

**The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference**  
**Thursday, November 14, 2019**

**Speaker Biographies**

**Otis W. Brawley, MD, MACP, FASCO, FACE**

Dr. Otis W. Brawley is the Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of Oncology and Epidemiology at Johns Hopkins University. He is a board certified medical oncologist and an epidemiology. He is an expert on cancer screening and prevention and leads a broad research effort of cancer health disparities at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, focusing on how to close racial, economic, and social disparities in the prevention, detection, and treatment of cancer. From 2007 to 2018, Dr. Brawley was Chief Medical and Scientific Officer of the American Cancer Society. He is recipient of the U.S. Public Health Service Meritorious Service Medal, the Department of Defense Distinguished Service Award and the 2019 American Medical Association Distinguished Service Award. He is also a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

**Erica Smith, MS**

Ms. Erica Smith is the Epidemiology Team Lead and Acting Deputy Director at the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), Center for Cancer Prevention and Control. Within the Center, she oversees multiple programs, including the Maryland Cancer Registry and the Surveillance and Evaluation Unit. She works across programs to promote data-driven decision-making. Previously, she worked in the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control at MDH, where she planned, implemented, and evaluated chronic disease programs, including heart disease, diabetes, nutrition, physical activity, and obesity prevention programs. She also oversaw the administration of statewide surveillance projects, including the Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and School Health Profiles. Prior to moving to Maryland, she worked at the Virginia Department of Health in injury and violence prevention. She has a Master of Science in Sociology and a Graduate Certificate in Applied Social Research from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Clifford S. Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH**

Dr. Clifford S. Mitchell is the Director of the Environmental Health Bureau, in the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration, Maryland Department of Health. The Bureau's responsibilities include: food protection; environmental, occupational, and injury epidemiology; and an array of healthy homes and injury prevention programs. He joined the Department in 2006, after 14 years on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Mitchell received a Bachelor of Arts from Williams College, a Master of Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a Doctor of Medicine from Case Western Reserve University, and his Master of Public Health from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. Dr. Mitchell is the Principal Investigator for several projects in the Department, including climate change, environmental public health tracking, occupational injury and illness surveillance, violent death surveillance, and the Office of Food Protection Rapid Response Team. He serves on several state and national environmental health advisory committees, and has contributed to peer-reviewed publications and reports in the fields of environmental and occupational health, surveillance, and workforce development.

### **Frank Kros, JD, MSW**

Mr. Frank Kros is a career child advocate, who has served as a childcare worker, child abuse investigator, children's home administrator, consultant, professor, attorney, writer and speaker. His engaging presentations focus on "Helping Adults Help Kids" through an understanding of neuroscience and its practical application to everyday practices with children and youth. He has presented at national education, social work and human services conferences, and he was awarded a Maryland Governor's Citation for his presentations on suicide and the adolescent brain. He was the recipient of the 2019 Advocate of the Year Award from the Maryland State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect. Frank is a member of an elite group trained on the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study and added the title of "Master ACEs Trainer" to his bio in 2018. He co-authored the books *Creating the Upside Down Organization: Transforming Staff to Save Troubled Children* (2005) and *The Upside Down Organization: Reinventing Group Care* (2008).

### **Joyce Harrison, MD**

Dr. Joyce Harrison is a child psychiatrist and assistant professor in the Division of Child Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins. Her focus has been preschool psychiatry and community-based services. She developed Preschool Clinical Programs on the Bayview campus, and served as Medical Director of the Child Psychiatry Community Programs, including the Children's Mental Health Center, on Hopkins' East Baltimore campus. She is currently the Medical Director of Maryland BHIPP (Behavioral Health Integration in Pediatric Primary Care) and is also a staff psychiatrist at Kennedy Krieger where she is part of the Preschool Interdisciplinary Clinic.

### **Cheryl L. Knott, PhD, MA**

Dr. Cheryl L. Knott is a Professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health and Co-Leader of the Population Science Program and Associate Director of Community Outreach and Engagement at the University of Maryland Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center. She is the founding Director of the Community Health Awareness, Messages, and Prevention (CHAMP) research lab. Dr. Knott holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine. Her dissemination/implementation research program looks at organizational factors that influence implementation outcomes, and she is currently evaluating a strategy to integrate or institutionalize evidence-based cancer education in African American churches (Project HEAL 2.0). Dr. Knott's social epidemiology research program examines religious involvement and health among African Americans, in a longitudinal national sample of African Americans (the RHIAA study). Dr. Knott's research program has generated more than \$13 million in extramural support as Principal Investigator, from sources such as the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and American Cancer Society. The program has resulted in more than 130 peer-reviewed publications - most publications included students as co-authors.

### **William G. Nelson, MD, PhD**

Dr. William G. Nelson is the Marion I. Knott Professor of Oncology and Director of the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. He currently holds professorships in Oncology, Medicine, Pharmacology, Pathology, Radiation Oncology, Urology, and Environmental Health Sciences. A trained medical oncologist, he directs a research laboratory focused on discovering new strategies for prostate cancer treatment and prevention. Outside of Johns Hopkins, Dr. Nelson is a recognized leader in cancer research, organizing national and international meetings in cancer health disparities, cancer prevention, and prostate cancer, serving on the Scientific Advisory Boards for Stand Up 2 Cancer and the Prostate Cancer Foundation, co-chairing the National Cancer Institute Translational Research Working Group, and working as Executive Editor of *Cancer Today* and a Senior Editor of *Cancer Research*. Owner of seven issued patents, he is a co-founder of Digital Harmonics, a Board Member of CHD Biosciences, and an Advisory Board Member of Abbvie and of Proquest Investments.

### **Panagis Galiatsatos, MD, MHS**

Dr. Panagis Galiatsatos is an Assistant Professor at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He is the co-director and co-founder of Medicine for the Greater Good, an innovative medical initiative that is impacting more than 10,000 Baltimore City residents in regards to health and wellness, and at the same time creating physician-citizens. He is also the director of the Tobacco Treatment Clinic at Johns Hopkins. He has published over 30 research articles, with a focus on health equity, community engagement, and contextual-level variables impact on health outcomes. He is also a co-author of a book series, "Building Health Communities", where a review in JAMA discusses "this book literally has the potential to save lives". He has a TED talk discussing the need for healthcare to engage with the local community for health equitable outcomes. He completed his undergraduate studies at Temple University, his medical school at University of Maryland School of Medicine, his internal medicine training at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, his critical care medicine training at the National Institutes of Health, and his pulmonary training at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

### **Dawn Berkowitz, MPH, CHES**

Ms. Dawn Berkowitz is the Director of the Center for Tobacco Prevention and Control at the Maryland Department of Health. In her current role, Ms. Berkowitz provides oversight, guidance, and expertise to local, state, and national tobacco control initiatives. In the two decades she has been with the Department, Ms. Berkowitz has led the charge on several tobacco use prevention efforts, including "The Cigar Trap" [www.thecigartrap.com](http://www.thecigartrap.com), which received national recognition; and Maryland's *Responsible Tobacco Retailer* campaign that successfully reduced underage tobacco sales across Maryland [www.notobaccosalestominors.com](http://www.notobaccosalestominors.com). Ms. Berkowitz is now taking the lead for the Department of Health on educational and prevention efforts related to the recent epidemic of e-cigarette use among youth and launched a campaign which can be found at [www.TheVapeExperiment.com](http://www.TheVapeExperiment.com). Ms. Berkowitz also serves on the Executive Committee of the national Tobacco Control Network, holds a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Public Health, both from Tulane University, and is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).