

WORDS TO DEEDS

CHANGING THE
PARADIGM FOR
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND MENTAL HEALTH



A PROJECT OF THE FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Kristal Antonicelli

Kristal Antonicelli is a Health Program Specialist with almost eight years of experience working for the Mental Health Services Act Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC). Currently she is the project lead for the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act triage grants, which provide \$83 million to counties throughout the state to expand crisis services for individuals experiencing mental health crises. She also is assisting the project leads for the MHSOAC Suicide Prevention Plan, and the Schools and Mental Health project. Her interests include integrating trauma-informed care into primary healthcare practices, and the impact of early childhood trauma on adults and the influence of that trauma on the likelihood of substance use disorders later in life.

William Arroyo, MD

Dr. Arroyo is the Medical Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Behavioral Health (LACDMH), Prevention and Early Intervention Bureau. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at USC Keck School of Medicine. Dr. Arroyo represents LACDMH in mental health program development and policy implementation at the county, state, and national levels. He has served on several state boards and national advisory bodies including: California Children's Medi-Cal Health Advisory Panel; the California (Prison) Rehabilitation Oversight Board; the state Commission on Juvenile Justice; Haywood Burns Institute; the County Behavioral Health Directors Association; the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Task Force on Eliminating Mental Health Disparities, and children's mental health research and training centers at Portland State University, Georgetown University, and University of South Florida. He also works in a probation camp for teens with mental health, drug use, and alcohol problems. Dr. Arroyo has co-authored two national monographs on Juvenile Justice Reform, and he

has been honored for his advocacy work in mental health by local, state, and national organizations.

James Bianco

Judge James Bianco has been a Superior Court Judge for the past 10 years, following three years as a Superior Court Commissioner. For the past five years, Judge Bianco has served as the Site Judge of the Mental Health Courthouse, where he supervises operations of four mental health courtrooms, which adjudicate cases involving criminal competency, conservatorships, LPS hospital hearings, involuntary medication petitions, and mentally disordered offenders. He has worked in the criminal justice system for over 28 years. Judge Bianco earned his B.A. in Economics from Stony Brook University, and his J.D. from USC Gould School of Law in 1987. During 17 years in practice, Judge Bianco served as criminal defense attorney in state and federal courts; he also practiced for several years as a criminal prosecutor and as a civil litigator. Judge Bianco frequently teaches other judges about mental health, and ethics. He has taught criminal procedure at the USC Gould School of Law, and taught an externship seminar at UCLA Law School.

Curly L. Bonds, MD

Curley L. Bonds, M.D., is a psychiatrist with extensive experience in a variety of clinical, academic and research settings. Most recently, he is the Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at Charles R. Drew University School of Medicine (CDU) in Los Angeles and was the Medical Director for Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services. Dr. Bonds is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a Fellow of the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry. After completing a B.A. in sociology at Emory University, he earned his M.D. from Indiana University School of Medicine. He completed a residency in adult psychiatry at UCLA's Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. Dr. Bonds remained

on the fulltime faculty at UCLA from 1996-2005, where he served as the Director of the Consultation and Evaluation Service for the UCLA Center for Health Sciences. In 2005, he was appointed as Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at CDU. He holds joint appointments as Health Sciences Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCLA and Professor of Psychiatry at CDU. From 2007-2010 he was a supervising psychiatrist for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health where he was the Director of Quality, Academics, and Research for Twin Towers Correctional Facility. Dr. Bonds has won numerous teaching and advocacy awards including Chief Resident of the Year in 1996 and The Exemplary Psychiatrist Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in 2009.

Kenneth Carabello, MSW

Currently serving his third term as president of the Forensic Mental Health Association, Ken has worked in the field of forensic mental health since 1992. His experience includes developing the initial pilot program of the jail based competency restoration program for felons for CA, and currently operating 181 jail based competency beds in three counties. He also served as the first Community Program Director of the CA Sexually Violent Predator Conditional Release Program, and he continues to provide oversight to that program. His latest endeavor is developing programming with the CA Department of Developmental Services for individuals involved in the criminal justice system who also have intellectual and developmental disabilities. Ken began his career at Gateways Hospital in Los Angeles where he was a primary therapist, an assistant director, and eventually directed a 67-bed Federal Community Corrections Center for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. He is a Vice President for Liberty Healthcare Corporation where he oversees inpatient and outpatient forensic and correctional programming around the country. Ken received his Master's of Social Work degree from the University of Southern California.

