

Claudia Camacho

Claudia Camacho is a bilingual Latina who has served the Latino community starting at Denver Health Medical Center the safety-net hospital and now at CU Anschutz, for more than 20 years. She was a Spanish language interpreter for 5 years while completing a bachelor's degree in Anthropology at the Metropolitan State University in Denver. She is currently aspiring to obtain a master's degree in public health, hopefully in the near future.

Her passion for kidney health disparities research was shaped by her own lived experience as a caregiver for her father, who was diagnosed with end-stage kidney disease and had received in-center hemodialysis, losing her father in 2006. She joined Dr. Lilia Cervantes' research team in 2015 and have been provided support for undocumented immigrants who relied on emergency dialysis. She received training as a community health worker including motivational interviewing, patient activation, and qualitative research methods. For Dr. Cervantes' studies, she has conducted several one-on-one interviews with Latino/a patients with end-stage kidney disease and their caregivers to understand more about their experiences. As a CHW since 2015, she has also provided support to patients with end-stage kidney disease and their families at several urban dialysis centers in Denver.

Currently, her goal is to continue growing as a community health worker, implementing training and mentoring future community health workers to continue decreasing health disparities in our Latino community.

David Chae ScD, MA

David Chae is Associate Professor and Director of the Society, Health and Racial Equity (SHARE) Lab at the Tulane School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine. Dr. Chae's research focuses on social determinants of health inequities and the embodiment of racism. He studies racism as a social-environmental toxin that shapes the inequitable population-level distribution of disease. As part of this work, he investigates the interplay between social context, developmental period, behavior, and biology, and links to disease susceptibility and progression. He is an elected fellow of the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research, the honorary senior scientist society for those whose research is at the interface of behavior and medicine. He serves on several scientific research groups dedicated to the study of racism.

Adolfo G. Cuevas Ph.D.

Adolfo G. Cuevas, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at NYU's School of Global Public Health and Deputy Director at Center for Anti-racism, Social Justice, & Public Health. As a community psychologist, he employs epidemiological, psychological, and biological approaches to investigate the interrelationship between race/ethnicity, discrimination, and health inequities. His work has been published in scientific journals, such as *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* and *American Journal of Public Health* and featured in *HuffPost* and NPR's *Code Switch*. He is currently spearheading two NIH-funded project aimed at examining the impact of both neighborhood and interpersonal discrimination on biological dysregulation throughout the life course.

Arpana Gupta Ph.D.

An accomplished pioneer in medical research focusing on the brain, gut, and microbiome, Dr. Gupta has a PhD degree in psychology after completing an APA accredited clinical internship at Massachusetts

General Hospital/Harvard Medical Center. Her current research focuses on the interactions between environmental and biological factors in shaping brain-gut microbiome signatures associated with stress-based diseases such as obesity. Broadly defined, this ground-breaking research aims to integrate two systems (the brain and the gut) in order to better understand the underlying mechanisms associated with obesity and altered consumption behaviors. This focus on obesity is key to a deeper understanding of the risk factors for many chronic diseases, and ones that disproportionately affect ethnic minorities and women. Backed by the National Institute for Health (NIH), Dr. Gupta's goal is to develop a comprehensive model that provides a powerful biomarker that will increase diagnostics around obesity in an effort to improve overall health outcomes.

Building on the success of her lab in the area of adversity and obesity, Dr. Gupta recently received two major grants from NIMHD and NIA (NIH) on investigating the brain-gut microbiome interactions associated with obesity. She has also received several industry funded grants as the Principal Investigator in addition to publishing over one hundred peer-reviewed articles, which have been featured in mainstream media outlets such as the Today Show, NBC, WSJ, Science, and WebMD. Additionally, she is featured in a Netflix documentary "Hack your Health: Secrets of the Gut to be Released on April 26th". These various efforts have allowed her to focus on the following main themes of research:

1. The Investigation of how novel pathways related to the brain-gut-microbiome (BGM) system may explain modulation of signals from the gut-microbiome on the brain via systemic immune activation.
2. Explanation of how risk factors associated with socio-cultural and environmental stressors "get under the skin" and are embedded in biology.
3. Identification of subgroup differences (e.g., race and sex) related to obesity.
4. Modeling longitudinal patterns and changes across the lifespan as they relate to obesity in order to help predict risk factors leading up to the development of obesity while being able to identify prognostic markers.
5. Determination of changes associated with various interventions (e.g., brain-targeted such as cognitive behavioral therapy, or gut-based such as specific diets) directed at altered eating behaviors and obesity.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Bobby Howard was an active youth engaged in various sports programs from football to hockey and was a star athlete in each. He had an insatiable love for sports, though it would be football that would not only fuel his passion but also open the door to receiving a full football scholarship to Indiana University, where he studied business administration. Propelled by his outstanding athletic ability, he would later be drafted into the National Football League (NFL) and play professional football with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Bobby Howard

