



2024 Community Research Exchange

"Climate Change, Health, and Health Equity"





The Audion: Tower at STAR Campus

Thank you for participating in the 2024 DE-CTR ACCEL Community Research Exchange.
We hope you enjoy today's event!

Please take a moment to share your feedback about the conference by accessing the post-conference survey using the QR code. The survey will take approximately 3-5 minutes. Your reflections are important and will help us build a better program.

To access the survey via QR code:

1. Use your camera on your phone to hover over the QR code.
2. A link will pop up. Please click the link and complete the survey.

Thank you for completing the survey!





October 18, 2024

Greetings to all and welcome to CRE 2024!

The Delaware CTR ACCEL Program is excited to welcome everyone, especially our partners in research- our community members! You are on the frontline and are innovators in mobilizing your neighborhoods and groups to action. And that's our conversation for today- how we can do that with greater impact.

As Program Director of the DE-CTR Program, I'd like to share what ACCEL has done to support translational science within the last year and how we can help *you* continue this difficult but rewarding work. We've just entered Year 12 of our 15-year program and we have pivoted to address new aims and goals since ACCEL's inception in 2013. These goals are important to the state and its communities.

We continue to have conversations around and institute initiatives to:

- **Build a cadre of researchers** that can translate basic scientific findings into policies for *improved health and access to healthcare*.
- **Provide access to key resources** (equipment, data, expertise) for multiple end-users to conduct groundbreaking research that will inform decision-making & resource allocation.
- **Build infrastructure for a brand new initiative- the Delaware Practice and Community Based Research Network (PCBRN)**, which will involve primary care providers, researchers and you, our community members.
- **Support and build collaborations with important Delaware state organizations to address Health Equity** and improve the health of all Delawareans, in all three counties. One of these is the Delaware library system, where ACCEL can bring citizen science to the forefront for improved dissemination of research findings into the hands of our community.
- **And finally, provide symposiums to reflect upon and amplify Community Engaged research opportunities such as today's conference.** Sharing and disseminating information is paramount to the success of our program and it is as intertwined in ACCEL as is the topic for today's gathering: *Climate change, health and health equity*.

In addition to the University of Delaware, our partners from Delaware State University, ChristianaCare and Nemours Children's Health echo these sentiments.

I look forward to continuing this dialogue to meet the challenges of this post-pandemic modern world. Today is a step toward that. We have an engaging event planned and I'd like to thank the co-chairs Drs. Omar Khan, Gwen Angalet, Lee Pachter, and Abby Nerlinger for their hard work.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Hicks".

Gregory Hicks PT, PhD, FAPTA
Principal Investigator and Program Director of the DE CTR ACCEL Program



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2024 Community Research Exchange!

We are now in the 11th year of our work as ACCEL and have made significant progress in strengthening connections between communities and researchers. This year, we come together to address the impact of climate change on health equity. The topic feels especially timely, coming just weeks after the unprecedented storms in the Carolinas and Florida, highlighting the undeniable link between our health and climate change.

Delaware's communities are passionate and fully engaged in tackling these important issues. Today, we'll highlight the inspiring local and national efforts that are making it possible for Delawareans to lead healthier, more equitable lives, even in the face of major environmental challenges. With a strong commitment to cross-sector collaboration, we are excited to build the partnerships needed to create lasting solutions for everyone.

This is truly an 'exchange' and not just a conference. At its core, it is all about community-engaged information exchange, applying lessons learned from local and national experts, and empowering researchers and communities with the knowledge, data, and skills to effect change.

We welcome you all: researchers, academics, practitioners, non-profit leaders, students, and other members of the public. We hope you enjoy this year's conversations; thank you for your participation and we look forward to many rich discussions and new collaborations to come.

Please find any of us at the event; we look forward to connecting with you!

Allison Karpyn, PhD
Conference Co-Chair

Omar Khan, MD, MHS, FAAFP
Conference Co-Chair

Abby Nerlinger, MD, MPH, FAAP
Conference Co-Chair

Lee Pachter, MD
Conference Co-Chair

Gwendoline Angalet, PhD
Conference Co-Chair

Conference management team:

Lacey Long
Lacey.Long@christianacare.org

Karen Wilkinson
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Delaware CTR ACCEL Program Community Research Exchange 2024

“Climate Change, Health, and Health Equity”

Friday, October 18th, 2024

8:00AM-2:45PM

Community Research Exchange Co-Chairs: Allison Karpyn, PhD; Omar Khan, MD, MHS, FAAFP; Gwen Angalet, PhD; Abby Nerlinger, MD, MPH

Community Engagement & Outreach Core Lead: Lee Pachter, DO

8:00-8:30AM

Registration

University of Delaware’s STAR Campus in the Tower Audion
100 Discovery Blvd., Newark, DE 19713

8:30-8:45AM

Welcome

Gregory Hicks, PT, PhD, FAPTA
ACCEL Program Welcome Message

Lee Pachter, DO
Intro to Conference & Land Acknowledgment

Gwen Angalet, PhD
Overview of the day

8:45-9:30AM

Keynote Address

Community Engagement to Inform Climate Change Impacts on Health Invulnerable Populations

