

**Building Healthy Communities Conference:
“New Approaches to Neighborhood Health”
New York University Kimmel Center
November 13, 2019
#nyshealthevent**

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

David Sandman
President and CEO
New York State Health Foundation
🐦@DavidSandman1

David Sandman is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth), a private foundation dedicated to improving the health of all New Yorkers, especially the most vulnerable. Since 2006, NYSHealth has invested more than \$146 million in initiatives to improve health care and the public health system in New York State. Equally important, the Foundation is committed to sharing the results and lessons of its grantmaking; informing policy and practice through timely, credible analysis and commentary; and serving as a convener of health care leaders and stakeholders throughout New York State.

Dr. Sandman was named President and CEO in 2016, after serving as NYSHealth’s Senior Vice President. Previously, Dr. Sandman was appointed by the Governor of New York as executive director of the Commission on Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century, also known as the “Berger Commission.” Earlier, Dr. Sandman was managing director of Manatt Health Solutions, a vice president at Harris Interactive, and assistant vice president at the Commonwealth Fund. Dr. Sandman received his Bachelor of Arts degree, Phi Beta Kappa, from Haverford College, and his Master of Public Administration degree and Ph.D. from New York University’s Wagner School of Public Service. He is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and a member of the Herman Biggs Society; he also serves on Philanthropy New York’s Board of Directors.

Justin Garrett Moore
Executive Director
New York City Public Design Commission
🐦@jgmoore

Justin Garrett Moore is an urban designer and the Executive Director of the New York City Public Design Commission. He has extensive experience in urban design and city planning—from large-scale urban systems, policies, and projects to grassroots and community-focused planning, design, and arts initiatives. At the Public Design Commission, his work is focused on prioritizing the quality and excellence of the public realm, and fostering accessibility, diversity, and inclusion in the City’s public buildings, spaces, and art.

As the former senior urban designer for New York City’s Department of City Planning for more than a decade, Mr. Moore was responsible for conducting complex urban design plans and

studies of the physical design and use of sites including infrastructure, public spaces, land use patterns, and neighborhood character. His projects included the Greenpoint and Williamsburg Waterfront, Hunter's Point South, and the Brooklyn Cultural District. Mr. Moore earned a Master of Architecture degree and a Master of Science degree in Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University, where he is now an Adjunct Associate Professor of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation.

Mr. Moore is the co-founder of Urban Patch, a social enterprise focused on community design and development, and is a member of the black urbanist collective BlackSpace. His professional affiliations include the American Planning Association, the Urban Design Forum, and Next City's Vanguard. He also serves as a member of the American Planning Association's American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Commission; on the boards of ioby and Made in Brownsville; and on advisory boards for the Van Alen Institute, MoMA, and Dumbarton Oaks.

Nupur Chaudhury
Program Officer
New York State Health Foundation
🐦@CautionChaud

As Program Officer, Nupur Chaudhury focuses on NYSHealth's priority area on building healthy communities, which leads neighborhood-level and policy interventions to increase residents' access to healthy, affordable food options, improve the built environment, and link communities with healthy lifestyle programming.

Ms. Chaudhury brings a background in community-based health, urban planning, and community organizing. Prior to joining NYSHealth, Ms. Chaudhury was the director of neighborhood health development at the Center for Health Equity, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In her role there, she led the expansion of the Shop Healthy program, aimed at changing the food retail environment in the City's poorest neighborhoods, and was also part of the planning team developing the City's Neighborhood Health Action Centers. She has also worked with Rebuild by Design as a resiliency planner post-Hurricane Sandy by building and strengthening neighborhood coalitions in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Prior to that, Ms. Chaudhury was the first health coordinator for the Brownsville Partnership, developing its agenda linking the built environment, health, and violence to its work on active living and healthy eating.

Ms. Chaudhury holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bryn Mawr College, a Master of Urban Planning degree from New York University, and a Master of Public Health degree from Columbia University. She is a member of the American Public Health Association and American Planning Association, as well as serves on the boards of Made in Brownsville and University of Orange.

