



## National Dialogues on Behavioral Health

### Speaker's Bios 2016

**Norman Anderson, PhD** is currently a member of the advisory boards for eMindful, Inc. and InteraXon, Inc., both of which leverage technology to advance the practice of mindfulness meditation. He has had a wide-ranging career as a national leader, first as a scientist and tenured professor studying health disparities and mind/body health, and later as an executive in both government and non-profit sectors. He has also provided extensive volunteer service to a number of foundations, government agencies, universities, and non-profit organizations. Dr. Anderson received his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Richard Brown, MD** is an Associate Clinical Professor of psychiatry at Columbia University College of Physicians. He completed his MD at Columbia University, Psychiatry Residency and fellowship in Psychobiology and Psychopharmacology at Cornell University Medical College. Dr. Brown co-authored over 100 scientific articles, books chapters and award winning books. His neurophysiological theory exploring effects of yoga breathing in treating anxiety, depression, PTSD and stress-related medical conditions has been validated through clinical trials. A certified teacher of Aikido (4<sup>th</sup> Dan), yoga, Qigong, and meditation, he teaches Breath-Body-Mind to healthcare providers, survivors of mass disasters, first responders, active duty military and veterans, school teachers and administrators, and patients with a wide range of psychiatric and medical conditions. See [www.breath-body-mind.com](http://www.breath-body-mind.com).

**Thad Dickson, BA** is the CEO of Xpio Health, a specialized consulting firm specialized in technology for behavioral health and an expert in Meaningful Use, Regulatory Compliance, Security Analysis, Electronic Health Record implementations. He has a Psychology and Technology background and was a former Behavioral Health Clinician under Dr. Holtum, a Child Psychologist. Mr. Dickson is an ISC2 Certified HCISPP expert, a HIMSS Certified Technology Architecture Expert and a Microsoft Certified Technology Expert. He received his B.A. degree from The Evergreen State College in Liberal Arts/Psychology and Sociology Emphasis.

**Grant Drawve, PhD** is an Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice. Grant was a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow with a dual-appointment between the Department of Psychology and School of Criminal Justice. He has worked on multiple Project Safe Neighborhood initiatives and managed multiple funded crime and place projects. Grant's research interests include: environmental criminology, policing, crime and place, GIS, and community corrections. He earned his PhD from the University of Arkansas in Criminal Justice.

**April Foreman, PhD** is a Licensed Psychologist serving Veterans as Suicide Prevention Coordinator for Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System. She also serves as Suicide Prevention Lead for Veterans Integrated Service Network 16, a region of Veterans Affairs. She is known for her work at the intersection of technology, social media, and mental health, with nationally recognized implementations of innovations in the use of technology and mood tracking. She is the 2015 recipient of the Roger J. Tierney Award for her work as a founder and moderator of the first sponsored regular mental health chat on Twitter, the weekly Suicide Prevention Social Media chat (#SPSM, sponsored by the American Association of Suicidology, AAS). In the recent years, this chat has become one of the largest and most active mental health centered social media communities on Twitter. She received her PhD in Counseling Psychology from Texas Tech University.

**Vijay Ganju, PhD** works as a consultant with national, state and local public and private agencies. He currently serves on SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services National Advisory Committee and as the president of the National Dialogues on Behavioral Health. Previously, he has worked in various positions at the state, national and international levels in the areas of mental health transformation and systems change, mental health financing, quality improvement, implementation of evidence-based practices and mental performance measurement and outcomes. Dr. Ganju received his PhD in Communications at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Sarah Gray, PhD** is a clinical psychologist with a focus on early childhood. Her research examines relational and contextual risk and protective factors that contribute to young children's psychosocial and educational adjustment. She is particularly interested in understanding the impacts of poverty, violence exposure, and early caregiving relationships on children's outcomes, and in informing interventions for young children and their caregivers. Dr. Gray received both her Master's and Doctorate Degrees in Clinical Psychology from the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

**Courtenay Harding PhD**, is a Visiting Professor of Psychiatry at Eastern Virginia Medical School until 2019 and, in 2016, became a Brock Institute Scholar for Community and Global Health. Dr. Harding is now Interim Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Foundation of Excellence in Mental Health Care (FEMHC) and Chair of their Scientific Advisory Council. In the course of her career, she has received 52 federal, state, and foundation grants and contracts for schizophrenia research and studies of mental health services. She has published extensively about schizophrenia, rehabilitation, and recovery and has presented findings from her studies and clinical work in over 550 state, national, and international meetings. Dr. Harding received both her Master's and Doctorate Degrees in Psychology from the University of Vermont.