In 1994, Bobby's life changed forever. He suffered from severe kidney disease that would alter the trajectory of his life. The onset of this illness was seemingly contrary to any positive outcome. Bobby was fortunate and received a life-giving kidney transplant. Since then, Bobby has allowed his life-giving experience to manifest into one that is life changing. As a result, he has dedicated his life to helping others who face life-threatening health challenges by leading collaborative efforts for LifeLink® of Georgia with local, national coalitions, and community partners. As Director of LifeLink® of Georgia's Multicultural

Donation Education Program, he earned the Achievement Award for Outstanding Service and Dedication to the LifeLink mission.

Bobby Howard has faithfully served in the following capacities: President of the Association for Multicultural Affairs in Transplantation, President of the Georgia Transplant Foundation, LifeLink® Foundation Board of Governors, Board Member of the United Network of Organ Sharing, and Board Member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Men of DeKalb County. Staying true to his passion, he also served as a football coach to several high schools in the Atlanta Metro area.

Because of his work, Bobby Howard was identified as one of six exceptional community leaders across the country by Coors Light and named Atlanta's Coors Light's Ice-Cold Leader. He was awarded the Thomas F. Smith Leadership Award, Georgia Transplant Foundation Award, and inducted into Pittsburgh city High School Hall of Fame. In 2021, Bobby was awarded the Clive Callendar, M.D. Circle of Excellence Award which honors candidates from the African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or Native American community who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and made a meaningful impact within the field of organ, eye, and tissue donation or transplantation for communities of color.

As an ambassador for life, Bobby Howard continues to be in high demand as a motivational speaker both nationally and locally. He featured in major media outlets such as USA Today, Jet Magazine, The Tavis Smiley Show, The Reverend Al Sharpton Show, The Ed Gordon Shows, TBN, Good Day Atlanta, Focus Atlanta, and Atlanta Interfaith Broadcasting - to name a few.

Bobby currently serves on the boards of Donate Life America, NFLPA Former Player Board of Directors, and Metro Atlanta Concerned Black Clergy. He is also Chair of the National Multicultural Action Group.

Most recently Bobby was awarded the 2023 Diamond Award presented by The Not Alone Foundation. and was honored by the 2023 Georgia Legislative Black Caucus as the recipient of the Community Partner Award. He also was recognized by the Georgia Secretary of State as a Georgia Outstanding Citizens.

Bobby Howard's life-changing event continues to lead him to influence life-changing endeavors that have uniquely benefited and impacted communities throughout the United States.

Mitchell (Mitch) R. Lunn, MD, MAS, FACP, FASN

Mitchell (Mitch) R. Lunn, MD, MAS, FACP, FASN (he/him/his) is an Associate Professor of Medicine (Nephrology) and of Epidemiology and Population Health at Stanford University School of Medicine. Dr. Lunn consults on hospitalized patients with renal diseases, electrolyte abnormalities, and acid-base disturbances at Stanford Hospital.

Dr. Lunn is a physician-scientist investigating sexual and gender minority (SGM) health and utilizing existing and emerging technologies to characterize the health and well-being of these underrepresented and vulnerable populations. SGM people – which primarily includes members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) communities – face numerous health and healthcare disparities. Dr. Lunn's work focuses on improving understanding of the factors that positively and negatively influence SGM health including research on SGM health disparities, SGM societal experiences, provider education about SGM health, and institutional climate towards SGM people.

Dr. Lunn is the co-director of The PRIDE Study (pridestudy.org), a national, online, prospective, longitudinal general health cohort study (launched May 2017) of over 29,000 SGM adults. The PRIDE

Study's state-of-the-art web-based research platform enables robust participant recruitment, cohort management, real-time cohort statistics, comprehensive survey administration, facile deployment of studies to cohort segments, and linkage with other health data sources. Dr. Lunn is also the co-director of PRIDENet, a participant-powered research network of SGM people that engages SGM communities at all stages of the biomedical research process: research question generation and prioritization, study design, recruitment, participation, data analysis, and results dissemination. PRIDENet accomplishes its goals through a highly active Participant Advisory Committee and a Community Partner Consortium comprised of ~30 SGM-serving health centers, community centers, and service/advocacy organizations across the country. Dr. Lunn mentors research trainees at all levels from undergraduate students to junior faculty members.

