Lessons from the Field: How Schools and Districts Are Meeting the Social-Emotional and Mental Health Needs of Students and Staff

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 | 3:00 - 4:15 PM ET

Speaker Bios

Dr. Kathleen Ethier, Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Dr. Kathleen Ethier is Director of CDC’s Division of Adolescent and School Health in the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention.

Prior to her appointment as Director of DASH, she served in a variety of capacities across the agency, including as the Director of the Program, Performance and Evaluation Office in the CDC Office of the Director (2010-2016), Associate Director for Public Health Practice in the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (2009-2010), and Adolescent Health Goal Team Leader for the agency (2007-2009). Her work in these positions has focused on developing strategic direction for agency priorities, best practices for using data for decision-making and improving program evaluation.

Dr. Ethier first came to CDC in 1999 and joined the Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention to lead the development and evaluation of interventions to prevent HIV, STDs and pregnancy among adolescents. Prior to joining CDC, she spent six years on the research faculty at Yale University studying HIV, STD and unplanned pregnancy prevention among women and adolescents.

Dr. Ethier’s research has included psychosocial, behavioral, organizational and clinical factors related to women’s health, maternal health, and adolescent sexual and reproductive health. Her special focus has been the development of social context level interventions for adolescents and the role of parents, schools, health care providers and communities in promoting adolescent health. Her work has been published widely in peer-review publications, including the American Journal of Public Health, Health Psychology, Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the Journal of Adolescent Health, and Sexually Transmitted Infections, among others. She has co-authored chapters in edited books, including Women and AIDS: Coping and Care, the Handbook of Health Psychology and Behavioral Interventions for Prevention and Control of STDs.
Dr. Ethier earned her PhD in social psychology from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY), where her dissertation examined identity acquisition and change among women during and following their first pregnancy.

Dr. Anita Everett, Director, Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Dr. Everett is the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services. In this role, she provides executive leadership for federal efforts to improve the nation's mental health service systems.

Prior to her arrival at SAMHSA, she served as the Section Chief of The Johns Hopkins Bayview Community and General Psychiatry in Baltimore, Maryland. She was on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the Bloomberg School of Public Health. At Hopkins, she directed 22 community psychiatry programs that provide a range of services to individuals from preschool age to older adults and through a range of programs that include intensive acute services as well as recovery support services for persons with Serious Mental Illnesses. More recently at Hopkins, she has been involved with the leadership of health system behavioral health integration into accountable care structures. Earlier in her career, Dr. Everett served as the Senior Medical Advisor to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. There she worked on the promotion of access to quality services and access to medications in the Medicare prescription drug benefit. From 1999 to 2003 she served as the Inspector General to the Office of the Governor in the Department of Mental Health in Virginia. During this time she completed over 80 inspections of Institutions operated and licensed to provide mental health services in Virginia. She received the Patrick Henry award for outspoken advocacy.

Dr. Everett has served on the National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Advisory Council. She is active in several professional organizations including the American Psychiatric Association where she has received a commendation for her work in healthcare reform. She is a past president of the Maryland Psychiatric Society and the American Association of Community Psychiatrists. She has been engaged in a number of international projects which have included consultation with the Ministries of Health, Department of Mental Health in Iraq and Afghanistan on the implementation of mental health services in these countries.

Jennifer Donahue, Program Administrator, School Health Programs, San Francisco Unified School District
Ms. Donahue supports school social workers in SFUSD within the Student and Family Support Division as a Program Administrator. She has worked with youth and families in schools in San Francisco for over 21 years working in community-based organizations and school-based health and wellness programs. She received her Master of Social Welfare from UC Berkeley and an undergraduate degree in education and psychology from UW Madison.

Ethan White, Data & Development Strategist, Boys and Girls Club of Malibu, CA
Coming soon!

Peggy Zherdev, Director of the Wellness Center + Social Support Services, Boys and Girls Club of Malibu, CA
Coming soon!