

APPLIED POPULATION HEALTH APPROACHES FOR ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

EDITED BY
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FOREWORD BY MARJORIE KAGAWA-SINGER

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FOREWORD

You Don't Count If You Are Not Counted

In the mid-1960s, the only option I had on any demographic data forms to describe my racial and ethnic heritage was “Other.” Even when I began my research career in Asian American health during the 1980s, a scan of published work in the health field showed a dearth of articles on Asian Americans. Usability of published data was further limited by the aggregation of all Asian American groups into the single category, “Oriental,” which held on as the aggregate term used to describe our multicultural populations. When founding the Asian American Political Alliance in 1968, followed rapidly by the establishment of the Asian American Studies Center at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1968, Yuji Ichioka coined the term “Asian American,” noting, “we are not carpets.” Yet years passed before this more meaningful term came into common use.

Due to the perseverance of Asian American researchers and community advocates, recognition of the enormous and growing diversity of our population groups, both by culture as well as immigration history, has become widespread. There is now a clearer picture of who we are, how our health beliefs and needs differ, and the best ways to obtain data describing us to inform the development of effective programs to provide health education and proactive health practices to our communities in culturally consonant and compelling ways.

In 2022, with the publication of this book, *Applied Population Health Approaches for Asian Americans*, we can clearly demonstrate the heterogeneity of this population group. Asian Americans are and have been in the United States since Filipinos arrived with the Spanish in the late 1500s. The major wave of Asians arrived on the West Coast of the United States in the mid-1800s and, now, the US Asian American population likely includes representation from every Asian population in the world. Importantly, for scientific inquiry, we now have a growing body of disaggregated data to document threats to health and well-being in our highly diverse communities so that we can more effectively work with these communities to improve outcomes.

Notably, this volume also highlights the concerted efforts of a cohesive team of Asian American scholars and community leaders who donated their time and expertise to write these chapters. It also highlights the work of their colleagues around the country conducting the community-based research that informed the innovative and essential theoretical grounding and methodological expertise required in the field of public health to effectively address the needs of this highly heterogeneous population group.

Obtaining funding for research in our communities has been an arduous ordeal. Significantly, the director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Dr. Francis Collins, apologized for the structural racism that has blocked funding for health research among communities of color in the United States.¹ Along with leaders representing the various institutes and centers of NIH, Dr. Collins recently published a framework for ending structural racism in biomedical research.² In that article, leaders acknowledged and committed to ending structural racism “in the criteria used to fund scientific inquiry at the NIH, developing robust health disparities/equity research, and improving the internal culture so that diversity, equity, and inclusion are reflected in funded research and the biomedical workforce.” This acknowledgment and the promise of change in biomedical research represent a remarkable milestone but we must also demand that NIH address the role of structural racism in limiting the

funding for and progress in behavioral research among communities of color. NIH must be accountable to both domains of health research.

The authors contributing to this volume have worked in partnership with their communities for many years and describe what they know to be the truths in these communities. Notably, many of the researchers are also members of these communities and, therefore, know the essential nuances of communication within them. Most importantly, they have gained the trust of community leaders and members, allowing them to effectively inform communities of various health issues and challenges and craft solutions in partnership with them. To achieve this progress, these researchers have worked tirelessly with community leaders and members to negotiate and establish mutually acceptable intervention designs and evaluation measures that are useful to both the community and the researchers. Although this process is recognized as essential in community health efforts, NIH's criteria for funding to date have not been accommodating or supportive of the additional time required for these steps. Naïve communities or refugee populations have well-warranted wariness of "government programs" asking personal questions. Given the history of "research" in the African American and Native American communities, in particular, researchers of color well know the valid wariness of these communities. Many of our Asian American populations have fled war-torn countries and are equally wary of "government" efforts, rendering the trust-building process a time- and effort-intensive one for researchers aiming to partner with and improve outcomes for these communities.

The chapters in this book clearly illustrate the sophistication of this team of authors in overcoming these barriers and building trust with a diverse array of communities across the country, as well as demonstrating the scientific expertise of these researchers. For example, in Chapters 4 and 5, the authors identified the dual challenges of generating population-based samples and interfacing with federal requirements for data collection. In the lessons learned sections, the authors identify the strengths and challenges of carrying out truly partnered work with communities, including ensuring that study designs are consciously inclusive of cultural differences in communication, social forces, and specific health needs of different Asian American populations. Notably, the authors also address the pros and cons of "fit" for different types of study designs to meet the cultural, social, and health needs of diverse Asian American populations, using multiple theoretical lenses to develop scientifically rigorous and culturally compatible and respectful methodologies to maximize intervention success.