Amruta Nori-Sarma, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor
Harvard Chan School of Public Health

9:30-10:15AM

Keynote Address

Rethinking Wellbeing: PSE & Climate Health Stressors

Dr. Katera Moore, PhD

Environmental Justice Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

10:15-10:30AM

Break

10:30-11:15AM

Keynote Address

Climate Justice the Path to Centering Wellness

Elizabeth Yeampierre, JD

Executive Director
UPROSE

11:15-12:15PM

Delaware Expert Panel

Introduction By: Omar Khan, MD, MHS, FAAFP

Moderator: Gwen Angalet, PhD

Speakers: Abby Nerlinger, MD, MPH, Bettina Tweardy Riveros, J.D., Cydney Teal, MD, Karen Igou, BSW

12:15-1:15PM

Lunch, Networking & Exhibitors

1:15-2:45PM

Breakout Sessions

Breakout Sessions

- **Group 1:** Addressing Climate-Related Health and Mental Health Impacts in Clinical Settings
Speakers: Abby Nerlinger, Zach Radcliff, PhD, LaVaida Owens-White, MSN, RN, FCN
- **Group 2:** A Place-Based Approach to Climate Change
Speakers: Sarah Lester, President & CEO of Cornerstone West CDC, Bill Swiatek, MA, AICP, David Chen, MD, MPH.
- **Group 3:** Engaging with Communities in Advocacy for Climate Equity
Speakers: Alan Greenglass, MD, Jacqueline Ortiz, M,Phil, John Sykes, Founder & President Delaware Interfaith Power & Light

The Medical Society of Delaware designates this live continuing medical education activity for a maximum of 3.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

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Conference Co-Chairs



Lee M. Pachter, DO, is a senior physician scientist and Director of Mentorship & Professional Development at the Institute for Research on Equity and Community Health (iREACH) at ChristianaCare. He is a Professor of Pediatrics and Population Health at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College and the College of Population Health at Thomas Jefferson University. Lee also is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics.

Lee is a pediatrician researcher who conducts research in the areas of social determinants of health, psychosocial stress and adversity, racism and discrimination, and health disparities. He received a K-Award from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to develop an instrument to measure experiences of racism and

discrimination in children and youth. He was a founding co-director of the Philadelphia ACE Task Force and, founded and directed the Academic Pediatric Association's New Century Scholars Program, which is a career development and mentorship program aimed at diversifying the academic pediatric workforce. Lee was the recipient of the 2020 APA Miller-Sarkin Mentorship Award. He is also the director of the ACCEL statewide Practice & Community-Based Research Network (PCBRN).

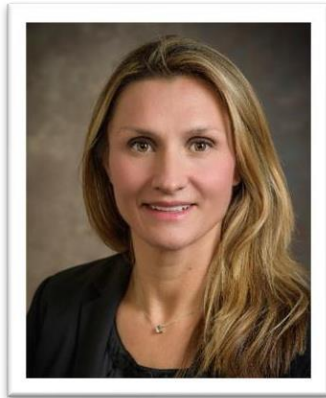


Omar A. Khan, M.D., MHS, FAAFP, serves as Enterprise Chief Scientific Officer for ChristianaCare, overseeing research & scientific affairs for the health system. He also serves as President of the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, a collaboration between the major health sciences institutions in the Delaware valley including all the ACCEL partners. He is a practicing family physician, engaged in clinical care & medical education. A native Delawarean, Dr. Khan received his BA and MA from the University of Pennsylvania; MD and residency training from the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine, and public health degree from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. He is on the clinical faculty of Sidney Kimmel Medical College and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the medical staff of ChristianaCare and AI DuPont Hospital for Children. He has previously served

on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

In addition to his role on ACCEL, Dr. Khan serves on the steering committee for DE-INBRE and as chair of the external advisory committee for the Puerto Rico Clinical & Translational Research Program. He is Chair of the Advisory Council of the Delaware Public Health Association, immediate Past-President of the Delaware Academy of Medicine, and a Past President of the Delaware Academy of Family Physicians. He is a Trustee of ChristianaCare, Board member of the ChristianaCare Gene Editing Institute, and Board member for the PIER Consortium which includes ChristianaCare and Thomas Jefferson University. He also serves on the PCORI merit review panel and on the organizing committee of several national conferences. He is appointed to the Delaware Partnerships for Health Communities committee, and the State of Delaware's Health Care Loan Repayment Program committee.

He is Editor-in-Chief of the Delaware Journal of Public Health (www.djph.org) and Editor in Chief (with Dr. David Heymann) of the Control of Communicable Disease Clinical Practice Manual. He has been named a 'Top Doc' by Philadelphia magazine on several occasions including 2021-23. Dr. Khan is on Twitter as [homerkahn](https://twitter.com/homerkahn) and his bi-monthly column, Khanversations, can be found at www.delamed.org.



