



CHILDREN AND FAMILY FUTURES STAFF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

THE PFR MANAGEMENT TEAM

DR. NANCY YOUNG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Young is the Executive Director of Children and Family Futures (CFF), a California-based research and policy institute whose mission is to improve safety, permanency, well-being and recovery outcomes for children, parents and families affected by trauma, substance use and mental disorders. Dr. Young led the effort to create the Prevention and Family Recovery (PFR) initiative in 2013 and provides overall oversight and strategic direction for the initiative.

Dr. Young has also served as the Director of the federally-funded National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare since 2002 and the Director of the Administration on Children and Families technical assistance program for the Regional Partnership Grants since 2007. In 2010, she began serving as the Director of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's technical assistance program for Family Drug Courts and the Statewide System Improvement Program in 2014.

Through directing these numerous programs and serving as a consultant to various states, counties, tribes, communities and foundations on behalf of children, parents and families affected by substance use and mental disorders involved in the child welfare and judicial systems, Dr. Young has been involved in extensive public policy analyses, strategic planning initiatives and program evaluations. Prior to founding Children and Family Futures in 1996, Dr. Young was research consultant to the Directorate of the State of California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.

Dr. Young is a graduate of California State University Fullerton and received her Master of Social Work and her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California, School of Social Work. During her doctoral studies, she received a pre-doctoral fellowship with the National Institute on Drug Abuse focusing on the public policy and research issues pertaining to children affected by parental substance use disorders. Dr. Young's work and that of CFF have been recognized by the Federal Administration on Children and Families through the Outstanding Contractor of the Year Award in 2006 and by a resolution issued by the Orange County Board of Supervisors in 2008. Dr. Young has also been recognized by the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors as a recipient of the Robert E. Anderson Service Award in 2008 and the Women's Service Champion Award in 2014.

THERESA LEMUS, PFR PROJECT DIRECTOR AND PFR CHANGE LEADER (ROUNDS 1 AND 2)

Ms. Lemus is a Director at CFF where she oversees the Family Treatment Court portfolio that includes PFR and the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's National Family Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Program. As PFR Project Director, Ms. Lemus is responsible for the overall implementation of the PFR initiative and all primary communication with the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, The Duke Endowment, the PFR National Advisory Council and other key stakeholders. In addition to serving as PFR Project Director, Ms. Lemus is Change Leader for the Jefferson and Mecklenburg county sites (PFR2). She also served as Change Leader for three of the PFR1 sites (Pima, San Francisco and Tompkins).



CHILDREN AND FAMILY FUTURES STAFF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Ms. Lemus is a nationally recognized expert in collaborative practice to improve outcomes for children and families affected by substance use disorders, family treatment court best practice models, and clinical treatment including comprehensive withdrawal management and health and human services. She has over a decade of experience as a Senior Program Associate at CFF, providing consultation to states and local jurisdictions.

Prior to CFF, she served as a consultant to the National Drug Court Institute facilitating the development of new family treatment courts. She has considerable knowledge and experience in program management, cross-system collaboration, integrated service delivery, program and resource development, sustainability, persuasive and technical writing, needs assessment and planning, research, evaluation and policy analysis. She also has extensive experience working with multidisciplinary teams, problem-solving courts, and collaborative practice programs. She is an effective facilitator and consensus builder and draws upon her knowledge of effective clinical and business practice in substance use and mental health services, health care and child welfare to provide the highest quality support to states and localities.

Ms. Lemus is a Registered Nurse, Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor, and a Certified Clinical Supervisor. She is a co-author and contributor to several publications, including the *Family Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Needs Assessment and the Family Drug Court Guidelines*.

KIM DENNIS, PFR PROJECT MANAGER

Ms. Dennis is a Senior Program Associate at CFF and serves as Project Manager for the PFR project, where she provides day-to-day oversight of project communication, tasks and deliverables, reporting and product development, and assistance with the overall PFR evaluation. She was also the Change Leader Associate for the Pima County site (PFR1). Ms. Dennis has more than 20 years of experience as a researcher, analyst and writer on diverse issues including substance use disorders, child welfare, early childhood development, health care and welfare reform. Prior to PFR, Ms. Dennis worked on the Regional Partnership Grant (RPG) Program Support Contract for six years where her responsibilities included development and tracking of a RPG performance measurement system; qualitative and quantitative data analyses; preparation of reports to Congress, Children's Bureau and grantees; provision of evaluation-related technical assistance; and materials development for grantee meetings and training events. Prior to RPG, Ms. Dennis served for four years as Project Manager of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) Technical Support on Women, Children and TANF contract, where she helped develop national conferences on women's substance use treatment; provided technical support to the State Women's Services Coordinator Network; developed briefing papers, reports and presentations on issues affecting women and children; and analyzed national substance use datasets to inform strategic planning.

