

## ***PUTTING HEALTH DATA TO USE LOCALLY IN MARYLAND: A WORKSHOP ON BEST PRACTICES***

### **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

**Elizabeth Arias, PhD** is a Demographer in the Mortality Statistics Branch, Division of Vital Statistics, at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). Dr. Arias received her Ph.D. in Sociology, with specialization in Demography and Statistics, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1998. Dr. Arias directs the US Life Table Program at NCHS. Since becoming program director she has worked to expand its racial, ethnic, geographic and socioeconomic coverage. To this end, she conducts research on the quality of vital statistics mortality data and develops and tests methodological techniques to address and correct data limitations. To date, Dr. Arias has expanded the program to cover the Hispanic population and is currently working to add the American Indian and Asian populations to the program. Dr. Arias is also interested in and conducting research into the mechanisms that may explain the Hispanic mortality advantage and the distinct mortality profiles of the diverse Hispanic origin sub-populations in the US.

**Jeanetta E. Churchill, MS** is a Statistician at the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is part of a team which manages the Health Indicators Warehouse, a data warehouse making over 1,100 demographic and health indicators publicly available via the internet for visualization via tables, charts, and maps. Ms. Churchill previously served as the director of the Baltimore City Data Collaborative, where she produced tables and maps with the purpose of monitoring demographic and social indicators for children, youth, and families at the neighborhood level. Ms. Churchill holds a Masters in Urban Spatial Analytics degree from The University of Pennsylvania, a Master of Science in Biometry from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Hampton University.

**Frank C. Curriero, PhD, MA** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. His areas of expertise include application of spatial statistics and geographic information systems (GIS) in public health, particularly in environmental epidemiology, disease mapping, and spatial variation in risk models. His current methodological research includes selection bias in spatial data and models for non-Euclidean isotropic spatial dependence.

**Sam Hawala, PhD**, is a statistician at the US Census Bureau's Center for Disclosure Avoidance Research. He has expertise in synthetic data construction for dissemination and protection of confidentiality and small area estimation methodologies.

**Seema D. Iyer, PhD** is the associate director and research assistant professor for the Jacob France Institute in the University of Baltimore's (UB) Merrick School of Business and oversees the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance-Jacob France Institute (BNIA-JFI). Her expertise is in comprehensive and strategic planning. Iyer holds a Ph.D. in urban and regional planning from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and has extensive international research experience gained through her study of comprehensive planning strategies for cities in transition. Prior to joining UB in 2011, Iyer was Chief of Research and Strategic Planning for the City's Planning Department, the division responsible for population forecasting and GIS services. She earned her MA and BA from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Matthew Kachura** is the Program Manager for the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance - Jacob France Institute of the University of Baltimore (BNIA-JFI). In his position, Matthew oversees the daily operations, research, and planning for BNIA-JFI. Matthew's research focuses on urban issues, the development of neighborhood level indicators, and local policymaking and community building. He is a recognized expert on local data and economic and workforce development issues. He has authored numerous reports on housing and foreclosures, economic development, workforce development, and other urban issues. Currently, Matthew is serving on the Executive Committee for the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, a collaborative effort of the Urban Institute and 37 local partners dedicated to the development of neighborhood-based information systems. Matthew received his BA from UMD-College Park, his MBA from the University of Baltimore, and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Public Policy from UMBC.

**David A. Mann, MD, PhD** works 75% time as the staff epidemiologist for the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD) in the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. He also works 25% time as an Instructor in the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine in the University Of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Mann was a co-author of the Maryland Plan to Eliminate Minority Health Disparities, released in 2006 by MHHD; and principal author of the Maryland Chartbook of Minority Health and Minority Health Disparities Data, released in 2007

and 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) by MHHD. Dr. Mann received his bachelor's degree in biology from The Johns Hopkins University in 1978, his MD degree from the Harvard Medical School in 1982, and his PhD degree in epidemiology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore in 2007. Prior to coming to Maryland in 1997 for his Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology training, he practiced primary care medicine in the Boston area for 14 years.

**Ruth Martin, MBA, MBH** is currently Senior Health Planner with the Division of Public Health in the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. She provides staff support to Healthy Montgomery, the Montgomery County local health improvement coalition, and is responsible for reviewing proposed State and federal legislation that could affect the Division of Public Health. Prior to joining the Montgomery County Department of Public Health, Ms. Martin had extensive experience as a consultant and staff person in managed care, with an emphasis on Medicaid managed care and managed care for indigent populations; community health, including technical assistance to federally qualified health centers; and quality improvement, including National Committee for Quality Assurance accreditation and HEDIS performance measure reporting.

**Clifford Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH** is Director of the Environmental Health Bureau, in the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration of DHMH. Dr. Mitchell joined DHMH in 2006; prior to that he was an associate professor in environmental health sciences at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He received his B.A. in Chemistry from Williams College, a Masters in Science from the Mass. Institute of Technology, his M.D. degree from Case Western Reserve University, and his Masters in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. Dr. Mitchell chairs the Maryland Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council, and co-chairs the Environmental Health Liaison Committee.

**Donna Perkins, MPH**, is an epidemiologist with the Anne Arundel County Health Department. She has been working in local health departments around the country for six years, in a variety of fields including injury prevention, chronic disease, and infectious disease. She is the lead epidemiologist for Anne Arundel County.

**Frances Phillips, RN** has served as the Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services in DHMH since 2008. She was formerly the Health Officer for Anne Arundel County. Phillips joined the Anne Arundel County Health Department in 1988 as a registered nurse and was later appointed Health Officer in 1993. In 2004, she served as the County's Fire Chief before returning to her post at the Health Department. She has been instrumental in creating programs to serve the uninsured, reducing cancer rates and responding to public health emergencies. Deputy Secretary Phillips has been instrumental in the leadership of the Department on issues ranging from health care reform, to women's health, to emergency preparedness.

**Joshua Sharfstein, MD** was appointed by Governor Martin O'Malley as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in January 2011. The Department includes Medicaid, public health, behavioral health, and services for the developmentally disabled, with an annual budget of approximately \$10 billion. Prior to taking over the Department, Dr. Sharfstein served in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as the Acting Commissioner from March 2009 through May 2009 and as Principal Deputy Commissioner through January 2011. Dr. Sharfstein served as the Commissioner of Health for the City of Baltimore, Maryland from December 2005 through March 2009, and from July 2001 to December 2005 he served as minority professional staff of the Government Reform Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Medical School, and has completed a residency and fellowship in pediatrics.

**Colleen Ryan Smith, MPH** is the Senior Epidemiologist for Public Health Services, Montgomery County Maryland Department of Health and Human Services. She has worked in Montgomery County with local population-based health and well-being data for the past seven years, including the development and implementation of Healthy Montgomery ([www.HealthyMontgomery.org](http://www.HealthyMontgomery.org)) in 2009. Prior to her work in Montgomery County, Ms. Ryan Smith held positions for almost ten years in population-based health data systems and surveys at the state (Rhode Island Department of Health) and federal (CDC, Indian Health Service) levels. She earned a Bachelor's in Arts degree from Brandeis University (Waltham, MA) and a Master's in Public Health degree from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine (New Orleans, LA).