



2019 Speaker Bios

Leading the Way through Evidence Based Education!

Breakfast Keynote: Do Something Extraordinary!

Session: Addressing Resistance and Creating Buy-In in the School Setting

Jessica Lawrence, MS, Director, Cairn Guidance

Jess Lawrence is an enthusiastic, energetic, extroverted New Englander living in Eastern Kentucky by way of Portland, Oregon after 20 years. She started her career doing exactly what she wanted to do since her own high school experience—teaching 7th graders health education. In 2003, Jess was hired as the Health Education Curriculum Specialist for the Oregon Department of Education, where she provided assistance and professional development to health teachers across Oregon. In 2006, Jess pursued a career as a national school & community health consultant, working with state departments of transportation, education, and health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, school districts and nonprofits working to create healthier schools and communities. She writes curriculum, presents keynote addresses at conferences and facilitates adult learners.

Spend Smart. Eat Smart: Online Tools to Complement Nutrition Ed.

Jody Gatewood, MS, RD, LD, Assistant State Nutrition Program Specialist, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

Jody Gatewood is a Registered Dietitian for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. Prior to her current position she worked at a fitness center, WIC, and as an Extension field specialist. In her current position, she helps coordinate the SNAP-Ed and EFNEP programs by providing training and support for nutrition educators across Iowa. She is also responsible for maintaining the Spend Smart. Eat Smart. website and app and writing content for the Spend Smart. Eat Smart. blog.

Co-Presenter:

Justine Hoover, MS, RD, LD, Human Sciences Specialist, EFNEP, FNP, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

Justine Hoover is a Registered Dietitian from Iowa State University. She has worked in the fields of SNAP-Ed and EFNEP in nutrition education, program evaluation, and recipe development. She also has experience as a WIC dietitian and WIC coordinator. Most importantly she is a mom who loves to cook for her family.

Physical Activity: Making Behavior Change Happen

David Genova, Director of Health Promotion, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

David Genova graduated from Slippery Rock University where he earned his Bachelor's of Science degree in Health Science with a concentration in Public Health and a minor in Psychology. He is a personal trainer, certified through American Council on Exercise as a Health Coach. David currently serves as the Director of Health Promotion at the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services where he directs, develops and coordinates programs in the areas of chronic disease and injury prevention including, nutrition, and physical activity.

Voices for Food: Nutrition Educators as Community Coaches to fulfill PSE Standards

Suzanne Stluka, MS, RDN, LN, Food & Families Program Director, SNAP Ed Coordinator, South Dakota State University Extension

Dr. Suzanne Stluka is the Food & Families Program Director for SDSU Extension. She provides leadership to the Food & Families Capstone Field Specialists in the areas of Aging, Family Resource Management, Food Safety, Physical Activity, and Nutrition. Suzanne also provides leadership to the Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed); these programs provide health and wellness education to limited resource audiences across SD. Her research interests are in the area of food security, food access, and nutrition education, primarily focusing on for Native American audiences.

Co-Presenters:

Rebecca Henne, SNAP-Ed Coordinator and Associate Program Leader, Michigan State University Extension, Eaton County Extension Office

Rebecca Henne is the SNAP-Ed Coordinator and Associate Program Leader for Michigan State University Extension. Becky's interests include engaging schools and youth in the food system process. Both through her personal & professional experiences, she is committed to building collaborations that make the best use of resources and expertise in order to reduce duplication of efforts and increase potential.

Lindsay Moore, MS, Family & Community Health Field Specialist, South Dakota State University Extension

Lindsay Moore is a Family & Community Health Field Specialist for SDSU Extension. She is the project coordinator for Voices for Food. Her research interests are in the area of food policy councils, food security, food access, physical activity, and sedentary time.

Contributing Author:

Lacey McCormack, Assistant Professor, Director of the Undergraduate Didactic Program in Dietetics, South Dakota State University Extension

Dr. Lacey McCormack is an Assistant Professor and Director of the undergraduate Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). She currently teaches graduate courses in Public Health Nutrition (NUTR 715) and Nutrition and Physical Activity Assessment and Evaluation (NUTR 751) and serves as Co-Advisor for the undergraduate Nutrition and Health Sciences Club. Her research examines how the rural environment shapes diet and physical activity behaviors across the lifespan. Additionally, she serves as an evaluation expert on several SDSU Extension-led projects.