Allison Karpyn, PhD, is Co-Director of the University of Delaware's Center for Research in Education and Social Policy and Associate Professor in the Department of the Human Development and Family Sciences. Allison is an expert on nutrition security policy and program evaluation methods and studies topics related to hunger, obesity, school food, supermarket access, food insecurity, healthy corner stores, and strategies to develop and maintain farmer's markets in low-income areas. She is a community-engaged scholar with hands-on experience working with community-based agencies and institutions including non-profit organizations and retailers. Dr. Karpyn earned her Bachelor's Degree in Public Health at The Johns Hopkins University and her Doctorate in Policy Research Evaluation and Measurement at The University of Pennsylvania and lives at home with her husband and four children.



Dr. Abby Nerlinger, MD, MPH, FAAP is a pediatric hospitalist at Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware, where she also serves as the Program Director for the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship, the Nemours representative to the Community Engagement Core of the Delaware-CTR ACCEL Program (Accelerating Clinical and Translational Research), and Medical Director of Research and Scholarship for the Nemours Value-Based Services Organization. She is Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University.

After medical training Dr. Nerlinger completed a fellowship in pediatric hospital medicine at Children's National Hospital and earned a Master of Public Health in Health Policy from George Washington University. She has prior research and advocacy experience in the field of pediatric environmental health through positions with the Delaware Center for Inland Bays, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Duke University Nicholas School for the Environment, the Yale University Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program, and the Mid-Atlantic Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit.

Through her current role on the Executive Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Environmental Health and Climate Change, she is actively involved in AAP initiatives to improve health equity through application of environmental justice principles, and to engage clinicians in addressing climate change. Her current research explores the role of partnerships between community-based organizations and health systems in improving health outcomes, primarily focusing on medical-legal partnerships.



Gwendoline B. "Gwen" Angalet, PhD, is the CEO of GBA Consulting, a management consulting firm providing professional services to clients in the public and not-for-profit sectors, helping them to lead and manage change and achieve improved results and lasting impact. Current projects include efforts to increase support to children, youth, and their families living in the city of Wilmington, to achieve academic success, promote positive development, and prevent violence. Gwen's career in public service spans over three decades, most of which was in leadership and management roles in the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families and Nemours Children's Health and Prevention Services.

Additionally, Gwen serves on the boards of community non-profit organizations, including the Wilmington Hope Commission.

Keynote Speakers:

Community Engagement to Inform Climate Change Impacts on Health Inulnerable Populations

Amruta Nori-Sarma, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor

Harvard Chan School of Public Health



Amruta Nori-Sarma is an Assistant Professor in the Harvard Chan School of Public Health, where she studies the relationship between environmental exposures associated with climate change and health outcomes in vulnerable communities. Her previous work has examined the impact of heat waves and air pollution on health in vulnerable communities in India, South Korea, and across the US. Her current research aims to understand the impacts of interrelated extreme weather events on mental health across the US utilizing large claims datasets. She also has an interest in evaluating the success of policies put in place to reduce the health impacts of climate change.

Rethinking Wellbeing: PSF & Climate Health Stressors

Dr. Katera Moore, PhD

Environmental Justice Coordinator

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control



Dr. Katera Moore currently serves as the Environmental Justice Coordinator for DNREC. In that role, she builds partnerships across state and federal agencies to develop strategies to mitigate environmental concerns and barriers to access for Delawareans, seeking to engage the community in a meaningful way that builds trust. Prior to joining DNREC, she held a number of positions in Philadelphia to support SNAP Education and community food access. She is an experienced educator and has served audiences from PreK to graduate students. She has a PhD in Earth and Environmental Sciences, with a specialization in Environmental Justice, a Masters in Environmental Studies, and a Bachelors in Urban Studies with a concentration in Urban Education.

Keynote Address:*Climate Justice the Path to Centering Wellness***Elizabeth Yeampierre**

Executive Director, UPROSE



Elizabeth Yeampierre is an internationally recognized Puerto Rican environmental/climate justice leader of African and Indigenous ancestry, born and raised in New York City. Elizabeth is co-chair of the Climate Justice Alliance, a national frontline led organization and Executive Director of UPROSE, Brooklyn's oldest Latino community-based organization. Elizabeth was the 1st Latina Chair of the USEPA National Environmental Justice Advisory Council and opening speaker for the first White House

Council on Environmental Quality Forum on Environmental Justice under Obama. Elizabeth has been featured in the NY Times as a visionary paving the path to Climate Justice. She was named by Apolitical as Climate 100: The World's Most Influential People in Climate Policy, also featured in Vogue as one of 13 Climate Warriors in the world, Oprah's list of Future Rising and a recipient of the Frederick Douglass Abolitionist Award FD200. Recently, she has spoken at Oxford University, the Ethos Conference in Brazil, and the Hague.

Delaware Expert Panel



Gwendoline B. "Gwen" Angalet, PhD
Moderator
See pg. 8 for Bio



Dr. Abby Nerlinger, MD, MPH, FAAP
Speaker
See pg. 7 for Bio



Bettina Tweardy Riveros, J.D., (Speaker) is Chief Public Affairs Officer and Chief Health Equity Officer for ChristianaCare. As Chief Public Affairs Officer, Riveros leads ChristianaCare’s comprehensive public affairs activities, building on the health system’s strong community relationships, reputation, brand and nonprofit mission to serve our neighbors as respectful, expert, caring partners in their health. She oversees all aspects of ChristianaCare’s external relations, marketing, communications, brand and reputation, government and community affairs, health policy, community benefit and investment and philanthropy, across the ChristianaCare enterprise.

