

Southeast PTTC

Prevention & Equity

Summit 2021

Speaker Bios

Dr. Ronny Bell is Professor of Social Sciences and Health Policy at the Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He is also Associate Director of Community Outreach and Engagement and Director of the Office of Cancer Health Equity at the Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Bell's research focuses on health disparities that impact racial and ethnic minority populations, which a particular interest in American Indian populations. Dr. Bell is an enrolled member of the Lumbee tribe of eastern North Carolina and chairs the North Carolina American Indian Health Board.

Kate Bishop, MSSA, the Education Coordinator at the LGBT Health Resource Center of Chase Brexton, is a seasoned professional development trainer with expertise in working with LGBTQ populations, sexual and reproductive health care, adolescent development, intimate partner violence, and sexual trauma. She is certified as a trainer through GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network) as well as SAGE (Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders). Before joining the Chase Brexton team, she developed the capacity building program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine's STAR TRACK Adolescent HIV program, providing cultural responsiveness trainings for agencies that serve sexual minority youth of color. Ms. Bishop holds a Bachelor of Arts in Gender Studies from Hiram College and a master's in social work from Case Western Reserve University

Dr. Patti Clark is the Program Manager of the Prevention and Promotion Branch within the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. She oversees the Kentucky Behavioral Health Prevention System. Dr. Clark also provides training and technical assistance to prevention providers, supports prevention policy, practice, and program development, and focuses on building prevention systems and creating leveraged collaborations between key stakeholders across communities. She is the Project Director and Principal Investigator for Kentucky's Partnership for Success 2015 grant. She is also the Principal Investigator for Kentucky's Emergency Suicide Response Grant, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Capacity Grant and 988 Planning Grant. She began her prevention career as a project coordinator for Kentucky's Underage Drinking Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) project in Owen County, Kentucky where binge drinking among high school youth was reduced by 36% over a two-year period. She is a former newspaper publisher and brings a 20-year career of managing community newspapers to the prevention field. Dr. Clark grew up in Eastern Kentucky and was a first-generation college graduate. She has a doctorate in leadership and policy studies from Eastern Kentucky University, an MBA from Sullivan University, and a bachelor's in journalism from Eastern Kentucky University. She and her husband, Brian, live in Frankfort, Kentucky.



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Dr. Susan E. Keefe is Professor Emerita of Anthropology at Appalachian State University where she taught for 38 years. In addition to teaching in the Anthropology Department, she has mentored graduate students in the Appalachian Studies and Sustainable Development programs. Her publications include seven books and monographs and over 40 articles and chapters in professional journals and edited books. Her research interests have included ethnicity, mental health, medical anthropology, and participatory development. She has worked with Mexican American and Anglo populations in Southern California and with Blacks and Whites in Southern Appalachia. Keefe most recently co-edited a book entitled *Junaluska: Oral Histories of a Black Appalachian Community* (McFarland, 2020).

CAPT. Michael King, Ph.D., M.S.W is a social worker and epidemiologist who has served at the intersection of behavioral and public health for over 15 years. Prior to joining SAMHSA in 2019, he supported State and Federal public health capacity at the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as an instructor and Field Supervisor for post-doctoral fellows enrolled in the Epidemic Intelligence Service. CAPT. King previously served for over 10 years on the National Asthma Surveillance Team in the National Center for Environmental Health where his interests focused on chronic disease surveillance, environmental exposure and hazard assessment, and disaster mental health. As a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, CAPT. King deploys routinely following disasters and has had the privilege to lead one of five national Mental Health Response teams (Team 5) that provide crisis counseling and technical assistance to medically underserved populations, with a focus on emergency public health response.

Michael Meit serves as Director of Research and Programs for the East Tennessee State University Center for Rural Health Research and as a Senior Fellow in NORC at the University of Chicago's Public Health Research Department. Michael currently leads studies focused on the evaluation of rural health programs, health equity, opioid misuse, and food insecurity, among others. Recently, he led development of an Appalachian Regional Commission study exploring Diseases of Despair in Appalachia, a companion Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool, and the national expansion of that tool, the Opioid Misuse Community Assessment Tool. Michael has also recently conducted work for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to explore declining overdose rates in eastern Kentucky, and formative research for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to explore community assets to improve health and equity in rural communities. He serves as Deputy Director for ETSU's recently funded Rural Health Research Center, the ETSU/NORC Rural Health Equity Research Center.

Shelly Steiner is Kentucky's Opioid Response Effort (KORE) Prevention Implementation Specialist. She works for the Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities in the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Previously she was the Drug Free Communities Grant Coordinator for the Carter County Drug Free Coalition and the Pathways Regional Prevention Center. She earned her Certified Prevention Specialist certificate in 2012 and has been working in the prevention field since 2009. She has presented at the Kentucky Harm Reduction Summit, CADCA National Leadership Forum, CADCA Mid-Year Training Institute, National Prevention Network Conference and the National Rx Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit. She has also participated in a round-table discussion at the White House with the President in 2018. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education majoring in Spanish and minoring in Speech and Communications from Morehead State University. She worked in the public school system for 17 years, four as a Spanish teacher, before coming into the prevention field.



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Hailey Wade is the Counselor for The Catawba Nation Family Services NATIVEhealth department. She completed her M.Ed. in Community Mental Health Counseling at Winthrop University. A Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Addictions Counselor, Hailey has been a direct service provider for the past 10 years treating co-occurring mental health, trauma and substance use disorders within her community. In 2020, she and her colleagues were awarded SAMHSA Native Connections grant to provide prevention services to Catawba Nation youth and young adults. In 2020, Hailey also successfully orchestrated the 1st Annual Catawba River Ramble for Recovery, providing culturally specific outreach and advocacy to the community. Hailey has drawn from her experiences as wife and mother to Catawba Nation citizens and has personal investment in serving the tribe professionally. To contact her via e-mail: hailey.wade@catawba.com

Dr. LaTarsha Michael currently serves as the Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) Prevention Project Coordinator at the Mississippi State Department of Mental Health. During her 20-month tenure with the department, Dr. Michael also served as Mississippi Prevention Alliance for Communities and Colleges (MPACC) Project Coordinator prior to being promoted to (SABG) Prevention Project Coordinator. While serving as MPACC Project Coordinator, she was very instrumental in the rebirth of the Mississippians Advocating Against Unhealthy Decisions (MAAUD) Coalition- a state-wide coalition striving to reduce destructive behaviors through community action, public policy, education, and advocacy throughout the state of Mississippi. Dr. Michael also served as a member of the Planning and Submission Committee responsible for securing the State Opioid Response Grants (SOR) and Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders During COVID-19 (Emergency COVID-19) grants funded through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for the state of Mississippi. Prior to joining Mississippi State Department of Mental Health in 2019, she served in various capacities awarding more than 14 years of mental and public health experience with emphasis in prevention and substance abuse. Currently serving as the Southeast Regional Representative and active member of the Mississippi Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Advisory Council, Dr. Michael is looking forward to making great strides in combating alcohol and drug abuse/misuse!



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