This textbook presents lessons learned from research conducted in partnership with population groups that have been – as Dr. Moon S. Chen Jr., the renowned national expert in cancer and health disparities, was wont to say – not "hard to reach," but rather, "hardly reached." When applied, these lessons learned can improve the science of working in partnership with communities to enhance and support the health and well-being of vastly diverse Asian American populations. As NIH Director Collins indicated in the report referenced above, our science needs to be more inclusive of diversity. This textbook can guide community health sciences to more effectively reach the communities that have been, heretofore, "hardly reached."

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NOTES

1. NIH stands against structural racism in biomedical research, National Institutes of Health, March 1, 2021, <https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/who-we-are/nih-director/statements/nih-stands-against-structural-racism-biomedical-research>.
2. F. S. Collins, A. B. Adams, C. Aklin, et al., Affirming NIH's commitment to addressing structural racism in the biomedical research enterprise, *Cell* 184 (12) (June 10, 2021): 3075–3079, [https://www.cell.com/cell/fulltext/S0092-8674\(21\)00631-0](https://www.cell.com/cell/fulltext/S0092-8674(21)00631-0).

THE EDITORS

SIMONA C. KWON, DrPH, MPH is associate professor in the Departments of Population Health and Medicine, director of the Section for Health Equity, and vice chair for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Department of Population Health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. Kwon is the director and multi-principal investigator of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)-funded Center of Excellence, the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH). Kwon also co-leads the Community Outreach and Engagement Core of the NYU Langone Perlmutter Cancer Center, a National Cancer Institute–designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, and serves as the community engagement and dissemination lead for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded NYU BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Early Detection of Dementia.

She is a socio-behavioral epidemiologist with extensive experience in the use of, among other methods, community-based participatory research, mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative) approaches, evidence-based strategies, dissemination and implementation science, and multidisciplinary teams to address community-level health disparities. Kwon works in collaboration with multisector coalitions made up of local and national community-based organizations, governmental agencies, service delivery organizations, and researchers from discrete disciplines.

Kwon’s research examines the social and cultural factors that influence health and health outcomes in racial and ethnic communities, with a particular focus on Asian Americans. She employs a social determinants of health framework to implement and evaluate evidence-based strategies in community settings, focusing on cultural relevance and impact and finding more effective channels through which to translate research into practice. Her work is grounded in applying social marketing principles and community- and culture-centered approaches to culturally tailor meaningful messages and adapt evidence-based strategies to engage and reach racial/ethnic minority and immigrant communities.

Kwon was awarded her master of public health in epidemiology from Yale University and her doctorate in the Division of Sociomedical Sciences from the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. She served as a W.K. Kellogg Community Scholars postdoctoral Fellow at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the Department of Health Behavior & Society.



CHAU TRINH-SHEVRIN, DrPH is professor in the Departments of Population Health and Medicine, director of the Division of Health and Behavior, vice chair for Research in the Department of Population Health, and Institutional Review Board chair at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. For over 20 years, her research has focused on the rigorous development and evaluation of multi-level strategies to reduce health disparities and advance health equity.

Trinh-Shevrin is multi-principal investigator (MPI) of a National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) Center of Excellence, the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH), and a National Institute on Aging (NIA) Engagement in Longevity and Medicine Research Collaborative. Trinh-Shevrin also led a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Research Center for over a decade and currently leads a CDC Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network Center. Building on her expertise in community-based participatory research and longstanding relationships with national and local community partners, she is MPI of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Community Engagement Alliance to End COVID-19 Disparities and associate director of Community Outreach and Engagement for the Perlmutter Cancer Center, a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Trinh-Shevrin is dedicated to mentoring junior faculty and students in minority and health disparities research. She is involved in many NIH-funded research training and education programs and leads an NIA Academic Leadership Award to support mentored research opportunities in healthy aging and health disparities research.

Trinh-Shevrin earned her doctorate in public health from the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, and masters in health policy and management at the State University of New York at Albany. She has co-authored more than 130 peer-reviewed publications and is co-editor of two textbooks, *Asian American Communities and Health* (Jossey-Bass, 2009) and *Empowerment and Recovery: Confronting Addiction during Pregnancy with Peer Counseling* (Praeger Press, 1998).



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Islam leads, as principal investigator, several National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded initiatives evaluating the impact of community health worker intervention on chronic disease management and prevention in diverse populations.

Islam also directs the cardiovascular disease and diabetes research track for the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)-funded Center of Excellence, the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH), which is dedicated to reducing health disparities facing Asian American communities. Islam is also research director at the NYU-CUNY Prevention Research Center and principal investigator of a CDC-funded Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) program project.

Islam's work has been featured in the *American Journal of Public Health*, *Diabetes Care*, and numerous other peer-reviewed journals. She is co-editor of *Asian American Communities and Health* (Jossey-Bass, 2009).