As Chief Health Equity Officer, Riveros leads the Office of Health Equity and advances organization-wide initiatives to create equitable systems of care. In this role, she oversees initiatives to achieve health equity, address disparities in health care and health outcomes, ensure culturally and linguistically appropriate care, advocate for policies to improve health equity and advance an integrated social care framework to improve the health of every person in all the communities ChristianaCare serves.

Riveros joined ChristianaCare in January 2016. She serves as co-chair on the ChristianaCare Community Engagement and Advisory Council, on the Board of REACH Riverside, and as chair of the REACH Governance Committee.

Additionally, Riveros serves as chair of the Vision Coalition of Delaware; on the Delaware Business Roundtable Education Committee Steering Committee; and on the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce Board of Governors and Annual Dinner Committee.

Prior to joining ChristianaCare, Riveros served as senior adviser for health policy in the office of Delaware Gov. Jack Markell and as chair of the Delaware Health Care Commission. Among her many accomplishments, she was responsible for developing the strategy to implement the Affordable Care Act in Delaware, including the Health Insurance Exchange partnership model and Medicaid expansion that expanded access to health care for thousands of Delawareans; and for leading the development of the State Innovation Model to support Delaware’s transition to new health care delivery and payment models and an increased focus on population health. Riveros was a founding member of the Delaware Center for Health Innovation and served on the DHIN Board and Delaware Health Resource Board.

Riveros received her law degree from Villanova University in 1988 and her undergraduate degree from Juniata College in 1985.



Cydney Teal MD, MBA, CPE, FAAFP, FACP (Speaker) is a primary care physician with dual board certifications in Internal Medicine and Family Medicine. She attended Medical College of VA with residency at Ochsner Foundation in New Orleans LA and completed her MBA at the UMass at Amherst. Dr. Teal's previous leadership experience includes becoming the first Chief Medical Officer at ChristianaCare Union Hospital in Elkton MD as well as former Primary Care Service Line Leader and Dept. Chair of Family and Community Medicine at ChristianaCare in Wilmington DE.

Currently, Dr. Teal serves as Chief Medical Officer for Reciprocity Health, a startup health tech company where she provides expertise in population health, value-based care, health equity, and evidence-based practice. In addition to her role as CMO, she is a Cofounder and Chief Executive Officer of Delaware Health Equity Coalition Inc., a nonprofit healthcare organization whose mission is to provide comprehensive, culturally appropriate, high-quality healthcare that educates, empowers, and engages our patients in a manner that fosters empathy, compassion and trustworthiness while mitigating the health inequities that exist in our community.



Karen Igou, Senior Program Manager for Community Engagement Green Building United (Speaker). I have a bachelor's in social work as well as nearly 30 years' experience as a climate justice activist and organizer. Currently supporting school sustainability projects, community climate resilience and disaster preparedness throughout the state of Delaware.

I owned a farm to table grocery store supporting local farmers for 13 years as climate crisis is also affecting global food supply and security. I'm involved with direct action related to climate with Extinction Rebellion, an autonomous, non-violent, civil disobedience group. I study and practice regenerative agriculture and rewilding spaces to create habitat and food for wildlife. I'm currently working on flood resilience and disaster preparedness in Northeast Wilmington in the aftermath of the catastrophic flooding that devastated this community after Hurricane Ida in Sept. 2021.

Breakout Group Sessions:

*Addressing Climate-Related Health and Mental Health
Impacts in Clinical Settings*



Abby Nerlinger, MD, MPH (Speaker)

See pg. 7 for Bio



Zach Radcliff (Speaker) is a queer pediatric clinical psychologist, working in integrated primary care at Nemours Pediatrics Delaware Valley. He is passionate about equitable access to mental health services, telehealth, and supporting health care workers across disciplines. Other areas of focus for Dr. Radcliff include LGBTQ+, eating disorders, chronic medical conditions, and autism. He also is an avid fan of the beach, his garden, and his family.



La Vaida Owens White MSN, RN, FCN (Speaker) has more than 40 years nursing experience in acute and long-term care, rehabilitation, home care and community health. She is currently working in the practice setting of Faith Community Nursing, and as Coordinator for the Delaware Region Health Ministries Network. Ms. Owens White is a faculty educator for the International Parish Nurse Resource Center and instructor for the Foundations of Faith Community Nursing core curriculum. As a community activist and life member of the NAACP, she is active in leadership positions with community-based associations. One of her current interests is in nursing research, exploring a collaborative partnership with community-based organizations and nursing in addressing environmental health and climate justice.

