

Cohort 16 Bios

Jennifer Burns, MSN
Director, Nourish Every Child
Certified Nurse Midwife and Board Member
Midwives for Haiti
Certified Nurse Midwife
Baby and Co. Birth Center
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Jennifer has been a passionate maternal child health advocate since 1998, working both locally and internationally. She began her career in maternal child health in 1998 as a labor and delivery nurse. Her passion for international maternal child health became the focus of her career in 2011 when she began volunteering with Midwives for Haiti. Jennifer became a clinical preceptor, educator and later board member for Midwives for Haiti. Midwives for Haiti is working to eradicate preventable maternal mortality in Haiti by educating and empowering Haitian nurses to become midwives. She also worked with the Hope Foundation for Women and Children in Bangladesh in 2017 and 2018. Her projects in Bangladesh included midwifery faculty development in partnership with BRAC University, the development of six birth centers in remote communities and workshops for birth workers in the Rohingya Refugee camps focusing on life-saving skills in low resource settings. Jennifer's experiences in international maternal child health projects broadened her awareness of the interconnectedness of many public health issues, such as maternal mortality, poverty and the resultant international orphan crisis. Jennifer's passion for orphan prevention led her to create Nourish Every Child, a non-profit organization that focuses on family unification to combat the existing orphan crisis in Haiti.

Jennifer holds a Certificate in Midwifery in 2003 from Frontier Nursing University and her Master of Science in Nursing in 2004 from Case Western Reserve University. While Jennifer is a California native, she currently resides in Nashville, Tennessee with her husband and their three children. She works as a Certified Nurse Midwife at Baby and Co. Birth Center and Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Recently, she has joined the Nurse-Midwifery clinical faculty at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. When Jennifer is not catching babies, she is usually spending time with her family, hiking, practicing yoga or reading.

Ernest Cawvey, MPA
Director, Macomb Community Action
Macomb, MI

Ernest is the Director of Macomb Community Action (MCA), a public-sector community action agency serving Macomb County, Michigan. MCA addresses a range of social-determinants of health and provides an array of community-based services. MCA manages a \$40M portfolio of services, including homeless and housing supports, children and family services, medical transportation, adult day care, home injury control, disability and accessibility home modifications, emergency financial assistance, public benefit enrollment, and a range of Federal and State grants from health and human service agencies. Prior to this position, he served as the Executive Director of a free health clinic, the Health Innovation Lead for the Michigan Public Health Institute, an Associate at ReThink Health, and has consulted on a range of population health projects and hospital-community partnerships. Across work in the public, private, and non-profit sector, Ernest has led innovation on value-based payment

structures, designed legislative and policy solutions for population health interventions, and advanced health equity while pursuing the Triple Aim in managed care contracts.

Ernest holds an MPA from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of Syracuse University, a graduate certificate from the Moynihan Institute for Global Affairs and the Transnational NGO Initiative, and a BA in International Affairs from Kalamazoo College.

Grace Ghantous, MBA

Business Manager, Director

Medscience Offshore

Cairo, Egypt

Since 2016, Grace has been the Business Head of Oncology in Egypt and recently in Egypt and Jordan for Medscience- service provider for Bristol Myers Squibb. Having worked previously as well with Novartis Pharma, Grace has accumulated years of experience within multinational pharmaceutical companies in the Middle East and Africa region as a business leader who is responsible for portfolios, franchises and operations with a reputation for business and people development across multiple diverse cultures, geographies, and therapeutic areas. Grace has successfully launched and relaunched very well researched medications in Oncology, Hypertension, Diabetes, Respiratory, Immunology/Transplantation, and Dermatology. Furthermore, Grace has established new businesses turning medium-size operations and business units into significantly larger profitable subsidies and growth contributors. The important attributes of Grace's achievements to date have been an enthusiasm to work with people and a solid conviction that patients should be placed at the center of all our healthcare initiatives to guarantee better overall patients' disease outcomes. For this, Grace had run multiple medical education events for healthcare professionals as well as patients' support and awareness programs within various therapeutic areas where healthcare professionals and patients became scientifically and medically very well-informed about specific diseases, disease management, and the availability of suitable treatment options. Grace aspires to contribute substantially to improving patients' access to current and future abundant innovative healthcare solutions especially in countries where patients are facing complex accessibility challenges or where treatment options, medications, and quality of healthcare are otherwise limited.

Grace has a BS degree from the American University of Beirut and an MBA from The University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Grace was raised in a highly educated Lebanese family; she is the daughter of a deceased Lawyer, a multi-talented mother, and the eldest of two very accomplished women engineers. Grace enjoys traveling, running, and watching movies.