Kita S. Curry, PhD

Since Dr. Kita S. Curry took the helm at Didi Hirsch in 1999. She has testified before the California legislature and served on State Advisory Committees on Suicide Prevention and Stigma and Discrimination. Past board president of Los Angeles' and California's mental health providers' associations, she currently serves on the board of the National Council on Behavioral Health and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's Steering Committee. Her honors include an Eli Lilly Heroes in the Fight Award from NAMI Urban Los Angeles; SHero Award from former California Senator Curren Price, Jr.; 2016 Pioneer Woman of the Year Award from the Los Angeles Commission on

the Status of Women and City Councilmember Felipe Fuentes; and special recognition from the Southern California Psychiatric Society. Kita, who lost three family members to suicide, takes pride in giving back; when she was young and uninsured, she was treated for depression at a community mental health center. She earned her BA in English at the University of Pennsylvania and PhD in psychology at UCLA. An award-winning poet, her first full-length poetry collection, *What Snakes Want* (Mayapple Press), was published in May 2015.

Charles Dempsey

Detective III Charles Dempsey is the officer-in-charge of the Administrative Training Detail, Mental Evaluation Unit of the Los Angeles Police Department. He has over thirty years of law enforcement experience with the Los Angeles Police Department and the Department of Defense. He has an Associate Degree in Science and Nursing, a certificate from the Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center (German), studies in Urban Geography and Foreign Languages (Spanish) and completed the Clinical Training Program at the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. He is responsible for the design, development, and delivery of the Department's training curricula regarding police interactions with persons suffering from a mental illness. He reviews and writes the Department's policies and procedures involving interactions with persons suffering from a mental illness. Detective Dempsey is a member of the Innovations Sub-Committee of the Mental Health Services Act. He has given expert witness testimony in State/Federal civil trials regarding police response to persons with a mental illness. He is a past member of the California Crisis Intervention Training Association Board of Directors.

Toby Ewing, PhD

Toby Ewing, Ph.D. is the Executive Director of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, the state agency that oversees mental health services in California. Dr. Ewing has worked on governance reform, government oversight and improving outcomes of public programs for many years. He has worked on a range of public policy issues, including mental health, child welfare, immigrant integration, workforce and education, and veterans projects. From 2011 through 2014, Ewing served as a consultant to the California State Senate Governance and Finance Committee. He also served as Director of the California Research Bureau from 2009 to 2011. Prior to that, for eight years, he was a Project Manager with the Little Hoover Commission, an independent body charged with improving government. Ewing did his undergraduate studies at Grinnell College and received a Ph.D. in Sociology from Syracuse University. He served as a Fulbright Scholar in Central America.

Peter Espinoza

Judge Peter Espinoza is currently the Director of the Los Angeles Office of Diversion and Reentry Department of Health Services. He was a Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court for over 19 years. Prior to becoming a Judge, he was a Public Defender for Orange County and also had his own private practice. He is currently a member of the Hispanic Outreach Task Force Advisory Board; a member of the Cerritos College Foundation Board; Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee Advisory Board and a member of the Los Angeles Center for Alcohol and Drug Abuse. He also served on the Governing Board of the Superior Court Judicial Education Seminar. He served as the Chair of the Grand Jury Committee and was a member of the Superior Court Executive Committee. Judge Espinoza earned his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Bachelor's Degree in Social Welfare from San Francisco State University.

Mathew Garcia

Matthew Garcia is a 23-year veteran of the Sacramento Police Department. During his career he has held a variety of assignments to include: Patrol, Problem-Oriented Policing, Bike Officer, Background Investigator, Robbery/Gang Detective and Field Training Officer. He was recently awarded Field Training Officer of the Year for the Sacramento Police Department. Officer Garcia is a 13-year Air Force Veteran and most recently served as an Advanced Academy Instructor at the Security Forces Academy in San Antonio, Texas. Officer Garcia has a Bachelor's Degree from California State University, Sacramento and Master's Degree in Public Administration from National University. Officer Garcia was appointed in 2016 to serve as a board member on the Council of Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health by the Senate Rules Committee.