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STELLA S. YI, PhD, MPH, is a cardiovascular epidemiologist and associate professor in the Department of Population Health's Section for Health Equity at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. Her work focuses on improving lifestyle behaviors for reducing chronic disease risk and improving data disaggregation and reporting practices through multi-sector collaborations and community-partnered research for both the New York City population at large and for Asian American and immigrant communities, specifically. Prior to joining the faculty at NYU in 2014, she worked for six years at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) leading research and evaluation efforts of city nutrition policies and community-clinic initiatives. Given these experiences, she possesses a unique viewpoint on health, policy and research that encompasses a citywide perspective paired with an understanding of unique health needs of disparity subgroups.

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JOHN J. CHIN, PhD, is a Professor in the Department of Urban Policy and Planning at Hunter College, City University of New York. His research focuses on access to social and health services for under-served urban communities, including immigrant communities and communities of color. His NIH-funded research has examined the role of immigrant-led community institutions in delivering HIV prevention and stigma-reduction messages. He recently completed an NIH-funded study of HIV risk, working conditions, and

experiences with law enforcement for Asian immigrant women working in sexually oriented massage parlors. Prior to his academic career, Chin helped to found the Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (now a Federally Qualified Health Center known as Apicha Community Health Center), where he served as Deputy Executive Director. Chin was a member of the National Institutes of Health Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council and is currently the chair of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Health Policy Research Scholars Program. Chin has a PhD in Urban Planning from Columbia University, an MS in Urban Policy Analysis from the New School for Social Research, and a BA from Cornell University.



MATTHEW K. CHIN, MPH, is a Research Coordinator at the NYU Center for Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH) at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. His work entails conducting community-centered research projects that examine disparities among Asian American subgroups and other underserved racial and ethnic minority groups in order to inform policy and programs. His recent projects have entailed investigating the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Asian American subgroups, conducting a community needs assessment for older adult immigrants in New York City, and exploring methods for retrospectively improving race/ethnicity classification in secondary datasets. Previously he worked at the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, where he conducted research and evaluation projects to improve culturally tailored care and services for the Chinese American community. Chin completed his MPH with a concentration in epidemiology and biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health as a Bloomberg American Health Initiative Fellow and earned his BA in Health, Behavior & Society and History of Medicine at the University of Rochester.



JULIET K. CHOI, JD, is the president and Chief Executive Officer of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), a national health justice organization which influences policy, mobilizes communities, and strengthens programs and organizations to improve the health of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. She served in the Obama administration as the former chief of staff and senior advisor of two federal agencies: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; and the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Prior to her political appointments, Choi led disaster relief operations and strategic partnerships at the American Red Cross as a member of the disaster leadership team. She has previously worked at the Partnership for Public Service, Asian American Justice Center, Mental Health America, and a Fortune 500 corporation. Choi received her law school's Alumni Association Award for Leadership and Character and Rising Star Alumnus Award. Currently, she serves on the boards of the NAPABA Law Foundation and national YWCA USA.



RINA DAS, PhD, is the Director of Division of Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences at National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), NIH. She focuses on promoting research to understand and address the various factors that play a role in health disparities in different underserved populations, including Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific islanders. Das lends her expertise to a wide array of NIMHD programs that seek to improve minority health and health disparities, including translational sciences, behavioral sciences, cancer health disparities, research on the integration of biological and social sciences, social epigenomics, sleep health disparities, and immigrant health. At NIMHD she initiated the Immigrant health program to improve our understanding of the complex factors for health advantages and health disparities among immigrant populations and to develop intervention to address the health disparities. Prior to joining NIMHD,

Das served as a Program Director at the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities at the National Cancer Institute managing programs on cancer health disparities research that focused on community-based interventions and grants to improve diversity in the research workforce.



MINDY C. DeROUEN, PhD, MPH, is a research scientist in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of California San Francisco. DeRouen completed her doctoral training in Cancer Biology from Stanford University in 2010 and earned a Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology from UC Berkeley in 2014. She also studied Politics, Philosophy, and Economics at the University of Oxford (Hertford College). Her ongoing research efforts are focused on cancer prevention and control and address cancer disparities due to multi-level determinants, especially social determinants of health. DeRouen has experience with pooling and harmonizing complex multi-level data, including contextual-level data and data from electronic health records, from disparate sources and designing studies of multi-level data to study cancer disparities. She is a member of UCSF's DREAM Lab and an associate member of the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center.



LAN N. ĐOÀN, PhD, MPH, is a postdoctoral fellow at NYU Grossman School of Medicine, NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH). Her research centers on the structural determinants of health and understanding the intersections of race/ethnicity, aging, immigrant health, and neighborhood context. Her work has focused on understanding chronic disease and mental health among Asian American older adults, and the role of neighborhood socioeconomic deprivation on health. Đoàn received her BA in Asian American Studies and Integrative Biology from the University of California, Berkeley; MPH from Touro University-California; and PhD in Public Health, Health Promotion & Health Behavior, from Oregon State University. She is a Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR) Scholar and Scholars Strategy Network Health Equity Scholar.