Before joining CFF, Ms. Dennis was a Community Analyst at the Center for Child Health Outcomes, Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego, where she evaluated the effectiveness of community-based programs designed to improve children's health and well-being. Ms. Dennis has spent most of her professional career in the public sector, working for nonprofit organizations in California, Washington, D.C. and New York City. She has a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from University of California, Berkeley.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY FUTURES STAFF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

THE PFR CHANGE TEAM

ALEXIS BALKEY, PFR CHANGE LEADER (ROUND 2)

Ms. Balkey is a Supervising Manager at CFF and serves as Change Leader for the Milwaukee County site (PFR2). She is also the Program Manager for the National FDC Training and Technical Assistance (FDC TTA) Program at CFF, where she assists with project management and reporting tasks to compile and synthesize information on the lessons, results and policy and practice innovations of the FDC TTA Program. Additionally, she provides training and technical assistance to FDCs across the nation, responding to over 1,000 requests in less than seven years. Ms. Balkey is also a Change Leader for the Statewide System Improvement Program that enhances system collaboration to improve outcomes for families within the child welfare system affected by substance use disorders.

Prior to her employment with CFF, Ms. Balkey was the Program Manager for Riverside County Family Preservation Court located in Indio, CA, where she successfully managed a Family Drug Court with multiple funding streams including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Children Affected by Methamphetamine (CAM) Federal grant. Ms. Balkey is a certified addictive disorder counselor by the Breining Institute, College for the Advanced Study of Addictive Disorders, with robust knowledge of alcohol and other drug treatment programs. Ms. Balkey received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Temple University, as well as a Master of Public Administration from California State University, San Bernardino.

LAUREN VAN SCHILFGAARDE, PFR CHANGE LEADER (ROUND 2)

Ms. van Schilfgaarde is a Change Leader for the Gila River Indian Community Family Healing to Wellness Court (PFR2). She serves as Tribal Law Specialist for the Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI), which is partnering with CFF on the PFR initiative. At TLPI, Ms. van Schilfgaarde facilitates technical assistance to tribal courts, including Healing to Wellness Courts, and researches legal and policy issues as they face tribal governance and sovereignty. Ms. van Schilfgaarde currently teaches the Tribal Legal Development Clinic at the UCLA School of Law, where she received her law degree with a focus on tribal and federal Indian law. While in law school, she served as president of the Native American Law Students Association and was on the board of the National Native American Law Students Association. Ms. van Schilfgaarde received her Bachelor of Arts from Colorado College. She is licensed in the State of California and recently finished a 3-year term on the board of the California Indian Law Association. She currently serves on the board of the National Native American Bar Association and the American Bar Association's Native American Concerns Committee. Ms. van Schilfgaarde is a tribal member of Cochiti Pueblo and is from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

MARIANNA CORONA, PFR CHANGE LEADER ASSOCIATE (ROUNDS 1 AND 2)

Ms. Corona is a Senior Program Associate at CFF. She is currently Change Leader Associate for Gila River Indian Community (PFR2) and served as Change Leader Associate for Tompkins County (PFR1). In her position at CFF, Ms. Corona also serves as a Performance Management Liaison on the Regional Partnership Grant (RPG) Support Contract. She currently leads the Sacramento County Family Drug Courts evaluation, where she provides evaluation technical assistance and manages the tasks and deliverables of the evaluation.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY FUTURES STAFF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

contract. She was also a Performance Management Liaison on the SAMHSA Family Drug Treatment Court project. In addition, Ms. Corona has been involved in conducting Trauma Walk-Throughs with grantees interested in improving services for clients by improving the delivery of trauma-informed care.

Prior to joining CFF, Ms. Corona was a Research Associate with a California-based evaluation firm working in program evaluation, strategic planning and facilitation. Ms. Corona is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in the state of California and previously worked as a direct services mental health provider with San Diego County (California) based non-profit organizations, specializing in trauma and domestic violence. Ms. Corona received her Master of Social Welfare from University of California, Berkeley and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Stanford University.

