

## Presenter and Facilitator Bios

**Zack Olmstead** was appointed Assistant Deputy Director of Homeless and Housing Policy at the California Department of Housing and Community Development in November 2016. Prior to his appointment, Olmstead was the lead advisor on housing, homelessness, and land use policy to Speaker Emeritus of the California State Assembly Toni G. Atkins, also fulfilling that role during her tenure as Speaker of the Assembly from May 2014 through March 2016. He was the director for homeless policy at Housing California from 2006 to 2013. Olmstead completed his undergraduate studies at the University of San Diego and holds a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree from California State University, Sacramento.

In October 2015 **Will Nicholas** joined the LA County Department of Public Health (DPH), where he directs a multi-program Center that conducts Health Impact Assessments (HIA). He recently completed his first HIA for the Department on a local affordable housing initiative and is currently working on an HIA of an LA County ballot initiative to combat homelessness. Before joining DPH, Dr. Nicholas spent five years at the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, where he co-directed the Los Angeles/Ventura Study Center of the National Children's Study. He also had an appointment as a lecturer at the UCLA School of Public Health, where he taught a course on children's health and health policy. Prior to his appointment at UCLA, he spent three years as Director of Research at the California Endowment where he oversaw the research and data development grant portfolio and the development of the data infrastructure for a statewide place-based initiative called Building Healthy Communities. Prior to that, Dr. Nicholas spent six years as a Senior Research Analyst at First 5 LA, Los Angeles County's Proposition 10 Commission, where he commissioned and managed evaluation and research grants related to early childhood health and development. Nicholas has also served as an Associate Policy Analyst for the Rand Corporation where he conducted policy research on childhood asthma and was involved in a number of health care quality improvement projects including and evaluation of the Chronic Care Model and the IHI's Breakthrough Series, and as a Research Analyst for the Los Angeles County Health Department's Tobacco Control Program.

Dr. Nicholas is the Co-Chair of the John Adams Middle School Science Magnet Program, served 5 years as Board President of Connections for Children, a nonprofit childcare resource and referral agency; is a former elected member of the Del Rey Neighborhood Council, and former member of L.A. Care Health Plan's Child Health Consultant Advisory Committee.

Nicholas, a resident of Los Angeles, received a B.A. in Spanish Literature from the University of California, Berkeley; an M.A. in Latin American Studies and M.P.H. in Population and Family Health from UCLA; and a Ph.D. in Health Policy from Yale University.

**Chione L. Flegal**, Senior Director, leads an extraordinarily committed team working to promote social, economic, and environmental equity in California. With deep expertise on issues of infrastructure, land use, housing, and environmental policy, Chione has nearly 20 years of experience building coalitions and leading policy campaigns to improve outcomes for low-income communities and communities of color in California. Prior to joining PolicyLink, Chione managed Latino Issues Forum's Sustainable Development program and directed the organization's environmental health and justice work. She has worked as a consultant for organizations in the United States and abroad including, among others, CARE International and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. Chione currently serves on the climate justice

working group for the California Natural Resources Agency and on the board of directors of Housing California. She holds a master's degree in city planning and a BS in environmental science, policy, and management from the University of California, Berkeley.

**Brian Hansen** has served with the California Department of Health Care Services for 11 years in the areas of program policy development and payment and delivery system reform. From 2009-2013, Brian worked for the DHCS Director's Office to coordinate aspects of Affordable Care Act and 1115 Waiver Demonstration Program implementations. For the past three years, Brian has worked within the Medi-Cal managed care program, including policy development for the ACA 2703 Health Home program, Whole Person Care Pilot implementation, and other policy areas.

**Karen Naungayan** joined the CA Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in June 2016 as Assistant Director of External Affairs. Prior to HCD, Karen was Communications Director for ten years at Housing California, the state's leading advocacy organization on housing and homelessness. Previous jobs include marketing programs manager at Inventures Alliance Management, where she created and oversaw marketing and communications programs for three non-profit, international high-tech consortia. and managing editor of the B2B arm of Barnes & Noble.com.

Karen is a graduate of California State University, Sacramento and holds a degree in English, with a minor in Business Administration/Marketing. In July 2013, Karen joined the board of the Sacramento Housing Alliance. She is also active in the community as a volunteer, currently as a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) for foster youth. Karen has also served as a mentor at Women's Empowerment (an organization educating and empowering women who are experiencing homelessness so they can find employment and a stable home), is a former member of Sacramento Junior League, and has participated in fundraising for Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Sacramento Region.

**Ruben Cantu** is a program manager for community trauma, mental health, and violence prevention at Prevention Institute. He has more than 20 years of nonprofit experience in public health, equity, program and organizational management, and technical assistance and capacity building. Most recently Associate Director at the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN), Ruben managed development, outreach, and communications initiatives to inform, mobilize, and advocate for the constituents of the state's largest multicultural health policy organization. As CPEHN's lead on mental and behavioral health, he authored the state's draft strategic plan for reducing mental health disparities, a part of the California Reducing Disparities Project, funded through the Mental Health Services Act. Before his nine years at CPEHN, Ruben was Senior Specialist and Project Director at Mosaica: The Center for Nonprofit Development and Pluralism in Washington, DC, where he led activities funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of HIV/AIDS Policy, and provided technical assistance to small and large community organizations across the country. He has held positions at the National Minority AIDS Council and Human Rights Campaign, also in Washington, D.C. A native Texan and graduate of the University of Houston, he serves on Regional Asthma Management and Prevention's advisory committee and several state mental health advisory committees. He has worked extensively with organizations and community members fighting to advance health equity for the underserved.