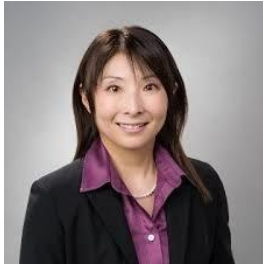


Speakers



Yuki Asakura, PhD, RN

Dr. Asakura Strempek is an experienced researcher, and her oncology experiences are in research, inpatient, BMT and Palliative care. She is a nurse scientist and Palliative care APN at AdventHealth Parker. She is a recipient of Magnet Nurse of the year (2018 ANCC), Mentor Award (Sigma International Honor Society of Nursing Alpha-Kappa chapter 2019) and Nightingale Luminary Award (2017 & 2021 Colorado Nurses Foundation).



John Arend, MPH

John Arend is the Program Manager of the Colorado Central Cancer Registry (CCCR) at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) with more than 15 years of experience in cancer surveillance. John is a Colorado-native and received his Master's in Public Health in Epidemiology from the Colorado School of Public Health. Prior to his work in cancer surveillance, John served as a Peace Corps Volunteer. His two years spent in a rural community in Nicaragua were life-changing and reinforced his commitment to public service. Outside of work, John enjoys spending time with his wife and

two children, despite the fact that John's hobbies have been replaced by listening to, and seldom resolving, pre-teen drama.



Jennaya Colóns, PTA, BS, CBIS

Jennaya Colóns has been a dedicated health professional and advocate for over 8 years. She works at Penrose Hospital (CommonSpirit) as an outreach liaison for the Penrose Cancer Center, increasing access to care for individuals facing barriers to care and treatment. She also serves as a clinician outpatient rehabilitation helping people move and improve their health. Currently obtaining her master's in health education and promotion, she is learning to build equitable programs for health. She is an integral part of the hospital's DEI council, co-chair of the Patient Navigation Taskforce for the Colorado Cancer Coalition, and

a recent Mayor's Civic Leader Fellowship graduate. Community health is her passion, and when she saw additional issues that needed to be addressed in the city of Colorado Springs, she founded Highroots Wellness & Consulting, where she serves as the Executive Director. This organization works to collect data from the voices of the communities most in need for the purpose of creating programs that improve health for our most underserved populations.



Helen L. Coons, Ph.D., ABPP

Helen L. Coons, PhD, ABPP is a board-certified clinical health psychologist and a national leader in women’s health and mental health and psychosocial oncology. Dr. Coons received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Temple University, Philadelphia after completing her pre-doctoral internship in Medical Psychology, Duke University School of Medicine. She is currently President and Clinical Director, Women’s Mental Health Associates and Health Psychology Solutions, Denver, Colorado. Dr. Coons has provided collaborative and integrated clinical services, program development, education and training, and research in psychosocial oncology with surgical, medical and radiation oncology teams for over 30 years. She specializes in psychosocial aspects of cancer such as preparing individuals and families for treatment procedures, survivorship issues, living well with uncertainty, cancer during and after pregnancy, moms with metastatic disease, sexual health in women with cancer, onco-fertility, refugees and immigrants with cancer as well as trauma-informed care in oncology settings. Dr Coons also presents to oncology providers and community audiences in the US and globally on psychosocial aspects of cancer and its treatments, is a highly experienced content expert on cancer related topics for media writers, and enjoys writing patient-focused articles for diverse survivor communities.



Andrea (Andi) Dwyer

Ms. Andrea (Andi) Dwyer is the Director of the Colorado Cancer Screening Program (CCSP) at the University of Colorado Cancer Center and The Colorado School of Public Health and serves as a co-investigator on a number of dissemination and implementation science grants, particularly focusing on health equity and sustainability strategies for lung, hereditary and colorectal cancer screening. Ms. Dwyer is on the Executive Committee of the Alliance of Community Health Workers, Patient Navigators and Promotores de Salud. Andrea is the Chair of the National Navigation Roundtable, supported by the American Cancer Society and is on the Leadership Council of AONN+. Ms. Dwyer also advises Fight Colorectal, a national colorectal advocacy and research nonprofit, in their health promotion and research aims.



