

# 15th International Women's and Children's Health and Gender Group Conference

Friday, June 16, 2023, 9:00 AM to 5:15 PM MDT in Denver, Colorado

*Impacting the World Together Across Continents, Cultures, and Time*

Check-in begins at 8:15 AM

Time	Event
9:00 Grand Ballroom I	<b>Conference Opening</b> <i>Wendee M. Wechsberg, PhD InWomen's Chair</i> <i>Angela E. Lee-Winn, PhD NIDA Program Official</i>
	<i>Tegan Carr, BA Poetess</i>
10:00 Grand Ballroom I	<b>Panel I: Across the Intersectional Spectrum: How Substance Use and Trauma Impacts Lives</b> <i>Moderated by Jessy Dévieux, PhD</i>
	<i>Mujeres Sin Libertad: Cycles of Substance and Trauma Abuse Among Women and Children in Prison (Peru)</i> <i>Elena Cyrus, PhD</i>
	<i>Substance Use Among Women and Transwomen Who Engage in Sex Work in the Open Drug Scene in South of Tel Aviv: Ethnographic Study (Israel)</i> <i>Hagit Bonny-Noach, PhD</i>
	<i>Perceived Parental Competence Among Women Who Misuse Amphetamine-Type Stimulants: Association with Trauma History and Violence (Malaysia)</i> <i>Suzaily Wahab, MD</i>
	<i>Ethnic/Racial Differences in Trauma Experiences of Women Who Have Substance Use Disorders and Are Homeless/Near Homeless and Their Application to Trauma-informed Services (USA)</i> <i>Rebecca Sustayta, BS</i>
	<i>Panel Discussion Q&amp;A</i>
11:15	<b>Break</b>
11:30 Grand Ballroom I	<b>Panel II: Flash Abstract Presentations</b> <i>Moderated by Felicia Browne, ScD</i>
	<i>Racial Disparities in Non-Fatal Overdose and Related Risk Factors Among College Women in Southern California (USA)</i> <i>Ashley Weitensteiner, MSW</i>
	<i>Reproductive Outcomes in the Young Women Who Use Methamphetamine in Taiwan: The Crossroads in Recovery (Taiwan)</i> <i>Tan-Wen Hsieh, MS</i>
	<i>Gender Differences in the Associations Between Family Emotional Connection and Substance Use and Mental Health Outcomes Among Colombian Adolescents (Colombia)</i> <i>Juan Guillermo Perez-Carreno, MD</i>
	<i>Panel Discussion Q&amp;A</i>
12:00	<b>Break</b>

Time	Event
12:15 Windows Room	<b>Topical Networking Discussion Tables</b>
	<b>Lunch provided at 1:15</b>
	<b>Table 1:</b> Advancements in substance misuse treatment for cisgender women and nonbinary individuals <i>Co-leads: Pavla Dolezalova, PhD &amp; Yukiko Washio, PhD</i>
	<b>Table 2:</b> The recent increase of suicide among female adolescents and intersecting substance use and sexual abuse <i>Co-leads: Alison Greene, PhD &amp; Courtney Peasant Bonner, PhD</i>
	<b>Table 3:</b> The words we use: Feminist, people-first language, inclusive, and sensitive language in our research <i>Co-leads: Brittini Howard, BA &amp; Isa van der Drift, BA</i>
	<b>Table 4:</b> Legalization and medicalization of marijuana: Impacting children and families <i>Co-leads: Rachel Ceasar, PhD &amp; Lindsey Friend, PhD</i>
	<b>Table 5:</b> How to crack the code: How to win intersectional research among individuals with comorbidities and substance use disorder <i>Co-leads: Omar El-Shahawy, MD, PhD &amp; Krystyna Isaacs, PhD</i>
1:45 South Convention Lobby	<b>Energizing Group Drumming Circle!</b> <i>Led by Arlyn Deva Alderdice, Embodying Rhythm School of Percussive Arts</i>
2:15 Grand Ballroom I	<b>Poster Session I (even-numbered posters)</b>
3:00 Grand Ballroom I	<b>Poster Session II (odd-numbered posters)</b>
3:45	<b>Break</b>
4:00 Grand Ballroom I	<b>Panel III: Women's Treatment Panel and Experienced Voices from Women in Recovery</b> <i>Moderated by Courtney Peasant Bonner, PhD</i>
	<i>Annie Peters, PhD, LP Director of Research and Education, National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers</i>
	<i>Holly Wilson, MA, LPCC Chief Empowerment Officer, Women's Recovery</i>
	<i>Tegan Carr, BA Poetess</i>
	<i>Jaimie Meyer, MD, FACP Associate Professor of Medicine and Public Health Yale University</i>
	<i>Liz Znamierowski, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, CLC Mother-Infant Program, Yale's Center for Clinical and Community Research</i>
	<i>Panel Discussion Q&amp;A</i>
5:00 Grand Ballroom I	<b>Closing</b> <i>Wendee M. Wechsberg, PhD InWomen's Chair</i>

