Key Community Partners in Establishing Breastfeeding Continuity of Care: Community Health Centers Presenter Bios



Erica Peterson, MD, MPH, completed both her medical degree and a combined Internal Medicine and Pediatric residency at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. She served as pediatric chief resident and was on faculty at Duke before moving to California to work at a community health center in the San Francisco Bay Area. Dr. Peterson currently works at Bluestem Health, a Federally Qualified Health Center, located in her hometown of Lincoln, Nebraska. She has a particular interest in providing high quality primary care to underserved populations and in public health, having completed her Masters in Public Health in Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina, and previously served on the Lancaster County Medical Society Board of Directors. Dr. Peterson is board certified in both Pediatrics and Internal Medicine.



Tami Frank, BS, CLC Vice President, Operations tfrank@healthylincoln.org

Ms. Frank attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and earned a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting. Ms. Frank found her passion for public health while working on the NMA's Childhood Obesity Prevention Project and her drive to support moms choosing to breastfeed after her own struggles with her firstborn child. She began working for Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln in 2012 and in 2015, earned her certification as a Certified Lactation Counselor. Ms. Frank currently serves as the Vice President, Operations at Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln where her role includes Project Manager of their CDC REACH award and Project Coordinator for the Lincoln Community Breastfeeding Initiative. She also serves on the Nebraska Breastfeeding Coalition Leadership Team and several advisory committees.



Tracy Irwin, MD, MPH, is the Hospira Endowed Medical Director of Reproductive Health at Erie Family Health Centers. Prior to joining Erie in 2018, she was an Associate Professor in the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Washington and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her clinical practice includes the entire scope of women's health with special focus on immigrant health and vulnerable populations. She is a dedicated educator of residents and students in reproductive health both locally and abroad and has participated in education, research and clinical service programs in Bolivia, Guatemala, Guyana, Senegal and Kenya. Born and raised in Deerfield, Illinois, Dr. Irwin received her BS from Emory University, her MD and Master of Public Health (MPH) from Northwestern University, and completed her obstetrics and gynecology residency training at the University of Pittsburgh, Magee-Womens Hospital.



Lindsay Moore-Ostby, MD is a primary care physician at HealthNet, a Federally Qualified Health Center in Indianapolis Indiana. She is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics and has a special focus in breastfeeding medicine. She established and runs a breastfeeding medicine clinic within the FQHC, seeing both her own patients and consulting for other providers. She developed a collaboration with HealthNet and WIC that includes a WIC peer counselor working one half day per week in her breastfeeding clinic. She has partnered with leaders at HealthNet, Northern Illinois University, the Marion County Health Department, Marion County REACH grant recipients, Indiana State Department of Health and other community stakeholders to develop a breastfeeding model of care in a community health clinic setting with NACCHO's support. She continues to work closely in these efforts with other physician leaders in the breastfeeding medicine field, including Dr. Anne Eglash, founder of the Institute for the Advancement of Breastfeeding and Lactation Education.



Julie Patterson has her Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition and Dietetics from the University of Illinois-Chicago with Honors, her Master's in Business Administration with Distinction from DePaul University in Chicago and her PhD in Nutritional Sciences with a minor in Population Health from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Julie worked as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist for more than ten years in health care and is now an Assistant Professor at Northern Illinois University in the department of Nutrition, Dietetics and Wellness. Through her research interests in health care practices that support breastfeeding, she created a partnership with leaders at HealthNet and the Marion County Health Department. Through the funding support from NACCHO they have been able to work collaboratively to create a breastfeeding model of care in a community health clinic.



Jill Edwards has worked with community based care in the Appalachian Mountains from Mississippi up to New York, in rural and urban communities, and with CHCs and FQHCs that serve every kind of patient. Jill has dedicated her professional life to being a public servant via state and local governments, non-profit organizations, and currently with the Marion County Public Health Department in Indianapolis, Indiana, where she tries to "keep all the balls in the air" in her role as Coordinator for a CDC REACH project. Jill recently returned to the Midwest and while she misses the mountains, she loves being back where she can see the whole sky at sunset.



Melissa Olson is a Registered Dietitian and the Director of Nutrition for Community Healthcare Network. In her position, she oversees a team of 12 Nutritionists who provide nutrition counseling for patients and groups at multiple community health centers in low-income and underserved neighborhoods across NYC. Melissa is passionate about connecting patients with resources to promote balanced eating, access to fresh produce, support for breastfeeding parents, and general wellness strategies for healthy New Yorkers. She is also committed to promoting best practices that teach people about listening to their bodies, how to have a healthy relationship with all foods, and getting families eating all together. Melissa is a native of Seattle, Washington and earned her nutrition degree from Washington State University.