A Place-Based Approach to Climate Change



Sarah Lester (Speaker) is the President and CEO of Cornerstone West CDC. She is responsible for overseeing all of Cornerstone West CDC's operations, affordable housing development, and community economic development programs, including the place-based initiative West Side Grows Together. Sarah has cross-sector experience growing businesses and coordinating networks, events, and leveraging resources to strengthen communities. Originally from Delaware, Sarah ventured to Rhode Island for an

undergraduate degree from Brown University. She gained transformative career experience as an Americorps VISTA for a youth social entrepreneurship nonprofit and by working for a food hub where she managed all aspects of the farmers' market programs. Sarah returned to the Mid-Atlantic to receive her MPA at the University of Pennsylvania. A few of Sarah's current affiliations include serving as an Affordable Housing Advisory Council member for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, a Small and Mid Sized City Advisor with NGIN, and the founder of a storytelling event series called Wilmington TALES in her home mid-sized city. Sarah has a love for bikes, farmers markets, and the West Side of Wilmington, and she is committed to working with her neighbors to drive positive change.



Bill Swiatek (Speaker). As a Principal Planner with the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO), Bill has led initiatives focused on transportation equity, regional connectivity, climate change, air quality, community health, and performance measurement. He has been deeply involved in community planning projects such as the Route 9 Corridor Master Plan, Connecting with the Ardens: A Transportation Plan, the Southbridge Transportation Action Plan, and the East Elkton Traffic Circulation and Safety Plan. His recent work emphasizes building sustained community collaboration into the development and implementation of these plans.

Bill is an active member of the American Planning Association (APA). He is a Past President of APA Delaware and currently serves as Delaware's liaison with APA National's Transportation Planning Division.

He is also actively involved with the Delaware Public Health Association (DPHA), where he supports the integration of planning and public health fields. He serves on the Association's Advisory Council and the University of Delaware's Partnership for Healthy Communities Steering Committee. Bill holds a Master of Arts in Geography from the University of Delaware.



David Chen, MD, MPH (Speaker), is an internal medicine hospitalist and physician-scientist at Christiana Care Health System. He graduated from Princeton University with a B.S.E. in Electrical Engineering and received his M.D. and M.P.H. in Health Systems and Policy from Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey. He completed his combined internal medicine and pediatrics residency at Christiana Care Health System and Nemours/Alfred I. Dupont Hospital for Children and lived in the North side of Wilmington for two years during his training. At ChristianaCare Health System, he is a physician-scientist for the Institute for Research on Equity and Community Health (IREACH) and the founder and medical director for Empowering Victims of Lived Violence (EVOLV), a hospital violence intervention program with a primary focus on assault-related firearm injuries. He has received funding through ACCEL Mentored Development Research Award, CTR-community engaged pilot, and INBRE core voucher mechanisms to study healthcare utilization, quality of life, disparities, and the social determinants of health for violence and firearm injuries in Delaware. He has also served with the ACCEL Community Advisory Council and Community Engagement & Outreach Cores for over 5 years. He would love to chat with you about any questions, highlights, projects, and ideas!

Engaging with Communities in Advocacy for Climate Equity



Jacqueline Ortiz, M.Phil. Vice President, Health Equity and Cultural Competency (Speaker). As vice president of health equity, Jacqueline Ortiz, M.Phil. is responsible for leading the system's healthcare equity initiatives to identify, understand, measure, and reduce disparities in health and health care affecting the community served by ChristianaCare. Jacqueline joined ChristianaCare in February 2012 with over fifteen years of experience researching, teaching, and working in cultural competence, health equity, social networks, and economic sociology.

Prior to joining ChristianaCare, she led a firm specializing in the application of social network analysis to resolve organizational challenges, working in Latin America and the United States, in both public and private sectors. Jacqueline has consulted for Fortune 500 companies, the government of Argentina and multi-lateral organizations like the World Bank and Transparency International.

Jacqueline obtained a B.A. in Sociology from Occidental College, an M.A. in Sociology from Boston College, and is currently a doctoral candidate at Yale University.



John D. Sykes (Speaker). After retiring from a 30 year career in high tech, John has 19 years of varied experience in community service, including founder and president of Delaware Interfaith Power & Light, appointed positions on the Governor's Council for Faith Based Partnerships, Delaware Energy Efficiency Advisory Council, and Renewable Energy Task Force. His other volunteer efforts have been with the League of Women Voters, the Tunnel Cancer Center, the American Red Cross, and Delaware Hospice. In 2019, he received the Governor's Outstanding Volunteer Service Award.



Alan Greenglass, MD (Speaker) has an undergraduate degree from Columbia University, and his M.D. from Brown University. He also completed his Internal Medicine training at Brown. He worked as a primary care clinician and Medical Group executive in Hartford and in New Haven, Connecticut before joining Christiana Care in 2006. As a Senior V.P. at CCHS he was responsible for the operations and expansion of the employed Medical Group. In addition, he was a co-founder of the health system's program on Healthcare Disparities and Equity and was the executive responsible for establishing the state-wide Medicare Accountable Care Organization. Since his retirement from CCHS Alan has turned his attention to Climate and Health issues in Delaware and in the region. With several other clinicians and community environmental

leaders he founded and led the Mid-Atlantic Alliance for Climate and Health (MAACH). MAACH has worked on environmental justice and health issues: clean transportation, including electric school buses; indoor and outdoor air quality; clean energy, including offshore wind; extreme heat; and the role of health systems in reducing their carbon footprint and in supporting environmental initiatives in their communities. Alan is also the author of a recent book, *Curing Physician Management: Why Physician Managers Fail*.