Dr. Lunn earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and French with highest thesis honors from Tufts University in 2004, a Doctor of Medicine degree from Stanford University School of Medicine in 2010, and a Master's in Advanced Studies degree in Clinical Research from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) in 2017. He completed internal medicine internship and residency training at Brigham and Women's Hospital in 2013 and nephrology fellowship at UCSF in 2016. Dr. Lunn maintains board certification in internal medicine, nephrology, and clinical informatics.

Sylvie Mrug Ph.D., MS, MA

Dr. Sylvie Mrug is a licensed clinical psychologist and a University Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Her research program investigates multi-level risk and protective factors during adolescence on mental and physical health outcomes in diverse populations. Current projects examine the role of early life stress experienced in adolescence on early markers of chronic disease in young adulthood, together with mediating physiological mechanisms (HPA axis, inflammation, gut microbiome, vascular function) and possible protective factors in individual, family, and community domains. Collaborative work has also addressed the impact of early life stress on neural bases of emotion regulation.

Amani M. Nuru-Jeter, Ph.D., M.P.H

Amani M. Nuru-Jeter, Ph.D., M.P.H is Professor of Community Health Sciences and Epidemiology at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health, where her research focuses on racial health inequities and the measurement and study of racism as a social and structural determinant of health. Dr. Nuru-Jeter is also Director of Evidence for Action, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) focused on developing the evidence base to align with RWJF's vision to build a Culture of Health and commitment to advance health and racial equity.

Dr. Nuru-Jeter's program of research consists of four inter-related areas of inquiry relevant to the study of racial health inequities: 1) racial discrimination and the psychobiology of stress (i.e., embodiment), 2) the intersection of race, gender, and socioeconomic position and its role in understanding patterns of racial health inequities, 3) the measurement of racism as a social and structural determinant of health, and 4) place and health. Her broad research interest is to integrate concepts, theories and methods from epidemiology and the social and biomedical sciences to examine racial inequities in health as they exist across populations, across place and over the life-course. Dr. Nuru-Jeter considers herself to be more exposure than outcomes focused, which is consistent with her interests in examining social factors as

exposures that serve as the foundation for the creation and preservation of health inequities. She is interested in how these social exposures determine life experiences and opportunities differently for different social groups and how those differences become embodied and impact mental and physical health. Dr. Nuru-Jeter employs a mix of quantitative and qualitative data for understanding racial health inequities, informing the measurement of social determinants, and addressing concerns related to internal validity challenges in health inequities research.

Dr. Nuru-Jeter's work has been featured on CNN, MSNBC, NPR, CBSNews, BlackPress USA, The Urban League, Essence Magazine, The Atlantic, and US News & World Report among others and several of her recent papers examining racial discrimination and physiologic dysregulation have been named Editor's Choice. She has received numerous awards for teaching excellence and graduate student mentoring.

Karen Parker, Ph.D., M.S.W.

Karen L. Parker currently serves as Director of the Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Parker was instrumental in the formation of the office in the fall of 2015 and was appointed Director in June 2016. In her role as Director, Dr. Parker is co-chair of the trans-NIH Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Research Coordinating Committee (RCC), a committee on which she has served since its inception in 2011, and co-chair of the NIH SGM Research Working Group of the Council of Councils. Dr. Parker is also a member of the NIH Anti-Harassment Steering Committee and serves as the co-chair of the NIH Office of the Director Equity Council. Additionally, she sits as an ad-hoc member on the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director Working Group on Diversity. In 2021, Dr. Parker received the LGBTQ Health Achievement Award from GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality, for her contributions in advancing the field of SGM health research and equity.

Dr. Parker is involved in several SGM-related initiatives beyond NIH. She serves as co-chair of the Measuring Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Research Group, an entity of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, as well as an Executive Director of Department of Health and Human Services LGBTQIA+ Coordinating Committee.

Dr. Parker began her NIH career in 2001 as a Presidential Management Fellow at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). She spent several years at NCI, serving in various roles in the NCI Office of the Director. Dr. Parker received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Indiana University and her Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan, where she studied community organization, social policy, and evaluation. She subsequently completed her Ph.D. at the University of Maryland, School of Social Work.