MARY ANNE FOO, MPH, is the executive director and founder of the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA), a nonprofit organization in California with over 100 staff who serve more than 50,000 community members in 26 different languages on an annual basis. She has been working for over 30 years with underserved populations in the areas of health, mental health, youth leadership and development, workforce development, housing, and civic engagement. Foo's previous positions have been with organizations including, Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), Asian Pacific Health Care Venture (APHCV), Orange County Health Care Agency, CalOptima, and Families in Good Health/St Mary Medical Center. Foo has served as Principal Investigator and co-PI on numerous community based participatory research programs including a CDC National Centers of Excellence. She also serves as a trustee on several boards including a local hospital and foundation. Foo received her Bachelor of Science from the University of California, Davis and her Master in Public Health from the University of California, Los Angeles.



CHANDAK GHOSH, MD, MPH, a board-certified ophthalmologist and Captain in the U.S. Public Health Service, is with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. A nationally-recognized expert in health equity, he stands committed to the health needs of underserved populations and keeps focus on the impact of economic downsizing on quality of

care. The findings of his research and publications have been presented before the U.S. Congress and the White House and have energized collaborations among foundations, community-based groups, government, and academia. He worked on the design and implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the development of the National Performance Review Protocol, utilized to improve quality at all Federal health grantees, including hospitals, universities, and community health centers. The U.S. Public Health Service has awarded Ghosh a rare Meritorious Service Medal, among its highest honors, for “influencing progress towards health equity on a national scale.” He holds degrees from Yale University, Medical College of Virginia, and Harvard School of Public Health.



SCARLETT LIN GOMEZ, PhD, MPH, is Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Co-Leader of the Cancer Control Program of the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, at the University of California, San Francisco. She is Director of the Greater Bay Area Cancer Registry, a participant in the NCI SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology, End Results) program and the California Cancer Registry. Her research focuses on cancer health disparities and aims to understand the multilevel drivers, particularly the social determinants, of those disparities. Gomez has enhanced the capability of population-level cancer surveillance data to examine the roles of immigration, ethnic enclave, and institutional and neighborhood-level factors, with attention to providing empirical cancer statistics for disaggregated populations defined by race/ethnicity, nativity, and other social determinants. A central focus of this work has been on the Asian American populations.



HAE-RA HAN, PhD, RN, FAAN, is a professor of nursing and public health and the Elsie M. Lawler Endowed Chair at the Johns Hopkins University. She is also Associate Dean for Community Programs and Initiatives at the School of Nursing. In this role, she oversees community nurse-led health centers and wellness programs in Baltimore, Maryland. Her interdisciplinary research focuses on promoting health equity in chronic care among people of color, particularly those with limited health literacy and limited English proficiency. Her program of research has advanced thinking from the traditional paradigm of knowledge transfer from provider-to-patients to developing health literacy skills of patients to traverse the landscape of health screening and patient self-care to reduce health inequities. Han served multiple terms on the American Journal of Public Health editorial board while assuming leadership roles including vice chair and chair of the board. She has received multiple honors and awards from national and international organizations such as American Public Health Association, National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations, and Sigma Theta Tau-International.



MARJORIE KAGAWA-SINGER, PhD, MN, RN, is Professor Emerita in the School of Public Health and Department of Asian American Studies at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). She has a master’s degree in nursing and a master’s and doctorate in anthropology, all from UCLA. Her research has focused on the etiology and elimination of disparities in physical and mental health care outcomes primarily with the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Kagawa-Singer was principal investigator of the Los Angeles site for the national Asian American Network on Cancer Awareness, Research and Training and is the UCLA Minority Training Program for Cancer Control Research, funded by the UCLA Comprehensive Cancer Center. She was also a member of the UCLA School of Public Health Center for Health Policy Research.



LIZA KING, MPH, is a research scientist at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. King is passionate about data disaggregation and committed to the health of marginalized populations. At the Bureau of Epidemiology Services, King is producing a report to highlight the health of Asian and Pacific Islander New Yorkers. In 2018, she also authored a data brief on Health Disparities among Asian New Yorkers.



KATHY KO CHIN, MS, is a strategic advisor to those in philanthropy and nonprofits. From 2010 - 2020, she served as president & CEO of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum. The daughter of immigrants from China, Ko Chin's 40-year career has been committed to building community institutions that contribute to a just and multiracial society, which led the American Public Health Association to honor her with the prestigious Helen Rodriguez-Trias Social Justice Award in 2020. Ko Chin, a renowned voice in AA, NH, and PI communities, has served on and chaired the boards of numerous nonprofit organizations at the national, California state, and local levels. From 2014 to 2017, she served as a member of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. She joined The Kresge Foundation Board of Trustees in 2017. She earned a master's degree in health policy and management from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and a bachelor's degree in economics from Stanford University.