ACCEL Program Leadership Executive Committee

**Principal Investigator and Program
Director**

Gregory Hicks, PT, PhD, FAPTA, FGSA

Nemours Children's Health Co-PI

Rod C. Scott, MBChB, PhD

University of Delaware (UD) Co-PI

Susanne M. Morton, PT, PhD

Delaware State University (DESU)

Co-PI Sangeeta Gupta, MD, MPH

ChristianaCare Health Services Inc.

(CC) Co-PI

Alfred E. Bacon III, MD, FACP

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ChristianaCare

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GBA Consulting

Matthew Davis, MD, MAPP
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Miguel Garcia-Diaz, PhD
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University of South Carolina

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University of California, San Francisco

Daniel J. Rader, MD
University of Pennsylvania

**Aleksandra Zgierska, MD, PhD, DFASAM
MD**
Penn State College of Medicine

Ranee Chatterjee, MD, MPH
Duke University

Community Advisory Council



Gwendoline B. "Gwen" Angalet, PhD (Chair)

See pg. 8 for Bio

Members



Marlene A. Saunders, DSW, MSW, LMSW, is a social worker, social work educator, administrator, and an elected official. Her professional activities and endeavors as a citizen have focused on maximizing relationships to enable people from diverse backgrounds to work together to achieve social justice, equity, and equality for everyone. She has pursued these objectives as a former executive director of the National Association of Social Workers, Delaware Chapter and as the former chairperson for the Department of Social Work at Delaware State University. Currently, Dr. Saunders is on the boards of the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, Blacks in Government and The Village Tree. In addition, she is a member of Delaware Concerned Residents for Environmental Justice and the Community Air Monitoring Network. Currently, Dr. Saunders is on the

boards of the Delaware State University, Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, and Blacks in Government. In addition, she is a member of Delaware Concerned Residents for Environmental Justice and the Community Air Monitoring Network.



Sara M. Fuller is a Tribal Citizen of the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware. She has been involved with several Tribal activities and events over the years including environmental cleanup, Lenape Youth Camp, web and media development and outreach support, mobilizing the participation of Lenape Tribal Citizens in completing the US Federal Census. Sara recently retired from the Delaware Transit Corporation (DART) after completing 27 years of service to Public Transportation in the areas of Marketing, Communications and Outreach. She has worked with diverse communities and organizations advocating for accessibility, inclusion, environmental justice, and equity. In her free time, she enjoys the outdoors, organic gardening, genealogy, and spending time with family. Sara earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Public Relations

from Rowan University.



Terry-Ann Richards previous role was an Administrative Assistant at the University of Delaware’s Center for Research in Education & Social Policy (CRESP). Her role encompasses a variety of tasks including research, evaluation, outreach activities, correspondence, scheduling, data organization, and maintaining confidentiality. Terry-Ann studied at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, New York, and was part of the inaugural class of Public Allies, where she received training in community collaboration for the common good. She is a dedicated mother to two boys, aged 18 and 25. With a strong passion for the nonprofit sector, Terry-Ann has focused much of her career on supporting low-income communities. She also enjoys volunteering with her sons, instilling in them the value of contributing to community change. Equity and inclusion is paramount for Terry-Ann and wants to aid the Bear-Newark community she lives in. Working for a common good, is where Terry-Ann gets her drive.



La Vaida Owens White MSN, RN, FCN

See pg. 15 for Bio



Alta M. Porterfield, Delaware Libraries’ Statewide Social Innovator, takes to heart the Social Innovation (SI) mission to “help you find and take your next step.” The SI programming started with job seeker and small business programming, but quickly added various AmeriCorps VISTA programs including Social Sustainability, Healthy Futures, Literacy, Emerging tech, and Telehealth. The SI team includes a licensed counselor, social workers, teleservice specialists, digital navigators, and interns. Collaboration with non-profits and government agencies are key to SI’s sustainability. This is a large part of Alta’s day to day work: networking and putting all the pieces together.

Her early career started with running a placement agency after being awarded the top Texas placement counselor at age 25. She learned early on that a successful project requires empowering the team with resources, support, and trust. Her team has won national and regional awards during her 10plus years with Delaware Libraries.



Octavia (Penny) Dryden, known to many as “Penny”, holds a Business Administration and Economics degree from Delaware State University. She has more than thirty years of experience in the social and environmental justice field and an extensive background in community engagement, partnership, and coalition building. She was a member of the development team to establish the nationally recognized New Castle County Community Partnership in 1991. She later served as its Executive Director and led the development of 10 Neighborhood coalitions, two county-level coalitions, Wilmington Prevention Coalition and New Castle Prevention Coalition. Octavia is founder and CEO of Community Housing & Empowerment Connections Inc. (CHEC) and chairperson for the Delaware EJ Community Partnership, and Delaware Concerned Residents for EJ@CHEC. She was co-author of the *Environmental Justice for Delaware, Mitigating Toxic Pollution in New Castle County Communities* report, served as Co-Principal Investigator for an ACCEL Sponsored Retreat entitled: *The Health Impacts of Toxic Pollution Research Retreat: Moving Collaboratively from Data to Action through Community Engaged Research*. CHEC was recently awarded a USEPA grant to establish the first of its kind Community-led Air Quality Monitoring Network in New Castle County, DE.