Glenda Roberts

Prior to joining the University of Washington (UW) in 2018 as the Director of External Relations & Patient Engagement for the UW Kidney Research Institute and the UW Center for Dialysis Innovation (CDI); and the Chief Operations and Strategy Officer for UW's Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Center for Transformative Research, Glenda V. Roberts was an Information Technology executive with 35+ years of experience with the Global 100 corporations, like Microsoft and others.

A passionate activist for research and people living with kidney diseases, Glenda has received numerous awards and recognition for her work in kidney health. She was one of two patients who served on the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) – American Society of Nephrology (ASN) Task Force: Reassessing the Use of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Disease that resulted in the removal of race from the estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) formula. Recently NKF announced that Glenda is the most recent recipient of the Celeste Lee Patient Engagement Award, the highest honor given by NKF to a distinguished kidney patient who exemplifies NKF's mission and Celeste's legacy of putting patients at the center of all aspects of healthcare through their involvement with NKF and community partners. In 2022 the ASN honored her with its highest award, the President's Medal. She was the 2023 "Accelerate Innovation" spokesperson for the "We're United 4 Kidney Health" campaign, which invites health care professionals to join the movement to shift their focus from kidney failure to kidney health. With her CDI team, she won a KidneyX Redesign Dialysis Phase 1 prize for "The Ambulatory Kidney to Improve Vitality (AKTIV)". The Kidney Week 2021 Celeste Castillo Lee Memorial Lecturer, Glenda received the President's Volunteer Service Awards from President Donald J. Trump and President Joseph R. Biden, in 2020 and 2022, respectively.

Glenda's involved in myriad regional, national, and international, transformative kidney health care initiatives. Many of these are focused on developing new innovative treatments and therapies to make life better for people living with kidney diseases and the cardio-kidney-metabolic syndrome. In addition to being involved with a number of KDIGO (Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes) initiatives, she serves on the Board of Directors for the Kidney Health Initiative (KHI), a partnership between the US Food & Drug Administration and ASN, whose mission is to catalyze innovation and the development of safe and effective patient-centered therapies for people living with kidney diseases. Glenda's actively involved with and has a leadership position in several research projects, including the Kidney Precision Medicine Project (KPMP), the APOL1 Long-term Kidney Transplantation Outcomes Network (APOLLO), the BLOod Sugar Sensing On Maintenance dialysis (BLOSSOM), the Biomarker Data Repository (BmDR) and numerous patient advisory committees supported by federal programs, pharmaceutical companies, other public and private funders and. Since 2018, she has authored/co-authored or been featured in over 35 publications.

Glenda has first-hand knowledge of the challenges faced by patients and families affected by kidney disease. For four decades she slowed the progression of her kidney disease using diet and exercise. After experiencing in-center hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis, she received a transplant in 2010. Glenda lives in Woodinville, Washington with her husband and care partner. Learn more about her lived experience on the KHI-sponsored podcast "The Kidney Conversation with Glenda V. Roberts."

Idan Shalev Ph.D.

Dr. Idan Shalev, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biobehavioral Health at The Pennsylvania State University. His research is focused on understanding how biopsychosocial processes across the lifespan, and at multiple time scales, influence variability in systemic dysfunction, aging and disease decades later, through changes in biological aging.

Shalev's research combines the disciplines of molecular genetics, endocrinology, neurobiology and psychology. The goal of this research is to pinpoint behavioral and molecular targets for public health observation and clinical treatments applications. Shalev is a member of the Telomere Research Network (TRN) Steering Committee funded by the NIEHS and NIA. The goal of the TRN is to fill critical gaps in the field by testing salient methodological aspects, clarify technical laboratory procedures, enable

comparison between measurement methods, and advance a set of guidelines for measuring telomere length as part of the TRN consortium. He is the past Mark T. Greenberg Early Career Professor for the Study of Children's Health and Development and an author of more than 80 scientific articles and chapters.

Noah Snyder-Mackler Ph.D.

Dr. Noah Snyder-Mackler, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Center for Evolution and Medicine and the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University. He studies the molecular mechanisms through which environmental adversity alters aging, health, and survival in humans and nonhuman animals. Research in his lab investigates the causes and consequences of variation in the social environment from the molecular to the organismal levels. This work involves a few complementary study systems—dogs, monkeys, and humans, which allow him to probe questions central to how our environment affects our health and aging.