

# CHAMPION PROVIDER FELLOWSHIP

## Champion Provider Fellowship Onboarding

### Speaker Bios (Listed Alphabetically)



#### **Muriel Bañares Miller\***

*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 sub-populations. Her execution of the award-winning comprehensive social marketing campaign, Steps to a Healthier Salinas, resulted in groundbreaking and lasting health improvements.



#### **Laurie Bostick Cammon, MD\***

*Champion Provider Fellow, Santa Clara County*

Dr. Cammon is a Pediatrician who has been in practice for over 18 years and has a career focus of working in urban areas with underserved patient populations. She is passionate about helping families thrive by improving their health, especially through the development of healthy lifestyle habits. She has spent the past four years working with the Santa Clara County Public Health Department to develop *Juntos*, a park prescription program. *Juntos* is a Spanish word meaning “together” and the program is designed to connect medical providers with high-risk patient families in an effort to improve health equity by eliminating barriers to park access. Through *Juntos*, providers and families come together to develop a community based around being active in nature.



#### **Jayanth Kumar, DDS, MPH**

*California Department of Public Health, Office of Oral Health*

Dr. Kumar is State Dental Director in the California Department of Public Health. He is a board certified specialist in dental public health and a former director and president of the American Board of Dental Public Health. Before joining the California Department of Public Health, he was state dental director in New York where he held multiple positions. He has served as a consultant to many national and international organizations including the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research, NIH, Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the American Dental Association (ADA), Health Canada, and the National Academies' National Research Council

(NRC). He led the efforts in California to develop the California Oral Health Plan. He is currently engaged in implementing the 2016 Tobacco Tax Oral Health Initiative and assisting the California Department of Health Care Services in implementing the Medical 2020 Dental Transformation Initiative.



**Michael J. Miller, BS\***

*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.



**Kimberly Newell Green, MD\***

*Champion Provider Fellow, San Francisco County*

Dr. Kim Newell Green is pediatrician and the Immediate Past President of the San Francisco Marin Medical Society, and well as an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California, San Francisco. While in practice at Kaiser for over 10 years, she served as Chief of Healthcare Innovation, Chief of Physician Health and Wellness, and Co-Medical Director for the Passport to Health obesity program, working on developing and evaluating obesity treatment and prevention efforts and programs. Currently, she is working to transform healthcare through advocacy, education, and by leading and supporting innovations in service delivery and digital technology while keeping humanity at the center of health and healing.



**Alana Pfeffinger, MPH\***

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

Alana is the Project Manager 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 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 partnerships to develop comprehensive solutions to address the current obesity epidemic.



**Hilary Seligman, MD, MAS**

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

Dr. Hilary Seligman, MD, MAS is a Professor at the University of California San Francisco with appointments in the Departments of Medicine and of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She directs the Food Policy, Health, and Hunger Research Program at UCSF's Center for Vulnerable Populations at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and the CDC's Nutrition and Obesity Policy, Research and Evaluation Network ([www.nopren.org](http://www.nopren.org)). Dr. Seligman is also the director of UCSF's National Clinician Scholars Program (NCSP), which aims to offer unparalleled training for clinicians as change agents driving policy-relevant research and partnerships to improve health and health care. She also serves as Senior Medical Advisor for Feeding America. Dr. Seligman founded EatSF, a healthy foods voucher program for low-income residents of San Francisco.

Dr. Seligman is a nationally recognized expert in food insecurity, particularly its health implications across the life course. Her policy and advocacy expertise focus on federal nutrition programs (particularly SNAP), food banking and the charitable feeding network, hunger policy, food affordability and access, and income-related drivers of food choice.



**Wagahta Semere, MD, MHS\***

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

Dr. Semere is an Assistant Clinical Professor at UCSF and primary care physician at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. She has training in health services research through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program at Yale. Her research focuses on understanding the health and health care needs of vulnerable populations, with a particular interest in literacy and language barriers. Dr. Semere's program roles include developing content for in-person trainings, providing fellows with technical assistance and support, and leading the Works in Progress series.



**Emma Steinberg, MD+**

*Champion Provider Fellow, San Francisco County*

Dr. Emma Steinberg is a pediatrician and certified chef. She completed her residency in the Pediatric Leadership for the Underserved (PLUS) program at UCSF, a track devoted to development of pediatric leaders advancing health equity. She has diverse experience with food and nutrition, from creating curriculum, conducting school needs assessments, working on District-wide school health initiatives, to policy evaluation. She is currently a pediatric culinary medicine strategies consultant for Alameda County's Food as Medicine initiative and serves on SFUSD Urban Agriculture Career Technical Education Academy's Advisory Board. She is also a member of the San Francisco Food Security Task Force. She is interested in continuing her work advancing Food as Medicine initiatives. Dr. Steinberg is motivated to advance health equity while building relationships and fostering community.



**Luz Elva Tristan, MD\***

*Champion Provider Fellow, Imperial County*

Dr. Tristan is a pediatrician with Tristan Pediatrics and Imperial Valley Family Care Medical Group. Dr. Tristan did her pediatric residency at Brackenridge Hospital/Children's Hospital of Austin (Texas). She has lived in Imperial County for almost 20 years, through close collaboration with the local health department, she has provided nutrition education to children who attend the Fit and Healthy Program in Calexico. Fit and Healthy Program offers nutrition and physical activity services to children ages 2-18 with a BMI > 85%. As the program's Medical Director, Dr. Tristan ensures guidelines are followed, evaluates and refers patients, oversees staff, and monitors the progress of patients. Dr. Tristan's areas of interest include pediatric asthma and obesity. In addition to Fit and Healthy Program, Dr. Tristan has worked with the Imperial Valley Child Asthma Program at El Centro Regional Medical Center.



**Lauren Whetstone, PhD**

*California Department of Public Health, Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch*

Dr. Lauren Whetstone has evaluated SNAP-Ed in California for over 7 years. She is Chief of the Research, Evaluation, and Strategic Alignment Section and Acting Branch Chief of the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch at the California Department of Public Health. She is leading efforts to evaluate healthy eating, active living, obesity prevention interventions with a focus on policy, system, and environmental change strategies. Lauren is an author and editor of the SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework and the accompanying interpretive guide. She has a PhD in applied cognitive psychology from the Claremont Graduate University. She held a faculty position at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC with 18 years' experience evaluating community and clinic-based obesity and chronic disease prevention interventions in underserved rural communities.

\*Champion Provider Fellowship Team

\*Champion Provider Mentor