Sonya Griffin, MS, CCRP, SCT(ASCP), CMIAC

Global Clinical Trial Manager

PRA

Montgomery, AL

Sonya is a Global Clinical Trial Manager in the pharmaceutical industry. She has over 13 years' experience managing Phases I-IV of clinical trials in a variety of therapeutic areas including oncology. In her current role, she oversees the clinical operational aspects of numerous clinical trials to ensure patient safety from study start-up to study close out.

Prior to joining the pharmaceutical industry, Sonya was Assistant Professor in Biology and the Program Director/Education Coordinator of the AUM Program of Cytotechnology. Sonya has a BS in Biology and

a BS in Cytotechnology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a MS in Management from Troy University. She loves spending time with her family, interior decorating and traveling.

Michael Jefferies, MBA
Vice President and Chief Information Officer
Boulder Community Health
Louisville, Colorado

Michael Jefferies serves as VP and Chief Information Officer at Boulder Community Health in Colorado. BCH is an independent health system providing the full spectrum of acute and outpatient care where Michael is responsible for technology solutions that improve the care of the community. Michael is passionate about providing excellent care for all people with the consideration that you cannot separate mental and physical health. He manages large teams responsible for clinical and business applications, analytics, population health, biomedical engineering, telehealth, and patient engagement. His past work experience includes acute care hospitals, clinics, healthcare consulting, and working for a leading electronic health record software company.

Michael holds an MBA in Healthcare Administration from the University of Colorado and earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Colorado. He is a Fellow of the Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS), a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), and holds professional certifications as a Certified Healthcare CIO and Project Management Professional (PMP). Michael lives in Colorado with his wife, Asna, and two daughters – one of which is beginning her undergraduate degree at the same time. When not serving in healthcare Michael enjoys rebuilding old motorcycles, skiing, rock climbing, and being lazy with the family.

Diane R. Johnson, MPH
Senior Vice President; Senior Consultant
LJ Enterprises, Inc.
Washington, DC

Woman of Color. Daughter. Sister. Middle child. Auntie. Godmother. Niece. Friend. Person of faith. Episcopalian Baptist. Washingtonian by way of Cape Cod. Canine mom. Truth seeker. Justice believer. Crafter. Violinist. Word and language enthusiast. Public health professional. Brown Bear. UNC Tar Heel — these are just some of the ways Diane describes herself.

Professionally, Diane has spent the past 20 years with a clear and dedicated focus on public health communications, education, and engagement. She has been an award-winning, strategic corporate communications and public relations professional with a proven record at the senior executive level in cause and social marketing, education and literacy, brand market strategy, community outreach and advocacy, social justice issues, corporate and internal communications, and stakeholder partnership and target audience engagement. Diane has worked as a senior leader in both large and small PR agencies, senior adviser to the Director of the Office of Research on Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as well as the Director/CEO of the Barbara Bush Foundation, and as the former Chief Marketing & Communications Officer at Providence Hospital. Her career has spanned corporate, internal and external communications, marketing, brand management, and digital/social media integration.

As a full-time communications consultant, she supports several clients including Federal and local government, senior executives, and community based non-profit organizations. She trains the next

generation of health care leaders as adjunct faculty in UNC SPH's Online MPH Program, and at Georgetown University's School of Nursing and Health Studies Management. She is a Brown University and UNC Gillings SPH alumna. Diane is excited to be a part of the newest cohort in the Executive Doctoral Program in Health Leadership in the Department of Health Policy and Management.

Capt Douan Kirivong, MPH

**United States Public Health Services (USPHS) Commissioned Corps
Deputy Director, Center for Global Health, Division for Global HIV/TB
Caribbean Regional Office
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Kingston, Jamaica**

Douan's public health career was born in Jamaica, where she served the US Peace Corps as a health volunteer over 20 years ago. Her public health experience includes working with the NYC Administration for Children and Families, as a private sector consultant for various Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) operating divisions (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the National Institutes of Health). Her federal assignments with DHHS include: The Administration for Children and Families, Office of Global Affairs, Health Services and Resources Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Douan completed her graduate studies in public health (Maternal & Child Health) at UNC Chapel Hill. Douan has devoted the last 13 years of her career building successful global health programs with CDC's Center for Global Health. She is also a uniform service member of the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. Her overseas assignments include serving as CDC Deputy Director/Acting Director in Thailand, Indonesia, Barbados and Jamaica. Her public health journey has gone full circle and she is currently back in Jamaica with her family.