Olivia Ficarrotta, BSN, RN

Olivia is the breast care nurse navigator at St. Anthony Hospital in Lakewood. She has a Bachelor’s degree in nursing, and is currently attending CU Anschutz pursuing her Master’s degree in Nursing Leadership and Health Care Systems. In her free time Olivia is passionate about being outdoors as much as possible and enjoys rock climbing, running, backpacking, and camping. Olivia has two cats named Nugget and Bee and fosters cats and kittens with Rocky Mountain Feline Rescue.



Renee' Herman, MSHA, BSN, RN

Renee' is a Patient Navigator specializing in breast cancer patients. She has had over four decades of experience as a nurse, with most of those years specializing in Oncology. Renee' enjoys assisting patients as they transition through the care continuum, including education, coordination of care, case management, and survivorship. She has a particular interest in on-going support of breast cancer survivors and their families, engaging them with community resources and support as they journey

forward.



Shannon Lawrence, MA

Shannon leads an evaluation team that supports a portfolio of cancer, chronic disease and health promotion programs at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Shannon has overseen evaluation for the Colorado Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and the Women's Wellness Connection (breast & cervical cancer screening) since 2014 and has contributed to the revision process for the past three iterations of Colorado's Cancer Plan. With over 20 years of experience in cross-disciplinary applied research, evaluation and strategic planning that spans public health, equity, technology, higher education, and child welfare – and a prior career in marketing and

communications – Shannon offers a unique approach to understanding complex public health challenges in today's shifting health landscape. Shannon earned her master's degree in Education from the University of California, Berkeley and her bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of California, San Diego.



Christopher Lieu, MD

Christopher Lieu, MD, is an Associate Professor in the Division of Medical Oncology, and Associate Director for Clinical Research at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Aurora. He trained in internal medicine at the University of Colorado, where he also served as a Chief Medical Resident. He completed his fellowship training in medical oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and served as the Chief Medical Oncology Fellow. He currently serves as the Associate Director for Clinical Research and Director of GI Medical Oncology at the University of Colorado Cancer Center, the co-Chair of the National Cancer Institute Colon Cancer Task Force, serves on the FDA Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee, and he

serves on the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Panel for Neuroendocrine Cancers.



Dan Miller, JD

Dan Miller is the Executive Director of Live By Living. He founded the organization in 2008 after his wife, Julie Wrend, passed away from breast cancer in 2007. Professionally, Mr. Miller was an environmental lawyer who worked for the Colorado Attorney General's office from 1987 through 2022. Under Mr. Miller's direction, Live By Living has held 96 retreats with over 1490 attendees and over 850 walks and hikes with over 5,400 attendees. Twenty-eight cancer survivors have trained for and succeeded in summiting Grays Peak. Mr. Miller loves the outdoors, and spends his free time hiking, skiing, bicycling and working on his inner John Fielder. He has his Wilderness First Responder certificate from the Wilderness Medicine Institute of the National Outdoor Leadership School.



Victoria Phillips, PhD

Victoria Phillips, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. Her research focuses on program development and evaluation with a specialization in economic evaluation. She also has experience conducting qualitative research. Topical areas of interest include the organization and financing of health care delivery for chronically ill and vulnerable populations. As a faculty member, she teaches courses in health economics, the economic evaluation of health care programs, the organization of the health care system and complex problem solving for health care management and policy. She served as co-investigator on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant which sponsored the analysis of the Colorado community-clinical linkages to increase breast cancer screening among hard-to-reach women.



Betsy C. Risendal, PhD

Dr. Betsy Risendal is a cancer epidemiologist and Professor in Community and Behavioral Health at the Colorado School of Public Health. Her independent research in cancer prevention and control has focused on the investigation, evaluation and dissemination of interventions to improve health outcomes and reduce disparities. These projects have included various research areas such as cancer survivorship, patient navigation, and lung cancer screening. She has completed 19 research grants as Principal Investigator with funding from the American Cancer Society, National Cancer Institute, and the Livestrong Foundation. She is currently Principal Investigator in a multi-site national cancer research network funded by the Centers for Disease Control.