Food Insecurity: What Can You Do To Help!

Teri Wassel, RD, Public Health Nutritionist, Montgomery County Office of Health and Human Services

Teri Wassel started with the Office of Public Health in 1991. She is a registered dietitian with her Master's in Nutrition. Her work involves educating the residents of Montgomery County in nutrition education through hands on activities such as cooking demonstrations, grocery shopping tours, constructing community gardens and walk and talk lectures. Teri has much experience in garden projects such as North Penn's Cultivating Community Campaign creating 13 garden sites and currently developing 5 community gardens for the PA Safe and Community grant. In 1995 she was granted the PA Nutrition Educator of the Year by the PA Food Service Association and in 2015 was named Montgomery County Cooperative Extension "Friend" award. Her hobbies includes cooking, traveling and running races in her free time.

Coalition Building for More Effective Nutrition Education Leading to Behavior Change

Mary Marczak, PhD, Director, Urban Family Development and Evaluation, University of Minnesota Extension

Mary Marczak, Ph.D. is the director of Urban Family Development and Evaluation with the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Family Development. In her role, she leads ethnically/racially diverse staff across critical health-related content areas of nutrition, child wellbeing, and children's mental health. For over 20 years, Dr. Marczak has also evaluated over 70 programs including national and statewide initiatives as well as local programs run by small, non-profit organizations. With a strong emphasis on an ecological framework for designing evaluations, Dr. Marczak has experiences evaluating community participatory processes (CBPR) with diverse communities including tribal communities, Latino, and new immigrant communities. Dr. Marczak has been a member of the strategic team of the statewide Minnesota Food Charter Network as well as a leading member of the Minnesota Food Charter Shared Measurement Action team.

We Made a Kid Friendly Garden! You Can Do It Too!

Cheryl Moss, Owner/Director, A Mother's Touch Center for Child Development

Cheryl Moss, BS in Secondary Education is the owner/director of A Mother's Touch Center for Child Development. Her knowledge in brain development and the importance of the first 5 years of life prompted her to open her daycare 11 years ago. She was featured in the June 3 edition of Woman's Day in 2009 for leaving a job a security to follow her dream. As a provider her daycare is a STAR 3 and soon to be STAR 4. She and her husband Joe of 40 years have 6 children and 5 grandchildren.

Co-Presenter:

Michelle Smith Co-Presenter Position, Outreach Manager Pennsylvania Head Start Association

Michelle Smith, MSW, LSW is the Outreach Manager for the Pennsylvania Head Start Association (PHSA). PHSA has partnered with The Food Trust in Pennsylvania's Farm to Early Learning initiative, "Ready, Set, Grow", in an effort to further farm to early learning activities in Pennsylvania. Using a racial equity framework, PHSA will work with a task force that will focus on public policy and statewide strategies that will support Farm to ECE through Ready, Set, Grow. Through her outreach, Michelle is working to involve a diverse group of stakeholders including educators, parents, farmers, and community leaders in this task force to develop strategies that will build a foundation for access to fresh, local foods and high-quality learning environments.

Real Food First, Nutrition Follows

Weston Petroski, Nutrition Coordinator, Project SHARE

Weston Petroski holds a Bachelors of Science in Nutrition and Foods with a minor in biology from Appalachian State University. In addition to his academic coursework, he worked as an undergraduate Lead Researcher in the Nutrition Department at Appalachian State researching triterpenes in heritage North Carolina apple peels. His work has been published in the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology.

Weston currently works as the nutrition coordinator at Project SHARE of Carlisle where he runs several very successful cooking/nutrition programs for all ages. He has also planned and implemented an award winning summer feeding program, partnering with several local farms and bakeries to source the freshest ingredients possible.