Brenda Grealish

Brenda Grealish is currently the Acting Deputy Director for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services. She was appointed Assistant Deputy Director for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services within the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in November 2014. As Acting Deputy Director, Ms. Grealish is responsible for all of the DHCS mental health and substance use disorder divisions. Ms. Grealish began her state career with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. She then worked at the Department of Mental Health for almost ten years in increasingly responsible positions. She has four years of management experience with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation during which she advanced from a Research Manager II to a Research Manager III, then to Deputy

Director. Prior to her appointment as Assistant Deputy Director, Ms. Grealish was the Chief of the DHCS Mental Health Services Division. Ms. Grealish has a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Psychology.

Patrick D. Green

Patrick Green currently serves as the Executive Director of the First Responder Support Network (FRSN) and the Lead Peer for the West Coast Post Trauma Retreat (WCPR). A retired California Highway Patrol Officer, Pat has held numerous leadership positions, such as, Deputy Chief, Cedarville Fire Protection District, Past Board President Surprise Valley Community Health District, Past Board President Surprise Valley Child Development Center, and Past President, Surprise Valley Rotary.

Alex Hamilton

Assistant Chief Alex Hamilton started his career with the Oxnard Fire Department as a Firefighter in 2005. He was promoted to Fire Engineer in 2010, promoted to Fire Captain in 2012, Battalion Chief in 2016 and Assistant Chief in 2017. Hamilton is currently completing his MBA with Pepperdine University and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Protection Administration and a Chief Fire Officer Certification from the Center for Public Safety Excellence. He has served in a variety of assignments, including, Grant Writer and Grant Project Manager where he successfully procured and managed over \$15 million in grants. He has previously served as a hazardous materials specialist, urban search and rescue team member, member of the Police/Fire Dive Team, Peer Support Team, and Honor Guard. Assistant Chief Hamilton is the co-founder and CFO of the Oxnard Firefighters Foundation, Inc. He developed a comprehensive behavioral health program for both Fire Departments in the region and also serves as a Suicide Intervention Instructor. He is a recipient of the Kiwanis Firefighter of the Year and the City of Oxnard Employee of the Year awards and has earned numerous educational and training certificates.

Jackie Lacey

District Attorney Jackie Lacey has spent most of her professional life as a prosecutor, manager and executive in the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. In 2012, she was sworn in as the 42nd District Attorney. She is the first woman and first African-American to serve as Los Angeles County District Attorney since the office was established in 1850. She is committed to safeguarding our children from human sex traffickers, our seniors from financial elder abuse and our communities from environmental crimes that threaten our health and our livelihood. District Attorney Lacey established the Conviction Review Unit to assess claims of actual

innocence based on newly discovered evidence. She also appointed the office's first Professional Responsibility Advisor. As chair of the Criminal Justice Mental Health Project for Los Angeles County, she leads a multidisciplinary working group devoted to diverting people who are mentally ill out of the criminal justice system for nonviolent offenses. She initiated an ambitious plan within her office to provide free training to first responders on how to safely de-escalate incidents involving people in a mental health crisis. A Los Angeles native and graduate of the University of Southern California Law School, she leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation.

Kathleen Connolly Lacey, LCSW

Kathleen Connolly Lacey, LCSW, is the Director of University of California San Francisco's Citywide Case Management Forensic Program that provides assertive community treatment to 400 criminal justice-involved individuals with mental illness in the community. She was instrumental in implementing San Francisco's successful response to the State of California's first Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant. A founding member of San Francisco's Behavioral Health Court, she provides clinical expertise to the courts and the community. With over 25 years experience working in the criminal justice system and 20 years focused on the needs of individuals with serious mental disorders, she has expanded the focus of treatment to include: an emphasis on cultural and gender specific services; a comprehensive Dialectical Behavior Therapy program; a Full Service Partnership Program through San Francisco's Mental Health Services Act funds; a comprehensive Supported Employment program; mental health services for the San Francisco Sheriff Department's No Violence Alliance Program and the Adult Probation Department; and the recent creation of a Misdemeanor Behavioral Health Court in SF. She graduated from Gonzaga University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy and Speech Communications; received her Master's Degree in Social Welfare from the University of California, Berkeley in 1997.