BROOKE O'BYRNE, PFR CHANGE LEADER ASSOCIATE (ROUND 2)

Ms. O'Byrne is a Program Associate at CFF and serves as a Change Leader Associate for the Mecklenburg County and Jefferson County PFR2 sites. Additionally, she serves as the Technical Assistance Liaison to 2016 and 2018 OJJDP grantees, providing coaching and technical assistance to FDCs across the country. Ms. O'Byrne brings 12 years of experience to CFF. Prior to joining the team, Ms. O'Byrne served as the Director of Court Services for Nevada's Sixth Judicial District Court. She was appointed to Nevada's Rural Behavioral Health Policy Board, where she served as board chair. Ms. O'Byrne founded her rural community's first outpatient treatment facility. She is a Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor and former director for a non-profit domestic violence organization. Ms. O'Byrne received her Master of Business Administration from Nevada's Western Governor's University and her Bachelor of Art in Social Work from the University of Wisconsin.

CHELSEY HERRING, PFR CHANGE LEADER ASSOCIATE (ROUND 2)

Ms. Herring is a Program Specialist at CFF and serves as the Change Leader Associate for Milwaukee County (PFR2). Ms. Herring also works with the Family Drug Court (FDC) team to provide training and technical assistance (TTA) in varying states and local jurisdictions on implementing or enhancing family drug court practices. She ensures timely responses and documentation of all TTA requests. She also performs ongoing TTA quality assurance measures and needs assessments to track emerging themes and enhance TTA service delivery. In addition, Ms. Herring serves as the Peer Learning Court (PLC) Program Coordinator to facilitate peer-to-peer learning by connecting family drug court professionals with mentor family drug courts that use evidence-supported practices and policies, and demonstrate strong collaboration among courts, child welfare, substance use treatment providers, and other agencies.

Prior to CFF, Ms. Herring was a Paralegal and also served as an Associate Investigator for the varying School Districts of Southern California. She is an experienced legal professional committed to advocating for systems improvements that meet the needs of families involved with child welfare and substance use. She serves children and families in her community through her volunteerism as a Big Sister with the Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Orange County. Ms. Herring received a Master of Legal and Forensic Psychology and a Bachelor of Art in Psychology and Social Behavior with a Minor in Criminology, Law, and Society from the University of California, Irvine.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY FUTURES STAFF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

JANE PFEIFER, PFR CHANGE LEADER (ROUND 1)

Ms. Pfeifer is the Director of the Regional Partnership Grant Technical Assistance program at CFF. She served as Change Leader for the Robeson County site (PFR1). She has over 20 years of experience working in the justice system and 18 years of experience providing technical assistance and training to courts, communities, and drug court teams across the country, focusing on systems improvements. As a Drug Court Program Manager, Ms. Pfeifer oversaw the day-to-day fiscal, programmatic and administrative operations of an Adult and Juvenile Drug Court Program. She has served as faculty for several national organizations including the National Drug Court Institute, the National Judicial College, the National Development and Research Institutes, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Justice Management Institute. Ms. Pfeifer is a highly skilled trainer, providing computer-based and onsite training to local, state and national audiences on a range of topics including case management, collaboration, community resource development and the needs of rural jurisdictions. In addition to her role on PFR, Ms. Pfeifer served as a Program Management Liaison for the Regional Partnership Grant program. She led the development of the FDC Guidelines and oversees the National Family Treatment Court Best Practice Standards project. Ms. Pfeifer was also an adjunct professor at California State University, Chico in the Department of Political Science and Department of Sociology and has been published in peer reviewed journals. Ms. Pfeifer received her Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and Psychology from California State University, Chico.

JILL GRESHAM, PFR CHANGE LEADER ASSOCIATE (ROUND 1)

Ms. Gresham is a Senior Program Associate with the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare at CFF and served as the Change Leader Associate for the San Francisco site (PFR1). In her role at CFF, she serves as an advisor and technical consultant to states, counties, tribes and regions across the country in issues related to substance abuse, child welfare and the courts, providing and coordinating various levels of technical assistance. Jill primarily serves the In-Depth Technical Assistance program and supports states working to address infants with prenatal substance exposure from pregnancy through infancy.

Ms. Gresham has more than 15 years of experience in the substance use disorder field, the majority of which was working with women and mothers. Familiar with the spectrum of substance abuse services and trauma, Ms. Gresham is experienced in providing substance use treatment in various service settings from harm-reduction housing to long-term residential programs for pregnant and parenting women. Ms. Gresham is a certified drug and alcohol counselor and experienced supervisor. In her roles as clinician and director, she worked closely with Child Protective Services and the Family Treatment Court. She received her Master's in Counseling Psychology from Antioch University Seattle and a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Massachusetts.

