ana was a Clarence Stein Fellow, where she researched the impact of high-rise development on historic tenement housing in Mumbai, India.



**L. Elizabeth Goldman, MD, MCR**

**UCSF Division of General Internal Medicine/Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital**



Dr. Goldman is an Associate Professor of Medicine at UCSF, affiliate faculty at the Philip Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies, and a primary care physician at ZSFG. She is interested in innovative health systems solutions to improving the quality of care in the safety net, particularly for care transitions, care coordination, and health care value. Dr. Goldman is nationally recognized for her expertise in quality measurement and evaluation and has partnered with the San Francisco Department of Aging and Adult Services, the San Francisco Department of Public Health, and the California Office of Health Care Planning and Development.

**Jake Hanson, MPH, CHES, PAPHS**

**California Department of Public Health – Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch (CDPH – NEOPB)**



Jake is a Health Program Specialist II with NEOPB. He oversees partnership works and state-level projects that include the Champion Provider Fellowship, Partnership Plan Implementation, Rethink Your Drink/Oral Health project, and is a liaison for the California Conference for Local Health Department Nutritionists (CCLHDN). Jake has a Masters of Public Health, is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES), and is a Physical Activity in Public Health Specialist (PAPHS). Prior to his state service, Jake worked as an entrepreneur serving as a business owner of a community-based organization offering nutrition consulting and physical activity services. He currently serves as First 5 Commissioner for Placer County that focuses on four strategic areas: Maternal and Child Health, Child Abuse Prevention, Oral Health, and Early Childhood Literacy.



## **Alana Pfeffinger, MPH, CHES**

**UCSF Division of General Internal Medicine/Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital**



Based at the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital campus, Alana is the Project Coordinator for the Champion Provider Fellowship. She has an MPH from the University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine, and is a member of the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health. Alana's area of focus has been obesity prevention and community engagement. She has worked in the Los Angeles area for the American Diabetes Association and the LA Junior Chamber of Commerce, where she managed the LA Watts Summer Games, interfacing with key leaders and stakeholders from multiple sectors. While pursuing her master's degree, Alana interned with the LA County Department of Public Health, Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Programs Division, on a project to improve healthy eating and physical activity in child care centers, with the ultimate goal to inform local and state policy for nutrition and physical activity standards in child care. She is interested in facilitating multi-sectorial collaborations and partnerships to develop comprehensive solutions to address the current obesity epidemic.

## **Corinne Hyland, MPH**

**Santa Cruz Health Services Agency**



Corinne is the Supplemental Nutrition and Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) Project Director for the Santa Cruz County Local Health Department. In her 14 years with Santa Cruz County, she has worked in Bike and Pedestrian Safety, Maternal and Child Health, Immunizations and Tobacco Prevention. She received her Master's in Public Health from California State University, Long Beach. She is a devoted commute and recreational cyclist and an ocean swimmer.





## **Dean Schillinger, MD**

**UCSF Division of General Internal Medicine/Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital**



Dr. Schillinger is a Professor of Medicine in Residence at UCSF and a primary care physician at ZSFG. He serves as Chief of UCSF's Division of General Internal Medicine at ZSFG and directs the Health Communications Research Program at UCSF's Center for Vulnerable Populations. Dr. Schillinger served as Chief Medical Officer for the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program for California from 2008-2013. He was honored with the 2003 Institute for Healthcare Advancement Research Award, the 2008 Research Award in Safety and Quality from the National Patient Safety Foundation, the Bay Area Research Mentor of the Year Award in 2010, and the 2016 Institute for Health Policy Career Mentoring Award. In 2013, he received the Everett M. Rogers Award from APHA in recognition of his lifelong contributions to advancing the study and practice of public health communication. He co-created a youth-led diabetes prevention social media campaign called "The Bigger Picture," which received the 2014 Latino Coalition for a Healthy California Award. Dr. Schillinger has been instrumental in local public health regulation of sugary drinks, and served as the scientific expert for the City and County of San Francisco in defense of a lawsuit filed by the American Beverage Association for an injunction against the City's ordinance to mandate health warning labels on billboards advertising sugary drinks.