Damaris Reyes
Executive Director
Good Ole Lower East Side
🐦 @dgrles

Damaris Reyes is the Executive Director of Good Ole Lower East Side (GOLES). She is a lifelong resident of the Lower East Side and has been with the GOLES since 2000. Ms. Reyes has been involved in community organizing and housing issues both locally and nationally for more than 20 years. She is the chair and co-founder of LES Ready, a disaster and recovery network. Ms. Reyes also currently sits on the board of directors of Southside United H.D.F.C. - Los Sures and on the advisory board of the Center for Community Leadership. She is also a member of Community Board 3 and sits on the Land Use, Zoning, and Public & Private Housing Committee.

Ms. Reyes is a regular public speaker on the topics of public housing and resiliency, and her work has taken her around the world to learn about flood protection strategies and to share best practices in community engagement, resiliency, and disaster preparedness. She has received numerous honors for her work, including the 2006 New York Women's Foundation's Neighborhood Leadership Award and the 2009 Jane Jacobs Medal from the Rockefeller Foundation and the Municipal Art Society of New York City.

Sarah Obot
Co-Chair
Create a Healthier Niagara Falls Collaborative

Sarah Obot is a Co-Chair and Change Agent of the Create a Healthier Niagara Falls Collaborative. As a volunteer, she serves on the Collaborative as one of the four residents forming the executive team. She also serves as the treasurer on the board of the Collaborative. Ms. Obot maintains and creates relationships with national and international community health leaders, identifies and organizes needed trainings, and is responsible for the internal and external communications of the Collaborative. Ms. Obot leads resident-driven projects in Niagara Falls, focusing on walkability and play to improve health and wellness; she also helps facilitate other residents to drive their own project ideas.

Ms. Obot is a native of Belgium and is bilingual French and English. She has lived in the United States since 2009, when she started working for the Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club. From 2013–2017, Ms. Obot worked as a program director at the Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center. She also became the co-founder and sitting coordinator of the Project Runway Coalition, which started in 2013. In 2016, Ms. Obot was recognized by Niagara University as the U.S. Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Obot earned her Bachelor of Science degree in 2006 and her Master of Education degree in Belgium in 2009 with a focus on linguistics and education in developing countries. Ms. Obot has three children, with whom she enjoys outdoor activities, bike rides, walks and hikes, swimming, and cooking.

Dionne Grayman
President and Co-Founder
We Run Brownsville
🐦 @DionneGrayman

Dionne Grayman is the President and Co-Founder of We Run Brownsville (WRB). She has more than twenty years of experience in co-creating learning spaces centered in belonging and joy with a range of young people—from incarcerated youth on Rikers Island to students at Brooklyn Technical High School. In her role as staff developer for the Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility, she trains and coaches leadership and staff in the implementation of restorative practices inside of New York City public schools in order to disrupt racial inequity and dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline.

In 2015, as co-founder of WRB, Ms. Grayman carried her work from the classroom into the wider community where she continues to believe that the collective power of the people is the most effective mechanism for leading transformation from within and informing policy without. Through WRB, black and brown women with little to no experience in running receive professional training to complete a 5k race. Imbued with confidence, these women have assumed leadership positions within local parent associations, the community board, and in their respective careers.

Ms. Grayman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Journalism and a Master of Science degree in Special Education. Born to parents who grew up in public housing, she is indebted to them for their insistence that being a smart black girl with glasses is a revolutionary act. Ms. Grayman is most proud of being the mother of three incredible children who keep her hip, cool, and dancing.

Bronwyn Starr
Program Officer
New York State Health Foundation

As Program Officer, Bronwyn Starr focuses on NYSHealth's priority area on building healthy communities, which leads neighborhood-level and policy interventions to increase residents' access to healthy, affordable food options, improve the built environment, and link communities with healthy lifestyle programming. Ms. Starr also has managed projects to support county health departments in reducing health disparities and preventing chronic disease; expand primary care access and capacity in the most rural parts of New York State; and increase recruitment and retention of New York State's primary care workforce.

