

HEAL Spring 2018 Learning Community Partners in Community Transformation

Presenter Biographies

Judy Harper

Judy Harper is a senior program director at Community Partners, identifying, developing, and leading strategic initiatives (such as the Kaiser Permanente HEAL initiative) and providing organizational development support to a portfolio of fiscally sponsored projects. She brings nearly 20 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, designing programs, developing resources and providing technical and learning support for a wide range of nonprofit initiatives. Previously, Judy served as the associate director for the Border Philanthropy Partnership at the Synergos Institute, directed community development programs at MAAC Project's affordable housing communities, was program officer for San Diego Dialogue's cross-border and regional collaborative projects, and served as associate director for development at the San Diego Repertory Theatre. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Occidental College and master's degrees in urban planning and Latin American studies from University of California, Los Angeles. A former Fulbright Fellow in Mexico and a San Diego Rotary Club Ambassadorial Scholar in Brazil, she speaks fluent Spanish and Portuguese.

Laura Keene

Laura Keene is the lead evaluator for Kaiser Permanente Southern California Community Benefit's HEAL initiative and owner and principal of Keene Insights, where she provides evaluation training and support to nonprofits, foundations, and other community-based organizations. Laura has fifteen years of experience designing and implementing high-quality evaluations and building organizational capacity around evaluation. She has worked in a variety of contexts including public health, healthcare, social services and education in local, national and international settings. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology from University of California, Berkeley and a master's degree in public health from Columbia University.

Michelle Molina

Michelle Molina partners with nonprofits to collect data to show their impact, learn, and make decisions. By helping the organizations consider their context, she helps them refine their goals so that they can collect data that is meaningful. Her masters in Education focusing on Social Research Methodology from University of California, Los Angeles gave her the technical skills she needs to collect and analyze both qualitative and quantitative data. Her experience working with a variety of organizations has helped her understand that effective evaluations must focus on use, be done in partnership with key stakeholders, and consider the systems programs live in.

Arpiné Shakhbandaryan

As a program manager with Community Partners, Arpiné Shakhbandaryan provides technical assistance, peer learning opportunities, facilitation, and project management for the Southern California Kaiser HEAL initiative and the Thriving Schools Partnership Grant. Previously, she worked at the City of El Monte coordinating the Policies for Livable, Active Communities and Environments initiative funded by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. The program is dedicated to fostering policy change that supports the development of healthy, safe, and active environments for all community residents. Arpiné brings experience in policy and program development for healthy eating and active living initiatives, coalition building, and public sector, nonprofit, and community collaboration. She received a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in public health from the University of Southern California.

John Yamamoto

In February 2018, John Yamamoto became Kaiser Permanente Southern California's first Vice President of Community Health, Government Relations, and Community Engagement for Kaiser Foundation Hospitals/Health Plan Southern California. His portfolio includes promotion of good public policy conducive to Kaiser Permanente's nonprofit integrated health care model and its mission to improve the health of the communities we serve, and leading Kaiser Permanente's "upstream" strategy to enhance the social, economic, and environmental conditions in our communities that influence health. Prior to assuming this role, John led the Health and Regulatory Practice Group of Kaiser Permanente's national legal department from 1997 to 2011 and was Southern California Regional Counsel from 2003 to 2018. He is a member of Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and Health Plan Southern California Leadership Team and Joint Executive Team composed of leaders from Health Plan/Hospitals and Southern California Permanente Medical Group. Prior to joining Kaiser Permanente, John was a health lawyer at McDermott, Will & Emery in its Los Angeles office.