Debra P. Ritzwoller, PhD

Debra P. Ritzwoller, PhD, is an Economist and Senior Investigator at the Institute for Health Research at Kaiser Permanente Colorado. She leads a research agenda that focuses on optimizing cancer care delivery in community settings. She has more than two decades of experience conducting research on cancer related screening, diagnosis, treatment, utilization, outcomes, and costs within community-based healthcare systems. In addition, her research portfolio includes studies that examine the impact of insurance benefit design on patient cost-sharing, and cost estimation within implementation science initiatives. She is one of multiple Principal Investigators (PI), for the recently launched Cancer Screening Research Network (CSRN). This

National Cancer Institute (NCI)-funded consortium will evaluate emerging technologies, including Multi-Cancer Detection assays, for early cancer detection and screening. Dr. Ritzwoller, along with Drs. Linda Cook and Stacey Honda will lead the University of Colorado Cancer Center based CSRN accrual and enrollment hub. Currently, Dr. Ritzwoller also serves as the PI of the NCI funded Lung PROSPR Research Center to improve lung cancer screening. This this multi-site center grant has produced more than a dozen published studies that identified critical gaps and key opportunities associated with lung cancer screening processes within community-based healthcare systems. Dr. Ritzwoller earned her PhD and master's degrees in economics from the University of Colorado Boulder. She also serves in an Adjunct Faculty position in the Department of Health Systems, Management, and Policy at the University of Colorado School of Public Health.



Karen Sublett MS, RN,

Ms. Sublett is an adult health Clinical Nurse Specialist with two decades of experience in oncology nursing. She currently works as an ambulatory nurse in Radiation Oncology. She enjoys providing personalized, evidence-based care for oncology patients along the continuum of their cancer journey.



Katie TenHulzen, MA

Katie TenHulzen is the Research + Analysis Team Lead in the Office of Cost Control and Quality Improvement at the Department for Health Care Policy and Financing, the state's Medicaid office. She's a researcher on the HCPF workgroup awarded a NASHP technical support grant to Improve Care for People with Serious Illness. At HCPF, Katie supports benefit design and policy development with research and data analysis. Previously, Katie held the roles of senior evaluator for criminal justice programs and Colorado Crisis Services evaluator at the Office of Behavioral Health within CDHS. Her master's degree in International Disaster Psychology is from the University of Denver.



Bing Walker, PhD

Bing is the Comprehensive Cancer Grant Manager at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. She has extensive knowledge of working with federal and state grants, coalitions, program evaluation, and data-driven decision-making. She has worked in state and county public health agencies, higher education institutions, health and human services, and state labor and employment departments. Bing received her Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration, MA in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling, and BS in Secondary Education. Having a deep sense of community, Bing is a strong advocate for education, persons with disabilities, cultural awareness and equity, and volunteerism.



Dennis Wright II, MPH

Dennis Wright II, MPH is the Lead Cancer Epidemiologist in the Health Statistics and Evaluation Branch of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. His primary role is to provide cancer surveillance data support to the Women's Wellness Connection and the Colorado Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. Originally from Boston MA, Dennis received his Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology from the Colorado School of Public Health, and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Health from the University of Colorado at Denver. Dennis also researches data equity and leads policy discussions in social epidemiology, with a focus on both Maternal and Child Health and medical racism. Prior to his public health career, Dennis spent 15 years in the biotechnology sector, most recently as a Manufacturing Quality Engineer where he oversaw the production of several cancer medicines at Pfizer, Inc. In his downtime, Dennis enjoys spending time with his wife and two children, taking on new woodworking/DIY projects, solving all manner of puzzle games, and making time to enjoy a good laugh with anyone.

