

Speaker Biographies

ATSH:PC, Learning Collaborative

Learning Session #2, November 10, 2021

[Katie Bell](#) | Center for Care Innovations



Grace “Katie” Bell MSN RN-BC CARN PHN has been a MAT Nurse Consultant/ Coach for Center for Care Innovations since 2016 beginning with Treatment Addiction in Primary Care (TAPC) 1.0 and 2.0 programs and currently with Addiction Treatment Starts Here (ATSH) Primary Care. Katie is also a nurse consultant with Telewell Indian Health MAT Project, a part of DHCS Tribal MAT 2.0, offering Technical Assistance, mentoring, and training for California Tribal and Urban Indian Health clinics as they develop Medications for Addictions Treatment (MAT) programs. Ms. Bell has co-facilitated in the UCLA Hub & Spoke Learning Collaborative and is a monthly participant for UCLA ISAP’s Tribal Project Echo. Board-certified as Addictions RN, Katie has been working with the medication buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone) since a 2001 Phase 3 NIDA clinical trial while a staff nurse at the Betty Ford Center. Having developed programs for Opioid Use Disorder and other substance use disorders in multiple settings including Dept. of Veteran Affairs, an Inpatient Treatment Center, a methadone clinic and Tribal Primary Care, Katie brings understanding of best practices to patient care and advocacy in a variety of health care setting and systems.

[Ginny Eck](#) | Wesley Health Centers

Ginny Eck is the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Project Director for JWCH- Wesley Health Centers, a federally qualified health center with 17 sites located in Los Angeles County. She started the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program at Wesley Health in 2016 which has quickly developed into one of the largest in Los Angeles. She has also worked at Community Health Project Los Angeles, a non-profit syringe exchange program. Ginny has trained over 20 different agencies in MAT and harm reduction and continues to work directly with providers and community based organizations with the overarching goal of improving health outcomes for people who use drugs. She continues to work directly with patients experiencing homelessness, previously incarcerated individuals and people who use drugs. In her spare time, she enjoys *trying* to garden and was a touring musician before working in harm reduction.

David Kan | Bright Heart Health

David Kan, MD, DFASAM



David Kan works in private practice and is the Chief Medical Officer of Bright Heart Health. Bright Heart Health's mission is to provide high-quality addiction treatment via telemedicine to all. He enjoys teaching, in addition to his direct work with patients, winning multiple awards for teaching and clinical care delivery. As a faculty member at UCSF Department of Psychiatry, he teaches and supervises psychiatrists-in-training. Throughout the year, he speaks at professional conferences on topics including treatment of addictive disorders. He graduated from Northwestern University Medical School and finished his General Psychiatry Residency and Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). He is Board-certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in General and Forensic Psychiatry and he is Board-Certified by the American Board of Addiction Medicine in Addiction Medicine.

David is an active member of the California Society of Addiction Medicine (CSAM) and its immediate-past President. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (D.F.A.S.A.M.).

He has testified numerous times before the California Assembly and Senate on addiction treatment, and before Congress, advocating for expanding access to addiction treatment.

Dominique McDowell | Marin City Health and Wellness Center



Dominique McDowell, RLPs, SUDCC II, joined the leadership team at Marin City Health and Wellness Center to create an innovative Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program to serve those struggling with opioid or alcohol addictions. His program has received statewide and national acclaim and allowed Marin City Health and Wellness Center to bring important substance use and homelessness services to southern Marin. He is trained as a Relapse Prevention Specialist, Gorski-CENAPS, Housing Active User, is certified by the California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals Substance Abuse Certified Counselor and teaches anger management and conflict resolution. He brings tremendous knowledge, expertise and empathy to this role, as a service provider and recovering individual. Dominique was the Program Manager of the Marin County Safety Net at Ritter Center, Substance Abuse Counselor at Marin Outpatient Recovery Services, and HIV Counselor with the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Throughout his career, he has worked with high-risk clients in chronic disease management, including HIV and Hepatitis C, and has assisted individuals and families with disparities, such as post-incarceration referrals to treatment. Dominique is committed to a harm reduction model around addiction, I.V. drug use, safe sex and health awareness, and is actively the owner of the JUSTUS sober living home in Marin County. Dominique graduated from San Francisco State University with a degree in Public Health, specializing in Addiction Studies.

[Emma Roberts](#) | National Harm Reduction Coalition



Emma Roberts is currently the Senior Director of Capacity Building for the National Harm Reduction Coalition and has worked in various aspects of community development for 30 years. She started her journey in Harm Reduction in the mid-nineties, when the community center she worked at in the North of England started a syringe exchange program. Emma came to NYC in 2008 for a one-year sabbatical and never left after being asked to run a mobile syringe service program across the city. She now works with people all over the US who are committed to expanding harm reduction philosophy, approaches, and services.