

Place-Based Population Health Strategies

Advisory Committee Member Bios

Johnnie (Chip) Allen, MPH currently serves as the first Director of Health Equity at the Ohio Department of Health. In this position Mr. Allen is responsible for developing agency-wide goals, objectives and strategies to eliminate health disparities and promote health equity for all Ohio residents. Additionally, Mr. Allen works in partnership with national public health organizations, state cabinet-level agencies and a variety of public health programs to target services to disenfranchised groups, measure program performance and assess outcomes. Mr. Allen has pioneered the use of market research analytic tools to identify/respond to social determinants of health and created an enterprise-wide web application with GIS capability to measure program effectiveness of grant-funded projects. Mr. Allen earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Black Studies from The College of Wooster and a Masters in Public Health from Tulane University.

Ana P. Novais, MS holds a master's degree in Clinical Psychology, UCLN, Belgium, and is a graduate of the Northeastern Public Health Leadership Institute, University of Albany, and Leadership RI. Ana has worked in Public Health for 30 years, including 5 years in Africa (Cape Verde), 5 years in Portugal, and 20 years in the USA. Ana has worked for the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) since 1998. Since becoming the Executive Director of Health for the Division of Community, Family Health and Equity in 2006, Ana has led RIDOH's efforts to achieve health equity, including developing and implementing the "Rhode Island Health Equity Framework," a plan of action for achieving health equity at the state and at local level through the "Health Equity Zone" initiative. Ana currently serves as RIDOH's Executive Director of Health and is charged with implementing Strategic Priorities across all divisions.

Carey Riccitelli, MPH is a Community Health Program Manager with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency. She has a Bachelors in psychology and a Masters in Public Health, with an emphasis in community health, both from San Diego State University. She has been with the County for over 24 years, serving as project manager for programs focusing on community outreach and engagement across a broad range of topics related to health and well-being. Her expertise is in such areas as program planning and implementation, media and communications, cross-sector collaboration, and public relations. Carey manages a team of community health promotion professionals, nutrition specialists, and graduate and undergraduate students working on numerous programs in support of the Live Well San Diego vision of healthy, safe and thriving communities.

Brian Smedley, PhD is co-founder and Executive Director of the National Collaborative for Health Equity, a project that connects research, policy analysis, and communications with on-the-ground activism to advance health equity. In this role, Dr. Smedley oversees several initiatives designed to improve opportunities for good health for people of color and undo the health consequences of racism. From 2008 to 2014, Dr. Smedley was Vice President and Director of the Health Policy Institute of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, DC, a research and policy organization focused on addressing the needs of communities of color. Brian's expertise spans: Racism and health inequities, Social determinants of health, Health care disparities, and Diversity in health professions. Smedley holds an undergraduate degree from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in psychology from UCLA.

Tracy Smith is a Program Planning Manager for Quality Initiatives at the ECHO (Extension for Community Health Outcomes) Institute based at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center where she has worked for the past six years. She received her Bachelors of Art with a double major in Integrative Physiology and Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado in Boulder, CO, is currently working on her Improvement Adviser certification through the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and is a volunteer coach for leaders in the Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership programs. She has worked in health equity and education outreach for the past nine years, with experience in program development and implementation, as well as facilitation and training in various settings including quality improvement, team building, leadership development, medical training, and international development. She is passionate about social justice issues and believes in workforce development, mentorship, and collaboration to combat inequalities in underserved areas in pursuit of a more just society/world.

Somava Stout, MD, MS (Soma) has dedicated her career to improving health, wellbeing and equity through the development of thriving people, organizations and communities. She currently serves as Vice President at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), and is deeply committed to improving health, wellbeing, and equity globally. A global public health practitioner for more than 20 years, she has also worked as a safety net primary care internist and pediatrician. She serves as Executive Lead of 100 Million Healthier Lives, convened by IHI, which brings together hundreds of partners across sectors and communities to support 100 million people globally to live healthier lives by 2020. Dr. Stout has consulted with health system leaders from across the world in Guyana, Sweden, the UK, Singapore, Australia, Tunisia, and Brazil. She currently serves as faculty at the Cambridge Health Alliance and the Harvard Medical School. In 2012, Dr. Stout was recognized as one of ten inaugural Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Young Leaders for her contributions to improving the health of the nation.