Kimberly Konkol, MSW

**Senior Public Health Advisor
Center for Mental Health Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
US Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, DC**

A fifth generation Arizonan, Kimberly T. Konkol, MSW, currently serves as the Senior Public Health Advisor for the Center for Mental Health Services in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration an operating division of the Department of Health and Human Services. Though, her claim to fame is that she was the first person "reassigned" from the Office of the Secretary by the Trump regime. Kimberly had served as Deputy Director of the HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships (Partnership Center) for 17 years, where she worked to marry the intelligence of science with the wisdom of communities. During her tenure at the Partnership Center, she focused on translating science to practice, with a particular interest in deploying community-based/socio-cultural interventions. She recognizes faith and community leaders as trusted messengers, first responders, and cultural key holders.

She is excited to begin school and increase her understanding and proficiency in public health methods. She intends to focus her dissertation work on applying public health methods to address the endemic syndemics of suicide, violence, untreated mental illness, and addiction.

Kimberly began her work in the U.S. government as a Presidential Management Fellow at the Department of Justice. She received her MSW and her BS in psychology from Brigham Young University. She lives in Washington D.C, where she is urban homesteading and organizing/protesting.

Jonathan Lim, MSc, MEng
Director, Global Epidemiology
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals. Inc.
Ridgefield, CT

Jon is a Director in the Global Epidemiology department at Boehringer Ingelheim where he has worked for the past 8 years. In his current role, Jon is responsible for the development and execution of real-world evidence strategic plans to support the clinical development and successful launches of the company's oncology assets. Prior to this position, Jon worked at the Health Economics and Outcomes Research departments of the company's US and UK affiliates where he led numerous projects to ensure optimal market access of products across therapeutic areas such as cardiovascular, respiratory, and metabolic diseases. Before joining Boehringer Ingelheim, Jon spent four years with the Singapore Economic Development Board – the lead government agency responsible for driving strategies that create sustainable growth for the Singapore economy. There, he worked in various planning and policy roles, with a particular focus on the biomedical sciences industry.

Jon has an MSc in Health Policy, Planning and Financing from LSHTM and LSE, and an MEng in Materials Science and Engineering from MIT. He also holds a BA in Economics and BS in Chemical Engineering from UC Berkeley. Jon lives in Redding CT and spends most weekends hiking in the summer and skiing in the winter. Like many Singaporeans, Jon is an obsessed foodie who is always on the hunt for the best places to eat. He also loves traveling to see new sights, experience new cultures, and of course, savor new cuisines.

Melanie Phelps, JD
Senior Vice President, Health Systems Innovation
Deputy General Counsel
Raleigh, NC

Melanie is the senior vice president, Health System Innovation, and deputy general counsel for the [North Carolina Medical Society](#), where she has been employed for over 20 years, focusing on a wide variety of health policy issues. More recently, she concentrated her efforts on the future, including the transition to value-driven care, improving health and connecting the traditional health care system with community health partners to address determinants of health. She also serves as adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Academic Education at the Campbell University Jerry M. Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine in the Primary Care Champions Fellows Program and as a section instructor in the on-line MPH program here at Gillings.

Melanie is a NC licensed attorney. She graduated from the evening law program at North Carolina Central University School of Law in May 2000, and received her NC law license in August 2000. She has a certificate in Nonprofit Management from Duke University, Office of Continuing Studies, and holds a BA degree in English/Communications and a MA degree in International Relations. Melanie lives in Cary, NC with her husband, Mark. She has two sons: Chris, 25, who lives in Charlotte; and Kemper, 22, who lives in Cary. Melanie has 2 dogs and a cat. She loves the beach, travelling and endurance sports, which help keep her sane.

Miguel Pulido, MHS, MS, MHA, DDM
Director of Health Care Services
Secretary of Health
Bogotá, Colombia

Miguel is a dentist from Colombia. He has 20 years of national and international work experience in promoting and implementing social, financial, and economic policies in the health sector. He is currently the Director of Health Care Services for the Secretary of Health of Bogota, Colombia, a city with 8 million people. Miguel is responsible for preparing the health care delivery system in Bogotá for the COVID-19, working with private clinics and insurances companies. In addition, he worked as a Senior Advisor to the Minister of Health in Colombia, as the National Director of Medical Tourism in Colombia, and as the State Director of Health Planning in one of the largest states in Colombia (Cundinamarca).

Internationally, Miguel worked on projects with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in both Panama and Guatemala. He was also the Director of the US-based Te Doy Foundation, working on a project with HIV orphans in Africa, among other things.

Miguel's future professional ambitions include being the Minister of Health of Colombia and/or directing a large international health sector-oriented organization, such as the WHO, working in the developing world and helping the future of and innovation in the policy, economic, and cultural aspects of health policy and health systems that will provide medical care to the most vulnerable populations. He is interested in working on these issues in both developing countries and in poor communities in the US. Miguel believes that if we make health care accessible to all persons and work as a team with other sectors in a multi-disciplinary fashion to improve social determinants, then most of the world's health care issues would be resolved at the same time. He has a dental degree, as well as masters degrees in Health Administration, Hospital Management, Ethics and Public Policies from universities both in Colombia and in the US. His most recent master's degree was in 2019 in Global Health Economics from the Bloomberg School of Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University.

