

# PROJECT DIRECTOR'S MEETING

*Looking Back and Moving Forward*

## Speaker Biographies

PDM Virtual Meeting, June 14, 1pm – 3pm

### **Jayanth Kumar, DDS, MPH**

State Dental Director, Office of Oral Health, California Department of Public Health

Dr. Kumar was appointed as the California State Dental Director in August 2015. He is a board-certified specialist in dental public health and a former director and president of the American Board of Dental Public Health. Before joining the California Department of Public Health, he was state dental director in New York where he held multiple positions. His role as program director and manager has been defined by a strong commitment to elevating oral health as a priority in the state's health agenda.

### **Ciara Hunt, MS**

Program Consultant, California Department of Public Health, Office of Oral Health

Ciara is new to the Office of Oral Health. She has a background in Early Childhood Education and Psychology. Ciara spent the last four years working as a Health Education Specialist in the Humboldt County Local Oral Health Program. Before that she worked as an Education Manager in the Bay Area and spent many years as an Education Coordinator working with Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Ciara is passionate about including oral health education in schools and toothbrushing in Early Care programs.

### **Katelynn Peirce, MPH, CHES**

Supervising Public Health Educator, San Joaquin County Public Health Services

Katelynn has been with San Joaquin County Public Health Services (PHS) since January 2018. Since joining the department, she has established various health promotion programs, including the Local Oral Health Program, and various health equity projects for the department. She is dedicated to advancing racial health equity throughout San Joaquin County. Prior to her work at PHS, Katelynn worked for a large health plan in Orange County, California conducting quality and performance improvement projects and population-based research.

### **Monica L. White, MPH**

Supervising Public Health Educator, San Joaquin County Public Health Services

Monica assists in the management and coordination of Nutrition Education, COVID-19 Community Response, Oral Health, and Tobacco Control activities at SJCPHS. She joined the team in July 2019. Over the past 24 years, Monica has held increasingly challenging leadership and management roles in various nonprofit organizations, healthcare systems, and local health departments in Michigan, Illinois, and California. She is especially proud of the work that she's done that is focused on special/hard-to-reach populations, addressing health equity, and food insecurity. Prior to joining SJCPHS, Monica served as a Senior Project Coordinator and Population Health Outreach Supervisor at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, MI where she was responsible for designing and managing system-level population health programs and initiatives.



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### **Amelia Do-Golden, MS**

Project Coordinator, Tuolumne County Public Health Department

Amelia joined the Tuolumne County Public Health Department in June of 2020. Since joining the department, she has worked with community partners to help continue oral health education efforts in Tuolumne County. She is passionate about helping people find the care that they need and serving as a liaison for providers and patients alike. Prior to joining the Local Oral Health Program, Amelia worked in Southern California with the Permanente Group providing physician education and engagement.

### **Theresa Fagouri, CHES**

Acting Supervisor, Oral Health and SNAP-Ed Nutrition Programs, El Dorado County Public Health Department

Theresa joined the El Dorado County Public Health Department in February of 2017. Since joining the agency, she has been the Project Director of the SNAP-Ed Nutrition Program and recently was offered the honor of taking on the oversight of the Oral Health Program as well. She is passionate about assisting people in making positive behavior changes and helping others live with the best quality of life that is possible for them.

### **Danika Ng, MPH**

Senior Program Coordinator, Marin Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health

Danika joined the County of Marin in 2019 as a Program Coordinator for Marin County's Local Oral Health Program and now serves as the program's Senior Program Coordinator. While there, she has created community health worker train-the-trainer events, organized and facilitated school-based dental screening events and in-class oral health education for students, and helped navigate oral health initiatives in Marin County through the Coronavirus pandemic.

### **Eileen Espejo**

Senior Managing Director, Health, Children Now

Eileen spearheads Children Now's work to improve oral health care quality and access for children in California. Previous projects include leading a pilot to strengthen medical-dental collaboration to increase dental utilization among children under 6 who are enrolled in Medi-Cal in Los Angeles County. She advises several state and local oral health initiatives, including the State Oral Health Plan, the Dental Transformation Initiative, and local oral health planning processes throughout the state.