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Exhibitors



***University of Delaware Professional & Continuing Studies
(UD PCS)***

***ChristianaCare Institute for Research Equity and Community
Health (iREACH)***

DE CTR ACCEL Funding Opportunities

Visit our website at www.de-ctr.org for more detailed information

Research Retreats Program Rolling Submission

To promote high-impact areas of research and interdisciplinary collaboration, the ACCEL Clinical & Translational Pilot Projects Program will provide limited financial support (up to \$10,000) to researchers and clinicians for a one-day focused Research Retreat/Workshop with the specific intention of stimulating new collaborations.

New collaborations and ideas from Retreats/Workshops should lead to the formulation of new grant proposals. To help in the writing and organization of those new grant submissions, ACCEL offers the following mechanisms.

Clinical & Translational Pilot Grants LOIs due March of each year

Full Proposals due July of each year

These projects begin January the following year

The mission of the DE-CTR ACCEL Program is to accelerate clinical and translational research that addresses health outcomes of Delawareans. Our Pilot Projects Program solicits applications for projects related to clinical and translational research. Pilot Grants provide funds for a 1 (Regular Pilots) or 2 (Community Engagement Pilots) year period that will allow a research team to develop a more substantial basis for independent external support from the NIH. Funding support is for up to \$80,000 in direct costs for 12 months or \$40,000 per year for 2 years.

OrBiTS Grants Rolling Submission

To overcome barriers that investigators face in successful translation of their work across the research continuum, we will fund proposals from researcher/investigator teams for Overcoming Barriers to Translational Success (OrBiTS) awards. These two-year grants will enable a team of at least three investigators to hire technical staff, procure specialized equipment, purchase data sets, or hire a specialized consultant so that they could generate strong clinical and translational research programs. The OrBiTS awards are not for specific research projects, but for infrastructure that will aid clinical and translational research. We anticipate that this type of support will provide considerable help in bringing basic scientists

into the clinical and translational arena or facilitate translational researchers doing clinical trials, ultimately leading to procurement of large center-type grants. Funding for this mechanism will range from \$20,000 to \$150,000 per project and must provide resources for multiple investigators.

Shovel-Ready Grants (ShoRes)

RFPs are released twice a year, Dec/June

In today's highly competitive climate, many investigators submit strong proposals and receive good scores, yet are not funded. To help such investigators transition their good proposals into fundable ones, the ACCEL Program has created the Shovel-Ready (ShoRe) Grants Program. ShoRe grants are for Principal Investigators (PIs) who already have submitted a research grant application (NIH, PCORI, VA, NSF, etc.) and have received reviews but need funds to collect additional data to strengthen their resubmission and address reviewers' concerns. ShoRe grants must be related to clinical and translational research. The SHORe RFP solicits applications for projects that will be completed within six months and must result in a resubmitted research grant application. Grants are given to support additional data collection or analyses to strengthen the resubmission of a large-scale research grant. The total budget for the originally submitted proposal must be at least \$200,000 (for a regular ShoRe budget of \$20,000) or at least \$100,000 (for a half-scale ShoRe budget of \$10,000).

Mentored Research Development Awards (MRDAs)

RFPs are released usually twice a year

This year LOIS were due: April

Full Proposals were due: May

Project start dates vary

The principal goal of the MRDA program is to improve the success rate for grant submissions by junior faculty. To accomplish this objective, MRDA recipients (MRDA Scholars) will work with their chosen mentor(s) to achieve milestones associated with the preparation of a targeted grant application. To assure highly-competitive grant submissions, MRDA Scholars will also take advantage of extensive ACCEL resources. These include grant writing workshops, peer mentoring groups, grant review sessions, support from the Professional Development Core (PD Core), and biostatistics and study design consultations with experts from the ACCEL Biostatistic Epidemiology and Research Design (BERD) Core.

MRDAs release awardees from significant non-research responsibilities (e.g., clinical work, teaching, administration) so that they can participate in defined activities associated with grant writing and submission. At the end of the MRDA period, awardees are required to submit a fully-developed grant proposal to one of the following mechanisms:

- i. IDEa Program Pilot Grants (e.g., CTR, COBRE, INBRE, CTSA, ISPCTN);
- ii. NIH; PCORI; AHRQ; other federal agency;
- iii. A well-recognized grant-issuing foundation or organization (AHA, ACS, etc.).