*We graciously thank our sponsors and partners for making the InWomen's Conference possible.*

## Chair

### Wendee Wechsberg, PhD, MS

Dr. Wendee Wechsberg has chaired InWomen's since its inception. She is also the director of RTI International's Global Gender Center and the director of Substance Use, Gender, and Applied Research. She has been an applied community-based and gender National Institutes of Health (NIH) researcher since 1994 and has more than 20 years of clinical experience. She has also directed outpatient drug-free, methadone, and residential substance misuse treatment programs. Dr. Wechsberg has devoted her research career to applied community-based studies, notably the Women's CoOp, using mixed methods, to develop and test the efficacy of HIV prevention interventions among different populations of people who use alcohol and drugs. Dr. Wechsberg also serves as a consultant and advisor for various national and international studies. Since 2001, she has conducted research in South Africa with women who are at risk for or living with HIV. She has published in the areas of gender and ethnicity, outreach, HIV risk, and women and couples who use substances. She has over 200 publications in the areas of gender, ethnicity, outreach, HIV risk, adolescents, couples, and women. Dr. Wechsberg was selected as a Forbes' Women 50 Over 50 Impact Honoree in 2022.

## NIDA Program Official

### Angela E. Lee-Winn, PhD

Dr. Angela Lee-Winn is a program official in the Division of Epidemiology, Services, and Prevention Research at the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Dr. Lee-Winn's work spans both the Prevention Research Branch and Services Research Branch. In the Prevention Research Branch, her work focuses on HIV prevention among people who use drugs, with a special emphasis on women and girls. In the Services Research Branch, her responsibilities include international grants, particularly those focused on HIV research and HIV training grants. She is a prevention scientist and psychiatric epidemiologist by training. Her program areas focus on equitable HIV and substance use prevention and care research with underserved populations, including women and girls who face intersectional stigma and discrimination. Dr. Lee-Winn has interests in dissemination and implementation (D&I) science, including multilevel, systematic adaptation, implementation, and evaluation of sustainable, evidence-based strategies across HIV and substance use cascade of care.

## Poetess

### Tegan Carr, BA, AS

Tegan Carr is the founder and CEO of The Medicine Objective, a Minnesota nonprofit that specializes in decolonization, health equity, and community action. She is a consultant, community healer, sociocultural behavioral researcher, writer, and artist-activist. She has been honored nationally for her leadership in health equity reform. Her life's work is to bring equitable health, well-being, liberation, and power to the people. She works through "functional decolonization," an applied system of decolonization designed to shift and transform complex systems and institutions; she researches on the topics of psychedelics, the health of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, and decolonization. She co-leads the academic psychedelic interest group Headspace and the Good Medicine Lodge healers cooperative.

## Panel Moderators

### Felicia Browne, ScD, MPH

Dr. Felicia Browne is a senior research social epidemiologist in RTI International's Substance Use, Gender, and Applied Research Program. She is also the Assistant Director of the Social and Behavioral Science Research Core of the University of North Carolina Center for AIDS Research. With a commitment to addressing health disparities locally and globally, Dr. Browne's NIH-funded research focuses on reducing HIV in the U.S. South and South Africa among key populations of African descent who use alcohol and other drugs. Dr. Browne received a Doctor of Science in social epidemiology from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and a Master of Public Health in health behavior and health education from the University of North Carolina (UNC) Gillings School of Global Public Health.

### Jessy Dévieux, PhD

Dr. Jessy G. Dévieux, a clinical and health psychologist, is professor of public health in the Department of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at Florida International University, College of Public Health & Social Work. Her research interests focus on health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities, especially the development, adaptation, and evaluation of HIV primary and secondary prevention interventions for underserved populations in the United States and internationally. She has been principal investigator and/or co-principal investigator on more than 15 NIH-funded randomized clinical trials designed to reduce risk behaviors and improve adherence to treatment among underserved populations of adolescents, adults with mental illnesses, gender minorities, and adults living with HIV, individuals who experience disparities in health services information, access, and treatment. Her research has broken new ground in HIV behavioral research; most noteworthy is her HIV prevention research with South Florida youth and adults who use substances and people living with HIV in the Caribbean.



