

## **Quality of Life for Families XXVII: Strategies in Perinatal Care Engaging Inclusivity with Partners and Families**

### **FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **Diana E. Ramos, MD, MPH, MBA, FACOG**

##### **California Surgeon General**

Dr. Diana E. Ramos is a renowned public health leader and California's second Surgeon General and first Latina Surgeon General. As California's Doctor, she is the leading spokesperson on the most pressing public health issues of the time within the State of California. Her mission is to advance the health and wellbeing of all Californians. Raised in South Central Los Angeles, Dr. Ramos received her medical degree from the Keck University of Southern California School of Medicine and completed her residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center. She also holds a Master of Public Health degree from UCLA and a Master of Business Administration degree from UC Irvine Paul Merage School of Business. Over the past three decades, Dr. Ramos has provided reproductive care to thousands of Californians as an Obstetrician Gynecologist at Southern California Kaiser Permanente. Dr. Ramos' leadership spans from the local level in Los Angeles County where she served as the Director for Reproductive Health, State leadership as chair for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist, California & Ecuador (IX) District, Nationally in Women's Preventive Service Initiative, American Medical Association, National Hispanic Medical Association, and many others. Prior to her appointment as the California Surgeon General, she served as the Assistant Deputy Director of Chronic Disease Prevention for the California Department of Public Health. Within the academic sector, she has served as an adjunct Associate Professor at the Keck University of Southern California School of Medicine for many years. Dr. Ramos has written and contributed numerous articles to the obstetrics and gynecology and public health literature and has lectured in Spanish and English, locally, nationally and internationally. The Orange County Medical Association recently named Dr. Ramos the 2023 Physician of the Year.



## **Amanda P. Williams, MD, MPH, FACOG**

### **Clinical Innovations Advisor, CMQCC, Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor**

Dr. Amanda Williams is the Clinical Innovation Advisor with the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) based at Stanford University School of Medicine where she also is an adjunct faculty member in the



Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Williams previously served as Medical Director at Mahmee, a tech-enabled maternal health company dedicated to improving health equity and empowering families with wraparound care during the pregnancy and postpartum period. In this role she oversaw the company's clinical programming, while fostering institutional partnerships, developing new business opportunities and supporting investor outreach. Prior to joining Mahmee, Dr. Williams was a practicing OBGYN at Kaiser Permanente Oakland Medical Center where she served as Director of Maternity Services. Additionally, she oversaw the maternity continuum across Kaiser's 15 medical centers in Northern California. She has also served on several state and national committees, such as the California Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review, the California Surgeon General's perinatal redesign stakeholder group and the National Quality Forum Maternal Morbidity and Mortality work group. Dr. Williams is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Harvard University where she majored in American Medical History and Biochemistry. She completed her medical degree at Emory

University School of Medicine where she also received a master's degree in public health, focusing on health policy and management. She completed her graduate medical training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at The University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Williams is a prominent voice on maternal health and health equity. Her expertise has been showcased at prestigious institutions like Rush, Harvard, Stanford, Georgetown and Howard Universities. A sought-after speaker, she has been featured at the The Future of Maternal Care Summit, The Fortune 500 Most Powerful Women Next Generation Conference, The Doula Expo and Mino Fest. Finally, she has been interviewed on national television outlets such as PBS, BET, CNN and MSNBC and in print media such as, The New York Times and The Washington Post.

## **Judy Ankney, MSN, RNC-OB**

### **RN-Quality Outcome Analyst, Quality Improvement, Eisenhower Medical Center**



Judy Ankney is an RN-Outcome Analyst for the perinatal service line. Judy has over 30 years of nursing experience with in-patient perinatal services, and ambulatory Maternal-Fetal Medicine. She has experience as a Clinical Educator and has served in leadership roles in Nursing and Quality. Prior to coming to Eisenhower Medical Center Judy supervised clinical process improvement teams in training and implementation of Lean improvement activities to improve performance in Primary Care Clinics and Maternal-Fetal Medicine Clinics. Judy is new to the Quality Improvement team at Eisenhower Medical Center as of 2020 and is excited about working with the perinatal service line to improve health outcomes through quality initiatives, prevention of medical errors and be a part of a state-of-the-art Perinatal program for moms and babies. Judy received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Indiana Wesleyan University and her Master of Science in Nursing from University of Phoenix with a Certification in Healthcare Education. She is nationally certified in Obstetrics through NCC and is a member of AWHONN and Sigma Theta Tau.