CHRISTINA Y. LEE, MPH, is an Overdose Prevention Coordinator with the New York City Department of Homeless Services, where she implements substance use treatment and access programs. Previously, she worked at the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH) at NYU Grossman School of Medicine, where she researched gender-based violence among Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander populations, and at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, where she developed a community-engagement framework for a report on the health of Asians and Pacific Islanders in NYC. Lee received her bachelor's degree in Psychobiology from UCLA and earned her master's in Sociomedical Sciences and Health Promotion from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, where she authored a thesis on consent and sexual assault experiences among Asian American undergraduate women. She has extensive public health program planning experience for youth and young adults, and her other academic interests include menstrual equity and the effect of state violence on health. Lee currently organizes in NYC to end the criminalization of domestic and sexual violence survivors.



MATTHEW LEE, DrPH, MPH, is an Associate Research Scientist at NYU Grossman School of Medicine in the Department of Population Health's Section for Health Equity and the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH). Matthew earned a bachelor's degree in Anthropology and English Literature from Washington University in St. Louis, a master's of public health degree with a certificate in Health Promotion Research and Practice from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and a doctor of public health degree from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Matthew was also a pre-doctoral fellow in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholars program and is currently an associate member of the New York Academy of Medicine. As a health equity researcher and community-engaged implementation scientist, Lee's research applies participatory approaches and mixed methods to examine the equitable reach, impact, and sustainability of evidence-based interventions within underserved communities.



YAN LI, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Population Health Science and Policy, and Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Science at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He is also the Director of the Health Policy Modeling Laboratory and a member of the Blavatnik Family Women's Health Research Institute at Mount Sinai. He is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine. Li and his team at Mount Sinai have developed a broad range of innovative simulation tools that can be used to simulate disease progression, evaluate the cost-effectiveness of prevention and treatment interventions, and improve public health practices and healthcare management. These projects have led to more than 70 publications in high-quality academic journals in both systems engineering and public health fields. His research has been supported by multiple funding agencies such as the National Institutes of Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, European Commission, and American Heart Association.



SAHNAH LIM, PhD, MPH, MIA, is an assistant professor who is leading the Gender Equity scientific track at NYU Grossman School of Medicine's Department of Population Health's Section for Health Equity. As a health disparities researcher, Lim conducts applied, community-engaged studies that seek to address gender-related health issues among hard-to-reach populations such as sex workers and immigrant survivors of gender-based violence. Her research uses intersectionality and syndemics frameworks to understand how multiple marginalization impacts mental and sexual health outcomes. Lim is a mixed-methods researcher, with expertise in psychosocial statistics and survey methods.



SUNGWOO LIM, DrPH, MA, MS, is a director of research and evaluation unit at Bureau of Epidemiology Services, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. He is trained as a statistician/epidemiologist, and leading a team of 12 statisticians, epidemiologists, and a geographer. Lim and his team have been leading projects to improve the utility and quality of large administrative data as a tool to assess effectiveness of public health programs and answer public health questions. In particular, collaborating with academic partners and city agencies, he has developed expertise in data matching, causal inference techniques, and program evaluation for large scale public health programs such as supportive housing for people with homelessness and jail-based methadone treatment program. These methodological works, along with program evaluation reports, have been presented and published, contributing to advancing public health practices and statistical methods. Lim received his MA in international trade and investment policy from George Washington University, his MS in survey methodology from University of Michigan, and DrPH in epidemiology from City University of New York Doctor of Public Health program.



SHINU MAMMEN, MPH, is a Senior Project Coordinator in the Department of Population Health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. She works on implementing lifestyle and behavior change interventions for the South Asian community that focus on diabetes prevention and management. In her role, she developed expertise in customizing provider registry lists to enhance better follow-up for patients with diabetes. She also enhanced the utilization of electronic health record (EHR) clinical decision support tools to increase provider adherence to screening guidelines for diabetes. Mammen works closely with community-based organizations serving New York City South Asian communities to disseminate culturally salient health information. She is passionate about advancing health equity for underserved immigrant communities and providing communities the resources needed to manage their health. She formerly worked on the Mediators of Atherosclerosis in South Asians Living in America (MASALA) Study, the first longitudinal cohort study to assess risk factors for heart disease in South Asians living in the United States. Mammen holds a BS from Loyola University Chicago and a MPH from Benedictine University.



SARA S. METCALF, PhD, is a geography professor who uses systems science approaches in urban health and sustainability research projects to identify and implement feedback mechanisms with dynamic simulation models. She applies system dynamics to guide simulation experiments informing potential pathways toward community health, equity, and sustainability. Her educational background includes a doctorate in geography, master's degrees in management and chemical engineering, and bachelor's degrees in biochemistry and chemical engineering. Metcalf has worked with agent-based models since her doctoral research on disparities in urban networks, incorporating insights from system dynamics that she learned as a master's student at MIT as a means of mathematically and visually representing feedback and delays embedded in social structures underlying problematic behavior over time. Metcalf has leveraged systems modeling, including group model building processes as well as simulation experiments, in research to identify ways of promoting societal benefits such as health equity, food justice, and ecosystem resilience. As a research investigator, she has been funded by the NIH/NIDCR in projects addressing oral health disparities in minority populations, including Asian Americans.