## **Michael J. Miller**

**Brown Miller Communications**



As president and founder of the cause-oriented public relations agency Brown Miller Communications, Michael has spent the last 25 years working with the media, the public and policymakers to help shape public opinion and motivate positive social change. Rooted in issues affecting the nation's health, food and agricultural communities, Mr. Miller works to raise awareness on issues ranging from the crisis surrounding the health of farmworkers to America's emerging obesity epidemic. His skills as a strategic communicator have helped to address a broad list of critical legislative issues, including his media support of efforts to remove unhealthy foods and beverages from schools and his campaign to win support for menu labeling legislation. For his work to address nutrition and health issues, Mike has been awarded the nation's highest public relations honor, the Silver Anvil, on four different occasions.



## **Paula Hamilton**

**Brown Miller Communications**



With over twenty years of experience as an award-winning food and beverage journalist, Paula has supplied Brown Miller Communications with a wealth of knowledge about the media and extensive network of national media contacts. Her background as a journalist provides her with an understanding of the needs of the press and how to best address those needs. Paula brings together her media-savvy expertise and network of reporters to develop events and stories that deliver the special message of the agency's clients to writers across the country. In addition to her work with the media, Paula provides comprehensive hands-on communications training and counsel to government, non-profit and community-based clients.

## **Vanessa Grubbs, MD, MPH**

**UCSF Division of Nephrology/Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital**



Dr. Grubbs is an Assistant Professor based at ZSFG. Her primary research focus is to explore the independent effect of periodontal disease on kidney function decline and the extent to which treatment of periodontal disease can slow progression of clinically evident kidney disease. A strong clinical and second research interest for Dr. Grubbs is the management of patients with advanced and end-stage kidney disease, specifically in the areas of decision-making and renal palliative care. She has served as an active member of the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) Dialysis Advisory Group and currently serves on the ASN Public Policy Board. Finally, Dr. Grubbs is a creative non-fiction writer. In her role as the Capstone Course Director for senior medical students in the Program in Medical Education for the Urban Underserved (PRIME-US), she leads "Writing for Change," a workshop series which teaches students how to connect their medical experiences with larger advocacy issues. She maintains a blog at <http://thenephrologist.com/> and just published her first book: TETHERED: A Doctor's Story of Love, Transplant, and Dialysis . Dr. Grubbs' work is funded by career development awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIDDK-K23) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Award).



## **Amy J. Markowitz, JD**

**UCSF Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute**



Amy is a freelance editor, scientific writing mentor and instructor, and curriculum development consultant, with particular expertise in medicine and health policy. She is the Scientific Writing Specialist and Editorial Consultant for UCSF's Clinical and Translational Research Career Development (K) Program, and Program Manager for the Traumatic Brain Injury Endpoints Development Initiative at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG); she also serves as the Project Editor to the UCSF Health Workforce on Long-Term Care Research Center. Amy was a co-creator and founding Managing Editor of JAMA's "Care of the Aging Patient" section, and served in the same capacity for JAMA's "Perspectives on Care at the Close of Life" section and the Annals of Internal Medicine's "Quality Grand Rounds" series. Amy is an editor-for-hire for manuscript, book, individual investigator and multi-center grant, Web site, and curriculum development projects, and provides on-site writing instruction through seminars and one-on-one tutorials. In addition to her work at UCSF, she has served as writer and editor for such diverse clients as Google, the California HealthCare Foundation, and amFAR TREAT Asia's HIV network, based in Bangkok, Thailand. She has developed an interest and expertise in assisting writers and researchers writing for English-language journals for whom English is not a first language, as well as for investigators with learning differences.

## **Robin Black**

**The Bigger Picture**



Robin Black is a poet, author, and emcee from San Francisco. He has been performing with Youth Speaks for years, was featured in the HBO special, Brave New Voices, and even served on the youth board, SPOKES. Robin became involved with "The Bigger Picture" because he was attracted to the process of incorporating research and spoken word. He is one half of the rap group Coyote Gospel. His albums "Ill I Rise" and "Cymatics" are available on Bandcamp.



## **Hilary Seligman, MD, MAS**

**UCSF Division of General Internal Medicine/Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital**



Dr. Seligman is a nationally recognized expert on food insecurity, particularly its implications on dietary intake and health. Her expertise includes federal nutrition programs (such as SNAP-Ed), the charitable feeding system, food affordability and access, and income-related drivers of food choice. Dr. Seligman is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. She serves on the Board of Directors for California Food Policy Advocates and the San Francisco-Marín Food Bank. She also serves on the Food Security Task Force for the City and County of San Francisco. Dr. Seligman completed her undergraduate studies at Williams College (Williamstown, Massachusetts) and received her MD from Baylor College of Medicine. She completed her internal medicine residency and a Masters of Advanced Studies in Clinical Research at UCSF.