Prior to joining NYSHealth, Ms. Starr led a program at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that helped primary care providers improve medication adherence for their patients. She previously worked in the international health sector with Catholic Relief Services and Planned Parenthood, and was a New York City emergency medical technician for 10 years.

Ms. Starr holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Oregon and a Master of Public Health degree from New York University. She serves on the steering committee for Community Food Funders.

Jessica Athens
Policy and Research Officer
New York State Health Foundation

As Policy and Research Officer at the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth), Jessica Athens works with the Policy and Research Director and Program Associate to support the policy agenda of the Foundation through timely research. In particular, Dr. Athens builds the Foundation's internal capacity for applied public health research, geospatial analysis, and program evaluation.

Prior to joining NYSHealth, Dr. Athens was a faculty member in population health at New York University School of Medicine, where she served as director of metrics and analytics for its Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-sponsored City Health Dashboard project. She also served as co-investigator on a National Institutes of Health-funded grant to evaluate the relationship between New York City's food environment and child health outcomes, and co-directed an introductory course for third- and fourth-year medical students on population health. She previously worked at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, where she helped launch County Health Rankings and Roadmaps.

Dr. Athens holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Lawrence University, Master of Science degrees in Urban and Regional Planning and Population Health Sciences from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and a Ph.D. in Population Health Sciences, also from University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Suzanne Nienaber
Partnerships Director
Center for Active Design

Suzanne Nienaber is the Partnerships Director at the Center for Active Design. With expertise in urban planning and facilitation, Ms. Nienaber has organized more than 200 presentations and participatory workshops to encourage designers, planners, and developers to transform the built environment to support healthy, engaged communities. She also leads Assembly, the Center for Active Design's pioneering initiative exploring how community design impacts measures of civic life—including trust, participation in public life, stewardship, and voting. Previously, Ms. Nienaber worked for New York City's inter-agency active design team, where she developed and implemented training programs to familiarize professionals with New York City's award-winning Active Design Guidelines.

Ms. Nienaber holds a Master of Urban Planning from New York University and has more than a decade of experience working in the field. She is an AICP-designated planner, and is also

certified by the National Charrette Institute. Previously, Ms. Nienaber was a Senior Planner at the firm of ACP Visioning+Planning, where she managed a variety of projects including multi-jurisdictional visioning initiatives, master plans, and neighborhood-scale urban design plans. Prior to her urban planning career, she worked in the field of international public health, supporting nutrition and training programs at Helen Keller International.

Terry Huang

**Professor and Chair, Department of Health Policy and Management;
Director, Center for Systems and Community Design, CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy**

🐦 @DrTTKH

Dr. Terry Huang is Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, Director of the Center for Systems and Community Design, and Co-Director of the NYU-CUNY Prevention Research Center at the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy. Previously, Dr. Huang played a leading role at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) on the integration of systems science and public health. Dr. Huang has had a long history of research and policy leadership in the area of obesity and chronic disease prevention. He is also passionate about systems-oriented community health, design for health, public health entrepreneurship, and strategies for collective impact. Dr. Huang has lectured and published extensively on these topics.

In addition to his varied academic research endeavors, Dr. Huang's current work focuses on innovations at the intersection of business, design, and health, including the development of a new global public health entrepreneurship platform focused on early-stage solutions that target multiple United Nations sustainable development goals. Dr. Huang received the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Innovation Award in 2010 and the NIH Director's Award in 2011. In addition, he received the National Cancer Institute Award of Merit in 2012 and was named Distinguished Scientist at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 2013. Dr. Huang holds a Ph.D. in Preventive Medicine and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Southern California, a Master of Business Administration degree from IE Business School (Madrid, Spain), and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from McGill University (Montreal, Canada). He is board certified in public health (CPH) and is Fellow, Councilor, and past program chair of The Obesity Society. He is also Vice President North America and a member of the executive board of the World Obesity Federation.