DEBORAH K. MIN, MPH, is a Project Coordinator at the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH) within the Department of Population Health's Section for Health Equity at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. She is also a doctoral student in the Health Equity and Social Justice track at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Broadly, her research interests include culturally-relevant community-engaged projects that confront health disparities and advance health equity within and across Asian American communities. She received her BA in Psychology at Wheaton College (IL) and MPH from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, Department of Sociomedical Sciences with a concentration in Child, Youth, and Family Health.



SARAH M. MINER, RN, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Community Health Nursing at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY. She received her doctoral degree from the University of Rochester and has over 20 years of experience working as a community health nurse with non-English speaking populations. She has worked both nationally and abroad on NIH funded research projects, and received numerous awards for her community-engaged work with non-English speaking populations. Miner is currently a faculty fellow of the St. John Fisher Social Innovation Academy which aims to build the leadership capacity, community engagement efforts and social innovation capabilities of community leaders, community staff, and neighborhood residents, alongside the faculty, staff, and students of St. John Fisher College. Her program of research aims to understand and address health disparities among non-English speaking older adult populations in home and community-based settings, particularly in the areas of chronic illness and medication literacy.



SADIA MOHAIMIN, BA, is a Project Coordinator at the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH) within the Department of Population Health, NYU Grossman School of Medicine. In her role, she coordinates community-engaged research projects focused on improving health and chronic disease management among South Asian patients in primary care settings. Mohaimin also provides support for gender equity studies that seek to address health issues among South Asian survivors of gender-based violence. She is committed to engaging underserved and disadvantaged communities in ways that are culturally and contextually relevant; she has organized in-language community workshops and forums on a number of topics including nutrition, mental health, and vaccine hesitancy, and has led culturally-tailored dance exercise sessions for South Asian seniors. Mohaimin graduated from New York University in 2018 where she studied Psychology. Mohaimin is an aspiring physician who hopes to practice preventive care in primary care settings and apply evidence-based strategies for prevention and self-management to reduce health disparities. Outside of work, she likes to dance and spend time with her family.



SHAARANYA PILLAI, BA, is the Deputy Director of India Home. Before joining India Home's development team in 2018, Shaaranya worked in academia at her alma mater of New York University, facilitating and administering courses at the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Studies department, through which she grew a passion for integrating cultural competency in service settings. Since joining the organization, Pillai has taken the organization through several successful community outreach projects, capital grant processes, and development efforts. She has also helped the organization make key partnerships including with NYC Census and the NYC Test & Trace Program. Pillai also contributed towards India Home's research paper on mental health needs in South Asian older adults, which was published in 2021 in the *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*. In 2017, Pillai presented at the Tamil Studies Symposium at York College (Ontario, CA) on mental health in diasporic Sri Lankan Tamil youth. Pillai was also a recipient of the prestigious LankaCorps Fellowship in 2016, through which she worked for nonprofits in Sri Lanka for psychosocial needs and reconciliation efforts.



NINEZ A. PONCE, PhD, MPP (BS UC Berkeley; MPP Harvard; PhD UCLA), is Professor in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and Director of its Center for Health Policy Research. She leads the California Health Interview Survey, the nation's largest state health survey. A health economist, her research focuses on implementing population-based health surveys in diverse populations and examining the intersection of social factors and health policy. Ponce was honored in 2019 by Asian Health Services, a nationally-accoladed community-health center, awarded the 2020 UCLA Don T. Nakanishi Award for Outstanding Engaged Scholarship, and received the 2020 inaugural Data Equity award by Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership. In 2019 Ponce received the top prize in her field from Academy Health that recognized the impact of her work in population health measurement to inform public policies. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, board member for AcademyHealth, and is a Commissioner for the 2021 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's National Commission to Transform Public Health Data Systems.



MARGUERITE J. RO, DrPH, is the Chief of the Assessment, Policy Development, and Evaluation (APDE) unit and Director of the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention (CDIP) section of Public Health – Seattle & King County. Ro has focused her efforts on working with diverse communities to achieve health equity for our nation's most at-risk populations. As Deputy Director of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (a national health advocacy organization), she played a leadership role in Health Through Action, a groundbreaking partnership program to close health gaps for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. During her time at Columbia University as an assistant professor, Ro also served as senior policy analyst for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Community Voices initiative, a national demonstration project to improve access to care for vulnerable populations. She is the 2018 recipient of the Washington State Public Health Association's Public Health Leadership Award. Ro obtained her masters and doctorate from the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health.