Mary Marx, LCSW

Mary Marx, LCSW has over 25 years of experience in both public and private sector physical and mental health systems of care. She currently serves as the Mental Health Program Manager III of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's (DMH) Countywide Resource Management Bureau. Ms. Marx provides overall administrative, clinical, and fiscal management of DMH's acute inpatient resources for uninsured clients of all ages, and adult/older adult long-term institutional, crisis residential, intensive residential and supportive residential

resources with a total daily capacity for over 1,600 persons. These resources are vital to the success of the County's Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan through enhancing individuals' ability to avoid or reduce lengths of stay in involuntary treatment and institutional settings and to live and receive care in community settings. In her current capacity Ms. Marx oversees the DMH Alternative Crisis Services (ACS) component of the MHSA CSS plan, designed to decompress County hospitals' psychiatric emergency services, inpatient units and jails.

David Meyer

David Meyer is a Clinical Professor and Research Scholar at the Institute of Psychiatry, Law and Behavioral Sciences of the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine where he is responsible for the criminal law and the mental health law curricula. He also consults nationwide with health care and indigent defense providers on issues related to law and mental health. Mr. Meyer previously served as Chief Deputy Director and Counsel of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, as Director of the LAC Department of Community and Senior Affairs, and as Interim Public Defender and Chief Deputy of the LAC Public Defender. Mr. Meyer is an attorney, having specialized in mental health law for more than 40 years.

Beth Milliard

Sergeant Beth Milliard has been a member of York Regional Police, Ontario, Canada since 2002. As the officer in charge of the Peer Support Unit, Sgt. Milliard coordinates and implements mental health training and education for York Regional Police members, is responsible for the internal 55-member Peer Support Team and the on-going implementation of recommendations from the Ombudsman's Report. Sgt. Milliard obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science & Criminology from the University of Windsor in 1996. She graduated with a Master of Arts in Leadership from the University of Guelph in 2010 and is currently working on her PhD. She has been a part-time instructor in the Police Studies Degree Program at Georgian College since 2009.

Ashley Mills, MS

Ashley Mills has been a senior researcher with California's Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission for the past five years, most recently charged as staff lead on the Commission's effort to develop a strategic statewide suicide prevention plan. Ms. Mills also was the staff lead on the Commission's policy research project on criminal justice and mental health, which was completed in December 2017. Prior to her current position, Ms. Mills held research positions with the

California Department of Justice and the California Governor's Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy. For over a decade, her line of research has focused on interpersonal violence, trauma, and juvenile delinquency, with an emphasis on prevention and intervention. Ms. Mills holds an M.S. in Criminal Justice and B.A. in Psychology.

Katherine A. Minnich

During her 18-year career in the California state service, Katherine has served in a variety of leadership positions. She was appointed as Deputy Director of Human Resources for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in 2016, with oversight responsibility for all HR-related functions for the largest department in California state service, including classification and compensation, workforce planning, and employee health and wellness. Katherine served as CDCR's Associate Director, HR as well as Associate Chief, Office of Personnel Services with direct responsibility for specific HR programs. Prior to joining CDCR, as the Chief of the Human Resources Branch at the California Health Benefit Exchange, Katherine was instrumental in the development and activation of this new agency, creating an HR program that successfully met the hiring goals set forth by the Federal Affordable Care Act. She also founded the "best place to work" committee for the Exchange, receiving approval and support from executive leadership.

Judi Nightingale

Judi Nightingale is an experienced Administrator who spent many years in both clinics and hospital nursing administration. Prior to her current role, she was the Chief Nursing Officer at the Riverside County Medical Center, now part of the Riverside University Health System (RUHS). She earned a Doctorate in Public Health with a focus in Prevention. For the past three years as the Director of Population Health for RUHS, Judi has led many efforts to integrate County and Community partners providing care to a single individual. In addition to other Population Health projects, Judi leads the 2020 Medi-cal waiver Whole Person Care (WPC) Pilot for Riverside County. This is the only California WPC waiver focused entirely on the justice-involved population. The Riverside County WPC pilot added Registered Nurses (RN) to all probation sites where they screen clients for housing, behavioral health, physical health, social service and substance use needs. RN case managers and Housing Outreach Team members were hired to assist clients access the needs identified.