## Courtney Peasant Bonner, PhD

Dr. Courtney Peasant Bonner is a senior research clinical psychologist in RTI's Substance Use, Gender, and Applied Research Program. She has more than a decade of experience using community-based participatory research to address the intersection of mental health, substance use, and HIV among vulnerable populations, with an emphasis on women. Dr. Bonner's research is funded by NIH and seeks to understand and address barriers to accessing prevention and treatment services. She earned her PhD from the University of Memphis and completed her postdoctoral research in HIV prevention at Yale University.

## Panelists

### Hagit Bonny-Noach, PhD

Dr. Hagit Bonny-Noach received her PhD in Sociology and Anthropology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She was a consultant of the Israel Anti-Drug Authority (IADA) from 1996 until 2018. She is a senior lecturer in the Department of Criminology at Ariel University. Until 2016, she was head of the Department for Youth Care Work at Beit Berl Academic College and a part-time lecturer in the Department of Social Work in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She is a board member of the Israeli Society of Addiction Medicine (ILSAM) and the editor of the ILSAM Professional Journal Addiction in Israel. Until 2021, she was a board member of the Israel National Anti-Doping Organization (INADO). Her research and teaching areas include substance use, gambling, drug policy, addictions focusing on young adults, women, people who inject drugs, and backpackers.

### Elena Cyrus, PhD, MPH

Dr. Elena Cyrus is an infectious disease epidemiologist and assistant professor at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine (UCF COM). She received her PhD from Florida International University (FIU) and completed fellowships in Family Planning and Reproductive Health, Global Health, and Substance Use and HIV Prevention at University of Michigan, Yale University, and FIU. She is an NIH-funded investigator with a research focus on developing and implementing multilevel substance use and HIV prevention interventions for vulnerable populations globally, and she has programmatic and research experience in Sub-Saharan Africa, India, and the Latin American and Caribbean region. Dr. Cyrus is currently the lead of the Global Health Initiative in the Department of Population Health Sciences at UCF COM and a visiting professor at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies Program at University of California, San Francisco.

## Juan Guillermo Perez-Carreno, MD, MSc

Dr. Juan Perez-Carreno is a Colombian medical doctor with master degrees in epidemiology and bioethics. He is currently a Fulbright Scholar pursuing the doctoral program in epidemiology at the University of Florida. Dr. Perez-Carreno has more than 12 years of experience in clinical research. He has been actively involved in conducting multicentric clinical trials, collaborating with the Ministry of Health and the Pharmaceutical Industry to increase knowledge on neglected diseases. In addition, he has served as a research synthesis specialist for different National Clinical Guidelines, including COVID-19, HIV, hypertension, and asthma. His current research focuses on mental health, psychopharmaco-epidemiology, and health disparities.

### Tan-Wen Hsieh, MS, BS

Tan-Wen Hsieh is currently a research assistant at the Center for Neuropsychiatric Research, National Health Research Institutes, Taiwan. She obtained her BS in biochemical science and technology from National Taiwan University and her MS in public health from National Yang-Ming Chiao Tung University, where she conducted research on the association between obesity and social network among primary school students for her master's thesis. She has recently focused her work on exploring the role of criminal justice intervention in shaping reproductive experiences among young women who use drugs. Her research interests lie in health behavior, substance use, and social and psychiatric epidemiology.

### Jaimie Meyer, MD, MS, FACP

Dr. Jaimie Meyer is an associate professor of medicine and public health at Yale, and the associate program director for research of the Infectious Disease Fellowship training program. She is a practicing physician who is board-certified in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, and Addiction Medicine. Her NIH-funded clinical research lab focuses on HIV prevention and treatment for women, addressing social and structural determinants of health. Ongoing projects involve HIV prevention and treatment interventions for women involved in criminal legal systems, attending to reproductive health needs, intimate partner violence, substance use disorders, and homelessness. Her clinical work and research are motivated by her experience working as an HIV care provider at the only women's prison and jail in Connecticut.



### Annie Peters, PhD, LP

Dr. Annie Peters is a person in long-term recovery, which to her means she hasn't used alcohol or other drugs since 2004. She is a clinical psychologist and has worked in the addictions field since 2006. She is currently the director of research and education at the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP). As a person with both lived and professional experience with addiction, she works to support people with substance use and mental health issues in a variety of ways, helping them find a future full of hope and self-compassion. Through her recovery journey, she has also become an avid hiker, climber, roller skater, and banjo player.