RIENNA G. RUSSO, MHS, is a project coordinator in the Section for Health Equity at NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Department of Population Health and PhD student in the Department of Epidemiology at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Her research interests include investigating the operationalization of race/ethnicity in datasets and clinical algorithms, as well as evaluating how structural racism drives social determinants of health and cardiovascular disease disparities. Russo received her Masters of Health Science in Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



RACHEL SACKS, MPH, is an independent public health consultant specializing in scientific and technical writing. Prior to establishing her consulting business in 2006, she served in managerial positions with non-profit organizations, a university-based research center, and a public health department in Bangkok, Thailand; Mumbai, India; and New York City, USA. She received her bachelor's degree at Tufts University in International Relations and French and her master's degree in public health at Yale University School of Medicine in the Division of International Health.



TINA R. SADARANGANI, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, GNP-BC, is a PhD-prepared board-certified adult and gerontological nurse practitioner with expertise in managing older adults with complex health and social needs. Her work is rooted in a commitment to improving the health of vulnerable populations, specifically older immigrants, by leveraging the strengths of community-based organizations. She is currently an Assistant Professor at NYU, and a principal investigator on two studies funded by the National Institutes of Health. To date, her research career has blended her in-depth knowledge of anthropology and nursing science. She is interested in how social, cultural, and policy factors contribute to health. Her work, which incorporates principles of design thinking, focuses on developing multicomponent interventions involving individuals, families, and communities to meet the needs of older adults. Sadarangani was recently recognized as a Rising Star and Woman of Distinction in Long-term Care, by McKnight's, a national leader in long-term news. She is also a leading member of the National Adult Day Services Research committee, shaping research priorities for home and community-based services across the United States.



RITI SHIMKHADA, PhD, MPH, is a senior research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. She is an epidemiologist with interest and experience in health policy. She is a member of the faculty task force for the California Health Benefits Program and has extensive research experience in examining state policies. She is an author of "Federal Policies and Health" in *Immigrant California: Understanding the Past, Present, and Future of U.S. Policy* (2021). She has recently led and published analyses of social media data. She has also been involved in research on disaggregated data for Asian populations as well as for American Indian/Alaska Native groups. As the daughter of Nepali immigrants, Shimkhada is involved with Nepali diaspora groups and has a special concern for small South Asian populations.



SELVIA SIKDER, MA, is a nonprofit and government sector professional and passionate advocate for the senior community. She is currently working for the New York City government. Her passion for underrepresented immigrant communities led her to begin her career in the U.S. with the Bangladeshi American Community Development and Youth Services (BACDYS). Afterward, she joined India Home Inc., a Queens-based nonprofit organization serving South Asian seniors, where she served over three years, beginning as Case Manager and ultimately as Program Director. Sikder pursued her Master's degree in the Study of the Americas Program at the City College of New York, CUNY, focusing her research on South Asian Immigrants in the United States. She has a Bachelor's and Master's degree in International Relations from the Jahangirnagar University of Bangladesh. As she continues to work in the public sector, she hopes to use her passion to improve the lives of older adults living in New York City.



SHOBHA SRINIVASAN, PhD, is a sociologist and the Senior Advisor for Health Disparities in the Office of the Director, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS), National Cancer Institute (NCI). She currently coordinates activities across DCCPS, NCI, the National Institutes of Health, and with other federal and non-governmental agencies to develop programs and initiatives to address health disparities and promote health equity. Through these NCI-funded programs she promotes the building of partnerships between communities and universities to address various health challenges in underserved and immigrant communities. Previously, Srinivasan has taught and conducted research at various universities, and has worked as a research director at a community-based health advocacy organization. Her research focuses primarily on social determinants of health, place, poverty, and resulting inequities, including challenges in the utilization and access to health services. In all these projects, the goal is largely to inform health policy at the local, state, and national levels regarding health and health care for underserved and underrepresented populations.



SABIHA SULTANA, BSW, is a community health worker at the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH), within the Department of Population Health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. Sabiha is fluent in Bengali/English and is dedicated to serving her community. Within her role at NYU, she works closely with the New York City (NYC) South Asian community. She has experience helping patients from NYC primary care practices to prevent and manage cardiovascular diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension, by providing in-language and culturally-appropriate health education and lifestyle coaching. She has also built strong relationships with women's groups in the Bangladeshi community in Brooklyn and Queens for the NYU Community Service Plan. Sultana is also a certified health navigator and assists in enrolling patients into health insurance plans. Sabiha graduated from the City University of New York (CUNY) at York College with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and a Bachelor's degree in Social Welfare from National University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, and thus, has extensive experience and skill providing social services. Previously she's worked as a case work liaison and outreach services specialist, providing services within New York City. In her free time, Sultana enjoys doing arts and crafts, gardening and cooking up healthy Bangladeshi dishes.