He has been a webinar presenter for the Department of Education and Project PA , as well as for The Food and Research Action Center. He believes in creating a sustainable food system through supporting local producers and through hands-on engagement with real, whole foods. As a visionary and a wellness pioneer in the Carlisle community, Weston has established an ongoing relationship with Sadler Health Center in hopes to increase health and food access to low-income Central Pennsylvanians.

Power Up Your School

Brittany Hamill, MHA, Operations Manager, SNAP-Ed, Adagio Health, Inc.

Britney Hamill holds a dual Masters Degree in Nutrition and Health Care Administration from IUP. She obtained her Bachelor's degree in 2012 from Penn State University. She has a passion for nutrition and physical activity and believes that everyone should have access to healthy/ nutritious foods and safe places to be active. She started her career with Adagio Health in 2013 as a nutritionist in the Pittsburgh area. She was internally promoted twice in her 5 year sat Adagio Health to currently serve as an Operations Manager for the SNAP-Ed program and the WIC Outreach Coordinator. She enjoys being active as a personal trainer and leading group exercise classes.

Co-Presenters:

Sara Mastrine, DTR Supervisor II, Adagio Health, Inc

Sara Mastrine received her bachelor's degree in Nutrition from IUP and is currently working towards her master's degree, which she will complete in the spring of 2019. She previously worked as a school food service director with The Nutrition Group. Sara enjoys finding new ways to stay active, especially Crossfit, running, and teaching yoga. She is enjoying this opportunity to share the importance of nutrition with others.

Teresa Yoder, MAFS, RDN, LDN, Supervisor II, Adagio Health, Inc

Teresa Yoder is a Registered-Dietitian Nutritionist with a passion for community-based public health and sustainable food systems in both rural and urban settings. Teresa earned her Master of Arts in Food Studies from Chatham University in 2012 and her Bachelors of Science in Nutrition from La Salle University in 2005 where she also completed a coordinated dietetic internship. After working in clinical and university settings, Teresa merged her background as a farmer's daughter with her desire for the rich diversity of city-life by moving to Pittsburgh to join Chatham's inaugural food studies cohort. While at Chatham, she served as the graduate assistant for events and programming. Since 2013, Teresa has worked for Adagio Health Power Up Program where she currently oversees and implements SNAP-Ed funded nutrition education efforts for preschoolers through seniors in the eastern region of Allegheny County. She also serves as a deacon at The Open Door church which owns and operates Garfield Community Farm, an urban farm in Pittsburgh committed to addressing issues of food access and nutrition. Teresa lives with her husband, 2 kids and 1 dog in Swissvale, PA.

Community Cooks: A Food Pantry Based Nutrition Ed. Program

Tracy Oliver PhD, RDN, LDN, Associate Professor, Villanova University

Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN is an Associate Professor in the College of Nursing at Villanova University. She has over 8 years of classroom teaching experience in areas of nutrition science, advanced metabolism, nutrition education, and research methods. Her classroom instruction is influenced through her previous roles as a research dietitian, clinical dietitian, and an out-patient wellness dietitian. Her expertise lies in weight management and obesity treatment and prevention and she has worked on numerous research trials evaluating the effects of behavior modification on weight loss. She is presently conducting a research project using a weight sensitivity training program for nursing students to combat weight stigma. She also presently serves at the Chair-elect for the Weight Management Dietetics

Practice Group of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. She earned her B.S. in Clinical Dietetics and Nutrition

from the University of Pittsburgh, and both her Master's and PhD degrees are from Temple University in the field of Kinesiology with a concentration in Exercise Physiology.

Co-Presenters:

Lisa Kieser Diewald, MS, RD, LDN, Program Manager, MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education, Villanova University

Rebecca Shenkman MPH, RDN, LDN, Director for the MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education

Rebecca Shenkman, MPH, RDN, LDN serves as Director for the MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education. Rebecca has clinical, community and research experience in the field of nutrition providing the Center with a broad perspective on obesity management and research. She is a published author on behavioral treatments of obesity which guided her career focus of translating nutritional science into practical advice for patients and clients to improve their quality of life. Rebecca earned her BA in Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania and her Master of Public Health degree from New York University.

Speakers are subject to change.