Steve Sultan, PhD, ABPP

Dr. Steve Sultan is the Director of the Psychological Services Bureau (PSB), Los Angeles County Sheriff's

Department (LASD). He has served the Bureau and the Department for 22 years, the last 10 years as Bureau Director. In 2011, Dr. Sultan was Board Certified by the American Board of Professional Psychology Examiners (ABPP) in Police and Public Safety Psychology. He was one of the first psychologists to receive this certification, and one of only 75 psychologists nationally with this distinction. Dr. Sultan completed a supervised internship training program in Police Psychology on the staff of the Behavioral Science Services Section of the Los Angeles Police Department in 1978. Dr. Sultan has been a Reserve Deputy Sheriff at LASD for the past 12 years. Dr. Sultan has been a California licensed Psychologist for almost 39 years. Prior to his work with the Sheriff's Department, he practiced in private and public sector mental health care with adults, children, and families. During this time, he served on the Panel of Psychologists for the Dependency Division of the Superior Court, County of Los Angeles for 11 years and was a court appointed child custody evaluator for the Family Law Division for 15 years. Dr. Sultan is married to his wife Myra for 34 years. They have two grown children who are both peace officers at law enforcement agencies in southern California.

Jennifer Thompson

Jennifer Thompson has worked as a civilian performing various roles within York Regional Police, Ontario, Canada over her 17-year career. These include records, Station Duty Operator and Crime Analyst. Jennifer's analytical skills, Psychology Degree, Teaching Certificate and most importantly lived experience have made her a valuable asset to the Peer Support Unit. Jennifer's candid ability to speak about her struggles as well as her drive to bring awareness to Mental Health and the importance of Peer Support have been a huge asset in the development of York Regional Police's Peer Support Team. Not only has her focus been on our members it has extended to the spouses, as she is also married to a Police Officer and knows first-hand the struggles a spouse faces. These struggles started for Jennifer on July 25th, 2011 when her husband was involved in catastrophic work-related injury, in which he suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury. The lengthy hospital and rehabilitation stay in which her husband had to fight to regain his mobility, speech and some of his other senses took a huge toll on the family. It was not until after her spouse returned home after 3 months in the hospital that things actually started to get worse. Her spouse's identity as a police officer was forever gone and this realization was devastating to him. The battle against depression and anxiety was a fierce battle that was eventually won, thanks to some great mental health professionals that are passionate about helping Police Officers.

Kit Wall

Promoting everything from policy reform issues, nonprofit organizations, and political campaigns to rock shows and media events, Kit Wall uses her repertoire of organizational/communication skills for policy consultation, writing, production, and management. Her promotion and publicity experience includes professional sports, entertainment, commercial real estate, and government affairs. Since 1987, Kit has focused on government relations and public policy, managing coalition and grassroots efforts for corporate, non-profit, and governmental organizations, as well as ballot initiatives, legislative and candidate campaigns. In 2001, while working for Eli Lilly and Company, she focused efforts on jail diversion specialization across the U.S., initiating the Words to Deeds concept, which has developed into the current interdisciplinary leadership forum.

Katherine Warburton, MD

Dr. Warburton is the Medical Director and Deputy Director of Clinical Operations, for the California Department of State Hospitals, a 6,000-bed forensic hospital system. She received her medical degree from the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her residency at Maine Medical Center. She received additional training in Forensic Psychiatry at UC Davis Division of Psychiatry and the Law. Dr. Warburton is board certified in adult and forensic psychiatry. She is an Associate Professor on the Clinical Faculty at the UC Davis School of Medicine. Dr. Warburton has lectured and published on forensic topics related to violence and competence to stand trial. She is editor of a textbook titled *Violence in Psychiatry*.

Stephanie Welch, MSW

Stephanie Welch is the appointed Executive Officer of the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) based in the Office of the Secretary at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Prior to state service, Ms. Welch was the Senior Program Manager at the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) where she managed the implementation of statewide programs to prevent suicide, improve student mental health, and reduce mental health stigma and discrimination. Stephanie has over 16 years of experience in mental health policy, program administration, and advocacy, and holds an MSW from University of Southern California and a BA in Sociology from the University of California, Davis. Her career path includes serving as an Associate Director for the California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA), a Mental Health Services Act program consultant for Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, Associate Director for the California Council of Community Mental

Health Agencies (CCCMHA) and the Mental Health Association in California. Stephanie also served as a campaign grassroots coordinator for the Yes on Prop 63 campaign.