### Rebecca Sustayta, BS

Rebecca Sustayta is the manager of victim services at Mothers Against Drunk Driving. She is passionate about ensuring every woman has access to trauma-informed care. Having worked in crisis intervention for several years, she is certified in trauma-informed advocacy and has volunteered as a crisis counselor for Crisis Text Line. Previously, she served in the Peace Corps in Botswana from 2019–2020 and engaged in international development work in Taiwan, the Dominican Republic, and Nicaragua. She is currently working on her master's in public health from the University of Arizona and completing an internship through the Southwestern Institute for Research on Women (SIROW).

### Suzaily Wahab, MD

Associate Professor Dr. Suzaily Wahab is a consultant psychiatrist and a senior lecturer at the University Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre. She is the head of the Special Study Module undergraduate research program at the Faculty of Medicine UKM, and also serves on the Committee for the National Council of Women Association (NCWO) in Malaysia with a focus on domestic violence. Her strong interest and expertise in mental health issues and addiction among youths have led to numerous types of research on high-risk behaviors among this group, which include sexual abuse, drug abuse, teen pregnancy, and cyber health threats. Dr. Wahab has led several national and international mental health research projects. She is also currently leading a funded national project on the prevention and intervention of substance use, particularly methamphetamine and polydrug use, among Malaysian adolescents and youth. Dr. Wahab also strives to spread awareness of mental health issues to the community, especially to the young population, through conferences, seminars, and mass media. She has also authored several journal articles, books, and book chapters in the field of mental health and addiction, published locally and abroad.

### Ashley Weitensteiner, MSW

Ashley Weitensteiner is a second-year PhD student in the joint Interdisciplinary Substance Use Research doctoral program at the University of California San Diego and San Diego State University. Her research interests include exploring substance use outcomes among people who have been sexually exploited and substance use-related disparities among unhoused sexual and gender minority populations. Additionally, her research interests include examining the inequalities faced by racial, gender, and sexual minorities in accessing the benefits of harm reduction drug policies and interventions.

### Holly Wilson, MA, LPCC

As founder and chief empowerment officer, Holly Wilson brings years of experience in the field of mental health and addiction to Women's Recovery, which offers high-quality clinical treatment in a welcoming environment. She has worked in some of the most reputable treatment programs in the country in various roles, including her role as managing director and program director for a nationally renowned dual-diagnosis, extended care program. She was responsible for evidence-based development and maintenance of program scheduling for clients, facility, and staff for three levels of care; residential inpatient, transitional, and sober living. Having an intimate knowledge of the substance abuse recovery, she is a strong advocate for clinically savvy, gender-specific, co-occurring treatment. She is deeply committed to the recovery community of Denver, as well as the professional and personal development of women in the field of mental health.

### Liz Znamierowski, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, CLC

As the primary clinician for the Mother-Infant Program (MIP) at Yale's Center for Clinical and Community Research (YCCR), a division of Internal Medicine, Liz Znamierowski's clinical focus is centered upon providing comprehensive, accessible health care and care coordination for families with high-risk social needs, traditionally marginalized by current medical systems. She has worked for the past two years to expand the MIP program (established by Dr. Leslie Sude) as an innovative mobile medical clinic poised to dynamically respond to community needs. Alongside implementing and coordinating an ongoing community overdose prevention grant, she has worked with addiction treatment services to provide dyad-focused care to pregnant and postpartum women (and their children) in substance use disorder residential treatment. Her prior professional experience in affordable housing and eviction prevention has allowed her to build on the interplay of health care access, housing, substance use, and food security to promote dyadic outcomes through mobile medical care.

## Special Thanks

We would like to express our gratitude to Claire Korzen for their editorial assistance, and the organizing committee for their efforts in making our 15th InWomen's Group conference a success! We are also grateful to RTI International and the National Institute on Drug Abuse for their Diamond-level sponsorship, and to CPDD, and SIROW, and all of our donors. We thank Dr. Lindsey Friend of NIDA for stepping in to co-lead a discussion table given short notice.

## Evaluation



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InWomen's acknowledges the land on which we are standing and using is the traditional territory of the Ute, Cheyenne, and Arapaho Peoples, and we also recognize the 48 contemporary tribal nations that are historically tied to the lands that make up the state of Colorado.

## Organizing Committee Members

**Wendee M. Wechsberg**, PhD, MS, (Chair), RTI International

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