Teen Mental Health: Supporting Schools and Expanding Resources

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES
(In order of appearance on the program)

KATHRYN SANTORO, MA is Director of Programming at the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation, a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization dedicated to transforming health care through evidence and collaboration. Ms. Santoro currently leads NIHCM’s programs to highlight market and policy innovations, including webinars and Capitol Hill briefings, and directs the organization’s journalism and population health programs.

Ms. Santoro joined NIHCM Foundation in September 2004 after receiving her Master’s degree in Public Policy from the George Washington University with a focus on women’s health policy. Ms. Santoro previously served as a Project Consultant for Women in Government where she was responsible for compiling a state-by-state report card on access to cervical cancer screening. While pursuing her Master’s degree, Ms. Santoro was a Communications Assistant for a health policy consulting firm and a Graduate Intern for a Washington, D.C. based women’s and children’s policy research organization. Ms. Santoro attended Villanova University in Villanova, PA and graduated with a BA cum laude in Political Science.

KATHLEEN ETHIER, PHD is Director of CDC’s Division of Adolescent and School Health in the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention. Prior to her appointment as Director of DASH, she served in a variety of capacities across the agency, including as the Director of the Program, Performance and Evaluation Office in the CDC Office of the Director (2010-2016), Associate Director for Public Health Practice in the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (2009-2010), and Adolescent Health Goal Team Leader for the agency (2007-2009). Her work in these positions has focused on developing strategic direction for agency priorities, best practices for using data for decision-making and improving program evaluation.

Dr. Ethier first came to CDC in 1999 and joined the Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention to lead the development and evaluation of interventions to prevent HIV, STDs and pregnancy among adolescents. Prior to joining CDC, she spent six years on the research faculty at Yale University studying HIV, STD and unplanned pregnancy prevention among women and adolescents.

Dr. Ethier’s research has included psychosocial, behavioral, organizational and clinical factors related to women’s health, maternal health, and adolescent sexual and reproductive health. Her special focus has been the development of social context level interventions for adolescents and the role of parents, schools, health care providers and communities in promoting adolescent health. Her work has been published widely in
peer-review publications, including the American Journal of Public Health, Health Psychology, Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the Journal of Adolescent Health, and Sexually Transmitted Infections, among others. She has co-authored chapters in edited books, including Women and AIDS: Coping and Care, the Handbook of Health Psychology and Behavioral Interventions for Prevention and Control of STDs.

Dr. Ethier earned her PhD in social psychology from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY), where her dissertation examined identity acquisition and change among women during and following their first pregnancy.

JOHN AUERBACH, MBA is president and CEO of Trust for America’s Health (TFAH). As such he oversees TFAH’s work to promote sound public health policy and make disease prevention a national priority. Over the course of a 30-year career he has held senior public health positions at the federal, state, and local levels. As Associate Director at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) he oversaw policy and the agency’s collaborative efforts with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, commercial payers, and large health systems. During his six years as the Commissioner of Public Health for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, he developed innovative programs to promote health equity, combat chronic and infectious disease, and support the successful implementation of the state’s health care reform initiative. As Boston’s health commissioner for nine years, he directed homeless, substance abuse, and emergency medical services for the city as well as a wide range of public health divisions.

Mr. Auerbach was previously a professor of practice in health sciences and director of the Institute on Urban Health Research and Practice at Northeastern University; program director of one of the country’s first community health centers; and an administrator in a clinical training program at a tertiary care safety-net hospital.

ALEXANDRA MAYS, MHS is the Senior National Program Director at Healthy Schools Campaign. In her role Ms. Mays works on policy and program issues at the federal, state and local levels related to school food and fitness, environmental health, health services and education. Currently, Ms. Mays leads Healthy Schools Campaign’s work to increase access to school health services through Medicaid reimbursement and works with states and school districts across the country working to expand their school Medicaid programs. She also oversees Healthy Schools Campaign’s efforts to support student health and school wellness through implementation of the nation’s K-12 education law, the Every Student Succeeds Act. Ms. Mays received her BA in Neuroscience from Pomona College and her Master of Health Science from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

AUDREY J. HARVEY, MPH, CPH is executive director and CEO of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation. The BCBSM Foundation is the largest health foundation in the state of Michigan dedicated exclusively to improving the health of all Michigan residents. The Foundation awards grants to Michigan-based researchers and nonprofit organizations to address community health and quality, access and cost of care. The BCBSM Foundation has assets of approximately $60 million and awards approximately $2 million in grants annually.

Harvey joined BCBSM in 1991 as manager of corporate taxation, following positions at Coopers & Lybrand and Arthur Andersen & Co. Within BCBSM, she served as director of procurement, director of financial accounting, vice president of corporate services and vice president and controller.
She holds a juris doctor, a master of laws in taxation and a bachelor’s degree in accounting, all from Wayne State University. She graduated from the University of South Florida in December 2017 with a master of public health – public health practice program. Harvey is also a member of the State Bar of Michigan, is licensed to practice in the state of Illinois, a certified public accountant and is certified in public health.

Harvey is a certified health care insurance executive through America’s Health Insurance Plans. She is a board member of the Council of Michigan Foundations, the Southfield Fire and Police Retirement System, the City of Southfield Retiree Health Care Benefits Plan and Trust and the Accounting Aid Society. She is also an advance master gardener and treasurer of Rain Catchers, an organization created to address the water crisis in Haiti.

ELIZABETH KOSCHMANN, PHD is a faculty member in the U-M Department of Psychiatry and the Director of TRAILS (Transforming Research into Action to Improve the Lives of Students) – a program that works to disseminate evidence-based mental health practices to K-12 schools.

Dr. Koschmann’s research is focused on identification of ways to improve community access to effective mental health care, particularly by training school professionals in best practices.

Dr. Koschmann’s area of clinical expertise is in the treatment of Depression, Anxiety, and PTSD in children and adolescents using Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Mindfulness practices.

She has worked extensively as a trainer and consultant for a variety of academic and community-based audiences, including providers working primarily with youth in foster care; and is a lead investigator on a number of state and federal research grants evaluating mental health implementation models.