Brian Kiprono Sangutei, MSW, LCSW
VISN 6 Network Homeless and Suicide Prevention Coordinator
Veterans Health Administration Mid Atlantic Health Care Network-VISN 6
Durham, NC

Brian works at the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) as the Network Homeless and Suicide Prevention Program Coordinator at the VA Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network - Veteran Integrated Service Network (VISN 6), headquartered in Durham, NC. VISN 6 oversees all the Health Care Systems in Virginia and North Carolina.

Brian graduated with a master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill School of Social Work in 2007. He is interested in how innovations in technology can be leveraged to improve and enhance access to Health care in order to improve health outcomes of Military Service Members, Veterans, their families and populations that have historically been underserved. Outside of work and school, Brian enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife and children as well as engaging in automotive work.

Brian Sneve, MPH
Principal Data Consultant
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Durham, NC

Brian is a Principal Data Consultant with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina's Strategic Data Management organization. His work includes leading the data and analytic effort for the Blue Premier program, Blue Cross of North Carolina's transition to value-based payer - provider relationships. His prior experience includes healthcare economics and infectious disease prevention and control with the Minnesota Department of Health.

Brian holds a Bachelor's in Psychology and a Master's in Public Health Administration and Policy, both from the University of Minnesota. His study interests include healthcare system redesign, healthcare finance innovation, and household repair. He has a wife, 2 sons, and a black lab and resides in Hillsborough, North Carolina.

Emily C. Taylor, MPH
Founder and Director,
Women-Inspired Systems' Enrichment (WISE)
Chapel Hill, NC

Emily is nationally recognized for leading hospital transformations to advance evidence-based, respectful care with communities disproportionately affected by poverty, racism and other systems of oppression. As Founder and Director of WISE, Emily currently leads Perinatal Care Quality Improvement Collaboratives throughout the United States. The collaboratives feature equity and social justice, action-oriented knowledge and skill-building, community engagement, and advanced leadership development.

Emily serves as Chair Elect of the United States Breastfeeding Committee. Prior to founding WISE, Emily was Deputy Director of the Carolina Global Breastfeeding Institute at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. There, she directed the National Collaborative for Advancing the Ten Steps and other collaborative programs. She also conducted myriad research studies resulting in publication on influence of infant formula marketing, implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, access to donor human milk in the United States, child sexual abuse survivors' experiences with breastfeeding, and organizational readiness to change.

Emily earned her Master of Public Health from the University of North Carolina in 2007. She completed the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Improvement Advisor Professional Development Program in 2012, and Tamarack Institute's "Champions for Change: Leading a Backbone Organization for Collective Impact" in 2013. Her past experience as a certified childbirth doula and Lamaze educator and her identity as a woman, feminist, sister, and advocate continue to inform her work. Emily is grateful to live in Chapel Hill with her amazing husband and two adorable pups. She is eager to join the UNC Executive Leadership DrPH cohort in 2020. After having focused intensively on infant feeding, she is interested in exploring other topics including tick-borne diseases and perinatal mood disorders.

Terry Williams, MBA
Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer
Wake Forest Baptist Health
Winston-Salem, NC

Terry is the executive vice president and chief strategy officer for Wake Forest Baptist Health, a \$3.6 B health system with 6 hospitals and several hundred locations. In this position, Terry formulates and executes overall business strategy, fosters strategic alliances, and promotes growth. He is responsible for strategic planning, clinical business development, clinically integrated network formation, business health solutions with employers, payer partnerships, FaithHealth NC and communications, marketing

and media. He is the administrative executive sponsor for WFBH's significant Population Health and value-based work, and its mergers and acquisition agenda. Terry has a particular interest in the role of good policy and engagement methodology to catalyze effective transformation of complex systems to improve community vibrancy & equity, economic progress and health outcomes.

Previously Terry worked as chief strategy officer at a 12-hospital system in the mid-west US. Earlier in his career, he was vice president at a health care information technology solutions company, and before that partner at a national consulting firm. Over his 25-plus year career, Terry has worked with more than 200 health care organizations. He holds a bachelor's degree from Northeastern State University, a graduate diploma in economics from the University of East Anglia in England where he was a Rotary Scholar, and a MBA from Emory University. He worked with the Jamaican Prime Minister's Office on the country's innovative National Transformation Programme. Terry is happily married to wife, Christie, with two post college age boys. He enjoys mission work, cycling, traveling and co-founded the Great Atlanta Youth Walk and a camp for foster, abused and neglected children. He serves on several community and health care related boards.