Posters

Perceived Benefits of an Outdoor Walking-Based Program for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers



Hannah Cefalo

Hannah is currently a candidate for the Master's of Public at the Colorado School of Public Health, specializing in physical activity and healthy lifestyles. She is passionate about the promotion of more active lifestyles through equitable access to physical activity resources and program evaluation to identify effectiveness and provide feedback for areas of improvement. For the past two years of her degree, she has been working as an assistant at the Physical Activity for Treatment and Prevention lab where she has developed skills in the field of public health and physical activity research. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Hannah is an active runner, hiker, biker, and backpacker and loves engaging in all things outdoors, whenever she has free time to explore beautiful Colorado.

Workplace Equity in Healthcare: Finding the Inclusion in Diversity



Jennaya Colóns, PTA, BS, CBIS

Jennaya Colóns has been a dedicated health professional and advocate for over 8 years. She works at Penrose Hospital (CommonSpirit) as an outreach liaison for the Penrose Cancer Center, increasing access to care for individuals facing barriers to care and treatment. She also serves as a clinician outpatient rehabilitation helping people move and improve their health. Currently obtaining her master's in health education and promotion, she is learning to build equitable programs for health. She is an integral part of the hospital's DEI council, co-chair of the Patient Navigation Taskforce for the Colorado Cancer Coalition, and a recent Mayor's Civic Leader Fellowship graduate. Community health is her passion, and when she saw additional issues that needed to be addressed in the city of Colorado Springs, she founded Highroots Wellness & Consulting, where she serves as the Executive Director. This organization works to collect data from the voices of the communities most in need for the purpose of creating programs that improve health for our most underserved populations.

Implementing a Physical Activity Maintenance Intervention in Community-Based Exercise Oncology Programs: Designing with Dissemination in Mind



Elena Lancioni, MPH

Elena holds a Master of Public Health degree specializing in physical activity and behavioral social community health from Indiana University. She completed her undergraduate studies at Bowling Green State University to earn a B.S. in Exercise Science. Her work

experience includes health coaching, well-being consulting, and research coordination working with nonprofit organizations, county and city government, and university sectors. Currently, Elena is a research coordinator at Colorado State University in the Physical Activity for Treatment Prevention Lab. Elena strives to create equitable spaces where all can thrive by having the ability to access necessary health and well-being resources and care. Outside of work, you can find her outside on a run or hike, coaching middle school athletes, and being creative in her spare time.

Reiki Training and Resilience in Oncology Nurses: A Mixed Methods Study



Sandy Priester, MBA, CHTP, RMT

Co-founder and Executive Director of LifeSpark Cancer Resources, a nonprofit wellness organization that links Reiki and Healing Touch volunteers with cancer patients. She has past leadership roles at Healing Touch International, Qualife Wellness Community, and Colorado Cancer Coalition. She has been a Healing Touch and Reiki practitioner for over 30 years.

Barriers cancer centers face meeting Commission on Cancer survivorship standards



Kelly Ragan

Kelly Ragan is an intern with the Colorado Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and an MPH candidate at the Colorado School of Public Health. Now studying epidemiology and biostatistics, Kelly has a background in journalism and publishing. She hopes to use those skills to help Colorado become a happier, healthier place.

Emily Surico

Session Facilitators

Allie Bain, MS, MPH

Associate Director of State Partnerships, American Cancer Society
CCC Advisory Board

Carlin Callaway, DNP, RN

Advanced Practice Nurse, Medical Oncology Survivorship Clinic, CU School of Medicine
Survivorship and Palliative Care Task Force

Andrea Dwyer

Director, Colorado Cancer Screening Program (CCSP) at the University of Colorado Cancer Center and The Colorado School of Public Health
Colorado Cancer Coalition Past Chair

Ian Kahn, MPH

Cancer Program Manager, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CCC Advisory Board

Peggy Thomas, RN, MN, AOCN

Oncology Program Manager, Penrose Cancer Center
Colorectal Cancer Task Force Co-chair

Patti Valverde, PhD, MPH

Interim Director, Latino Research and Policy Center, Colorado School of Public Health.
Latino Cancer Task Force