Applicants may apply for one of the following MRDA types:

I. Clinical investigators can receive coverage for up to 20% of their time over 6 months (equivalent to 1.2 calendar months) to work toward the goals of their award. Half of this effort (i.e., half of the percentage of the awardees salary up to the NIH salary cap) is covered by the MRDA and half of this effort must be covered and protected by the clinician's Division Chief or Department Chair. The time covered by the MRDA can be spread over the entire 6 months (e.g., one day a week) or can be compressed into a shorter timeframe (e.g., five continuous weeks of effort). Although focused effort is often desirable for effective grant writing, it is likely that actual effort developing a grant application will vary across the timeframe covered and time should be flexibly allocated in a way that best suits the applicant, their Sponsoring Mentor, and their home Department/Division. *Those qualifying for a Clinical Investigator - Enhanced MRDA may request up to 40% effort across 6 months or 20% effort for a full year (i.e., 2.4 calendar months of effort).

II. Academic investigators with scientific or engineering backgrounds who are seeking to develop clinical/translational research proposals can receive coverage for expenses for up to 10% faculty buyout (i.e., 0.6 calendar months) or release from one course during one semester. In addition, academic investigators can request additional funds to cover costs up to \$3,000 related to increasing the competitiveness of the grant proposal they are writing. See examples of allowable expenses below. *Those qualifying for an Academic Investigator - Enhanced MRDA may request expenses for up to 20% faculty buyout (i.e., 1.2 calendar months), release from one course for each of two back-to-back semesters, or release from two courses during one semester.

III. Clinical or academic investigators who have sufficient protected time to write their grant proposal and participate in ACCEL activities but who lack other substantive grant-writing support may request funds to cover costs up to \$10,000 related to increasing the competitiveness of the grant proposal they are writing. In these cases, MRDA funds can support, for example: a) travel to meet with mentors and collaborators; b) attendance at conferences or workshops focused on the topic area of the grant or on grant writing; c) technical training or professional development activities; d) consultation regarding study design or data analysis; e) resources or supplies (e.g., books, datasets) supporting the writing of a competitive grant submission; f) publication fees for related manuscripts; and g) grant editing. Please note that MRDA funds **CANNOT BE USED TO FUND RESEARCH**. *Those qualifying for a Funds but no Protected Time - Enhanced MRDA can request up to \$20,000.

In addition to the support for awardees, Sponsoring Mentors who fully participate in the program will have access to a small amount of funding (~\$2,250) that can be requested for travel, education, or other activities / materials that support the broader goals of the ACCEL Program to increase clinical and translational research capacity at the participating institutions.

NEW this year: Interdisciplinary New Collaborative (INC) Awards
INC RFPs are released in June
Proposals are due in August
Awarded Projects would begin the following January

INC grants will bring together investigators from different backgrounds to collaborate on complex topics in clinical and translational research. The goal of this mechanism is to specifically foster new collaborations among investigators across institutions, across disciplines, and spanning multiple regions of the translational spectrum.

- Proposals must include investigators from different disciplines and must include work that spans multiple levels of the translational spectrum
- The collaboration must be new; i.e., no prior funding in this line of research obtained by the team
- Though not required, proposals are strongly encouraged to also bridge multiple partner institutions

INC grants will provide up to \$100,000 in direct costs for a 2-year period.

ACCEL Strategic Initiative Partnership Program (ASIPP)
Deadline: Rolling Submission

ACCEL offers the community a unique opportunity to partner with us. The ACCEL Strategic Initiative Partnership Program's goal is to **add a research component to an ongoing or proposed program**. If you think that you would like to partner with ACCEL, please contact Karen Hough at khough@udel.edu, our BERD Core Lead Claudine Jurkovitz at cjurkovitz@christianacare.org, our CEO Core Lead Lee Pachter at lee.pachter@christianacare.org or our Tracking and Evaluation Core Lead, Sue Giancola at giancola@udel.edu. You can find more information detailing our Strategic Partnership Program below.

ACCEL Strategic Initiative to Partner with State, Public, and Private Organizations on Ongoing or Planned Programs Targeted to Improve the Health of Delawareans (ASIPP)

- **What ACCEL is proposing to do:** *Strengthen the Research and/or Evaluation Component of Ongoing or Planned Programs Targeting Improvements in the Health of Delawareans.*
 - **Targeted Partners:** *State of Delaware, ChristianaCare, Nemours Children's Health, Delaware State University, Private and Public Organizations/Foundations.*
 - **ACCEL Investment:** *ACCEL has considerable resources in three areas that will allow for a stronger research and/or evaluation component to become part of ongoing efforts targeting improvements in the health of Delawareans. First, there is considerable expertise in the areas of biostatistics, epidemiology and research design (BERD) that will be allocated toward any identified project. Second, there is a large group of faculty with an interest and expertise in Community Engagement and Outreach that we can connect to ongoing efforts. Finally, we have an Evaluation team that can provide expertise in program assessments, evaluation of outcomes and survey generation for enhancing ongoing programs and projects that will impact the health of Delawareans.*
 - **Areas of Interest:** *ACCEL is flexible regarding the areas of cooperation, as long as they impact the health of Delawareans and fall within the broad priorities of the ACCEL Program.*
 - **ACCEL prioritizes:**
 - o *Projects addressing medically underserved populations*
 - o *Projects addressing conditions disproportionately affecting Delawareans*
- o *We also encourage submissions describing Community Engagement Research and/or addressing Social Determinants of Health, Health Disparities/Equity, and Substance Use (e.g., the Opioid Epidemic)*

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