THE PFR EVALUATION TEAM

DR. YUEQI YAN, PFR EVALUATION MANAGER

Dr. Yan is a Senior Research and Evaluation Manager at CFF. As Evaluation Manager for PFR, Dr. Yan has primary responsibility for managing and overseeing the evaluation work plan and tasks. In this role, Dr. Yan's responsibilities include program evaluation planning and implementation, data management, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and

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CHILDREN AND FAMILY FUTURES STAFF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

provision of evaluation technical assistance to family drug court programs funded by federal or local government, and private foundation contracts.

Prior to joining CFF, he had 8 years of rigorous research design, program evaluation and advanced statistics analysis experiences with 7 child welfare-related intervention research projects funded by Children's Bureau, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and private foundations. Dr. Yan is very experienced with experimental and quasi-experimental design, and advanced statistics analysis for applied research. He has published ten peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Yan is originally from China. Before he came to the U.S., he served as a project officer for EU-China Social Security Reform and Cooperation project for two and a half years. Dr. Yan earned both a Master of Social Work and a Ph.D. in Social Welfare from the University of Kansas. He also holds a Masters in Social Policy from Capital University of Economics and Business, Beijing, China.

DR. RUTH A. HUEBNER, PFR EVALUATION CONSULTANT

Dr. Huebner is currently an independent consultant in child welfare. She works with CFF on a number of projects, including PFR, where she provides leadership and strategic consultation on the PFR evaluation plan and methods. Dr. Huebner's entire career has been devoted to work with children and families in several roles from clinical practice to research. As the former Child Welfare Researcher in Kentucky's child welfare agency, she led the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) system and was instrumental in developing the state's capacity as a learning organization. She recently retired as a full professor from Eastern Kentucky University and a doctoral faculty from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Huebner has conducted numerous program evaluation efforts for Kentucky and on federal grants and has more than 40 peer reviewed publications and book chapters and one edited book on autism. She earned her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin.

ASHAY SHAH, PFR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Mr. Shah is a Program Manager for the National Quality Improvement Center for Collaborative Community Court Teams initiative at CFF. He serves as Research Associate for the overall PFR initiative and was a Change Leader Associate for the Robeson County site (PFR1). As a member of the PFR evaluation team, he works closely with PFR grantees to provide TA and support for performance outcome measurement and process improvement, including quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Mr. Shah also served as a Performance Management Liaison for three SAMHSA Family Drug Treatment Court grantees.

Mr. Shah is an experienced evaluator and social work professional with more than 5 years of experience in special education, prevention and early intervention services and substance use treatment services. His experience in direct service and research allows him to design, develop and implement evaluations that measure and report on outcomes, process improvements and program effectiveness while maintaining sensitivity to the populations being served. Mr. Shah is experienced in rigorous quantitative data analysis, geographical data analysis, cost analysis, qualitative data analysis and interpretation as well as instrument development, design and implementation. He also has experience working directly with program staff and presenting relevant findings. Mr. Shah received a Master of Social Work from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies with a minor in Humanities and Law.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY FUTURES STAFF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

LISA McELROY, PFR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Ms. McElroy is currently a Program Associate at CFF and provides evaluation support for the overall PFR initiative. She also supports the Sacramento County Family Drug Courts evaluation where she provides evaluation technical assistance and is responsible for data management. Prior to joining CFF, Ms. McElroy served as a social work intern with the Bruin Guardian Scholars program at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). In this capacity, she provided counseling and case management services to former foster youth and participated in the planning, development and evaluation of the program. She also interned at the Boys and Girls Club of West San Gabriel Valley where she provided counseling services to at-risk youth and facilitated educational workshops. Ms. McElroy obtained her Master's in Social Welfare from UCLA with an emphasis on macro social work. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Education and Applied Psychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

THE PFR ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

NAOMI BUI, PFR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ms. Bui is an Administrative Assistant at CFF and supports PFR and the In-Depth Technical Assistance program. Her administrative duties include coordinating staff travel, scheduling meetings, and proofreading documents. She is proficient in Microsoft Office, particularly Excel and Adobe Acrobat. She uses her technical knowledge to create user-friendly templates and documents. She also assists CFF's Operations Department with creating data reports for management.

Prior to working at CFF, Ms. Bui worked with a variety of underprivileged groups such as adults with mental illness, refugees, students with learning disabilities, and low-income families. She has also served in both administrative and direct service provider roles, such as teaching, tutoring and mentoring.

Ms. Bui has a Bachelor's Degree in Human Development and Minor in Education Studies from University of California, San Diego. She will finish her M.A. in Leadership Development at Chapman University in Spring 2019.