## **Ursula Francia Gainer, MA, BSN, RN, RNC-OB, C-EFM**

### **Clinical Educator, Eisenhower Health**

Ursula Gainer has been an RN in Perinatal Nursing for the past 37 years, beginning her career in New York City, then moving to California 29 years ago. Ursula is an alumnus of New York University, where she received her BSN, and Columbia University where she received her MA in Nursing Leadership, graduating with honors, becoming a member of Columbia's Sigma Theta Tau chapter. Ursula has worked in various roles including Staff Nurse, Manager and Educator, at hospitals on both the East and the West coast, prior to joining the leadership team at Eisenhower Health, as the OB Clinical Educator in November of 2020, where she was instrumental in the opening of their unit in May of 2021. Since that time, Ursula has become an AWHONN Intermediate Fetal Monitoring Instructor, received ANCC certification in Inpatient OB and Fetal Monitoring, and serves as an OB Clinical Instructor in the academic setting. Ursula is very interested in the impact of Maternal Mental Health on the Maternal Morbidity and Mortality crisis and hopes to facilitate the addition of resources in the community in which she serves.



## **Lori J Wood, MSN, CNS, RNC-NIC, IBCLC**

### **Neonatal/Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist**

Lori Wood is a Neonatal/Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist at Eisenhower Health, Rancho Mirage CA. Lori has been a NICU nurse for 39 years; 15 as a CNS. Lori is certified as an RNC-NIC in Neonatal Intensive Care Nursing and is an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant. Passionate about the use of human milk and promoting breastfeeding, Lori is a frequent contributor to conference presentations, creating curriculum and guidance content and writing for nursing journals.



## **Miranda Klassen, Executive Director**

### **Founder/Executive Director, AFE Foundation**



Miranda Klassen is the Executive Director of the Amniotic Fluid Embolism Foundation, a non-profit organization she founded in 2008 after surviving an AFE during the birth of her son. Miranda is a co-investigator for the Amniotic Fluid Embolism Registry and Biorepository and has authored several publications on AFE and support after a severe maternal event. She is a frequent lecturer and serves on multiple boards and maternal health initiatives. She lives in San Diego, CA with her husband Bryce, a critical care nurse, and their son, Van.

**Valerie Huwe, MS, CNS, RNC-OB, CNS, C-EFM**

**High-Risk OB Clinical Nurse Specialists, El Camino Health, Mountain View and Los Gatos CA**

Valerie Huwe has been a registered nurse for over 40 years working most of those years as a direct care nurse and charge nurse in Pediatric Critical Care and Labor & Delivery. In 2007 she began at UCSF which led her to



Perinatal Outreach. As an Educator she provided didactic and simulation-based education and took “Victoria” their high-fidelity simulator on the road to the 20+ outreach hospitals providing OB Emergency simulations to perinatal department throughout Northern California. This was a dream job for 13 years, however in 2022 she transitioned to a new APN role at El Camino Health and transitioned to the 1st ever Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist for El Camino Health. In this new APN role she plans, implements, coordinates and evaluates nursing care and clinical programs for obstetric patients aimed to improve quality, safety, and patient satisfaction across the enterprise.

Another dream job! When not working or reading, time-off is spent “in nature”, riding her Peloton, swimming year round, growing heirloom tomatoes, and cooking meals for family and friends. She’s excited to be with you here today to ensure that ALL at-risk newborns are evaluated objectively, without bias, and equitably, for evaluation of therapeutic cooling if the criteria is met.

**Jessica Seales, MSN, RNC-OB, C-ONQS**

**Nursing Professional Development Specialist – Perinatal, Providence Swedish Central Puget Sound Region**

Jessica Seales works as a Nursing Professional Development Specialist with a subspecialty in perinatal nursing at Providence Swedish Health Services in Seattle. Her unique background blends experience in obstetrics, nursing education, community organizing, and social justice work. She also serves as a member of the public policy committee for AWHONN. Jessica is committed to building a compassionate, trauma-informed nursing workforce and delivering inclusive healthcare for all