**Mimi McFaul, PsyD** is the Director of Sustainability at the National Behavioral Health Innovation Center at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Mimi is a clinical psychologist by training with professional experience across administrative, consultation, training/education, research and clinical roles. She traces her way to the Center via a winding career path through work in correctional institutions, behavioral health systems improvement, and a mental health technology start-up. She most recently served as Vice President of Campus Partnerships at grit Digital Health to create a mental health fitness center for college students from concept to product. Dr. McFaul is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the California School of Professional Psychology, San Francisco. She completed her pre-doctoral and post-doctoral training at the University of Colorado, Denver, Department of Psychiatry.

**Keris Myrick, MS, MBA** is the Director of Consumer Affairs for the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Ms. Myrick, through the Office of Consumer Affairs at the Center for Mental Health Services, supports the inclusion of Peer/Consumer perspectives and issues throughout the agency and programs such as the Voice Awards, SAMHSA Wellness Initiatives and Wellness Week. Ms. Myrick is a leading mental health advocate and executive, known for her innovative and inclusive approach to mental health reform. Ms. Myrick has a Master of Science degree in organizational psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology of Alliant International University. Her Master of Business Administration degree, with an emphasis on marketing, is from Case Western Reserve University.



**Khalilah V. Collins** is a Social Worker with her Master's degree from Spalding University in Louisville, KY. Her passion is learning/teaching and social justice. She recently joined the New Orleans Health Department as the coordinator of their Making Connections Initiative. Her work with the Health Department focuses on building a plan to create community level strategies that will enhance the mental health and well-being of African American men and boys in New Orleans. Prior to moving to New Orleans, Khalilah ran PACT In Action, a teen dating violence prevention project with the Center for Women and Families. Focusing on reducing risk factors and bolstering resilience factors associated with various forms of violence, she was able to create a youth lead, comprehensive violence reduction program.

**Joy Osofsky, PhD** is a clinical and developmental psychologist, Paul J. Ramsay Chair of Psychiatry and Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. She does research, intervention, and clinical work with infants, children, and families exposed to community and domestic violence, maltreatment, trauma, and disasters. She continues to provide leadership for LSUHSC and the State related to disaster response and recovery following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill as Co-Director of the Mental and Behavioral Health Capacity Project in Louisiana which is part of the Gulf Region Health Outreach Program in four states impacted by the Gulf Oil Spill. Dr. Osofsky received her PhD in Psychology from Syracuse University.

**Robert Thomas, PhD** is an academician, a business/environmental community liaison, a media source for environmental news, and a family man. He was Founding Director of the Louisiana Nature Center, where he served as the liaison for the community in information pertaining to science education, environmental issues, and natural history. Dr. Thomas is professor of Mass Communication, holds the Loyola Distinguished Scholar Chair in Environmental Communication, is adjunct professor of Biological Sciences, sits on The Environment Program Faculty, and is the Founding Director of the Center for Environmental Communication at Loyola University New Orleans. He is the recipient of the 2011 *Dux Academicus* award at Loyola. He received his Ph.D. in Vertebrate Zoology from Texas A&M University and has held adjunct professorships at the University of New Orleans, Tulane University, and Louisiana State University.

**Sheila Savannah, MA** is a Director at Prevention Institute providing leadership on violence prevention, health equity and mental health projects. In her leadership role on mental health, she focuses on its intersection with violence prevention, community resilience, and the social determinants of health, improving outcomes for boys and men of color, and addressing trauma. Sheila has over 30 years of experience in policy analysis, community-level assessment and mobilization, as well as expertise in multi-sector collaboration and youth/family engagement that spans two decades of work emphasizing substance abuse prevention, mental health, juvenile justice, child welfare, and community leadership programs. She received her MA degree from the University of Houston in Behavioral Sciences.

**Glenda Wrenn, MD** is a psychiatrist and health policy/mental health services researcher at Morehouse School of Medicine where she directs the Division of Behavioral Health in the Satcher Health Leadership Institute (SHLI) and serves as Interim Co-Director of the Kennedy Center for Mental Health Policy and Research. Although much of her research focuses on systems of care improvements related to the culturally-centered integration of behavioral health and primary care, Dr. Wrenn's passion and overall research aim is to help create environments where individuals adversely impacted by trauma will face a path forward that makes it easier for them to recover and build a good life. She received her MD from Jefferson Medical College.