MD TAHER, MPH, is a Project Coordinator at the NYU Center for Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH) at NYU Grossman School of Medicine where he provides research support for the studies designed to reduce the burden of diabetes, hypertension, and other chronic illnesses among the members of the South Asian and Arab American communities living in New York City through education and empowerment. Taher is a passionate community health advocate. He is well connected to the South Asian and Arab American community groups in New York City. Taher has over 10 years of experience working at CSAAH where he plays a key role in building and fostering partnerships with diverse community and faith-based organizations. Taher earned his Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education from Hunter College of the City University of New York, and his MPH with a concentration in Community and International Health from New York University.



LOIS M. TAKAHASHI, MS, PhD, is Houston Flournoy Professor of State Government at the University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy, and Director of USC Price in Sacramento. Prior to joining USC Price, she was Interim Dean (2015-2016) and Associate Dean for Research (2014-2015) at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Chair of the UCLA Department of Urban Planning (2011-2013), and Director of the University of California Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy Multicampus Research Program (UC AAPI Policy MRP; 2009-2013). She was President of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (2015-2017). Her current funded research includes the effects of community violence on African American adolescent development (Dexter Voisin/PI, University of Toronto), and violence experiences of transgender women of color

(Karin Tobin/PI, Johns Hopkins University). Takahashi is also working with Cambria Solutions on Project 19th, a social media tool to increase the number of women who consider running for US elected office. With John Chin, Hunter College, she continues research examining the spatial configuration of the massage parlor industry in Los Angeles and New York City.



YI-LING TAN, MPH, is a Program Manager at the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH) at NYU Grossman School of Medicine in New York City. She implements and manages community-based participatory research studies and projects focused on reducing health disparities in the Asian American community, ranging from chronic disease prevention to uptake of vaccines and screening programs. Tan works with a team of Chinese-speaking community health workers to deliver evidence-based and culturally adapted health education interventions, sessions and resources. She also serves on the board of managers for the Chinatown YMCA. She received her MPH in Forced Migration and Health at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.



WINSTON TSENG, PhD, is research scientist of community health sciences at University of California, Berkeley (UCB) and associate director of research at UCB Health Research for Action. Tseng's participatory action research has focused on underserved and immigrant communities, particularly Asian American & Pacific Islanders (AA&PIs) (e.g., Chinese, Hmong, Korean, Samoan, Vietnamese), to understand community assets and needs, and design and implement community-defined interventions to strengthen community health infrastructure. His research focus areas included health equity, health literacy, building community capacity, chronic conditions, healthy aging, and behavioral health. Tseng serves on the AAPI Standing Committee under the UCB Office of Equity & Inclusion. He served as Chair (2012–2014) of the Community Health Planning & Policy Development Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA). The APHA Asian Pacific Islander Caucus recognized Tseng in 2012 for the Best Published Paper: "Reshaping Data and Research through the Affordable Care Act: Opportunities for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Health." He received his PhD in Medical Sociology from UC San Francisco and his BA in Biology from Johns Hopkins University.



MD JALAL UDDIN, BS, MS, is a Research Data Associate in the Department of Population Health within NYU Grossman School of Medicine. He graduated with a Masters degree in Data Science from the CUNY School of Professional Studies in 2019. He holds a Bachelors degree in Statistics from Hunter College. In his role, he provides health education and coaching in Bengali/English as part of a community health worker intervention to improve diabetes prevention and management in the South Asian community. He works closely with primary care practices participating in the intervention, and assists with data collection and technical assistance for optimizing use of electronic health records (EHR). As a fellow immigrant himself, Uddin uses his understanding of the South Asian community and community resources to assist community members to achieve their goals for a better life. He enjoys motivating community members to change their food and physical activity behaviors to improve their health, as well as assisting community members with unemployment, health insurance and immigration processes. In his free time, he enjoys listening to music, reading and playing badminton.



JENNIFER A. WONG, MPH, is a Senior Program Coordinator at the Section for Health Equity within the Department of Population Health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine where she coordinates and oversees strategic partnerships and community engagement efforts at the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American

Health (CSAAH). Her work centers the use of community-based participatory research approaches to deliver collaborative and culturally responsive training, education, and dissemination. She received her undergraduate degree at Bryn Mawr College and earned a Master of Public Health degree in Health Promotion Research and Practice at the Department of Sociomedical Sciences at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University.



YOUSRA YUSUF, PhD, MPH, is a Postdoctoral Fellow at NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Section for Health Equity. Her current research focuses on the intersection of structural determinants of health around COVID-19 vaccine uptake, nutrition decisions, and cancer management. Her background is on reproductive health through the life course among individuals in underserved, immigrant communities. She uses mixed methods in community-engaged research to explore gender equity in racial/ethnic and religious minority groups in the United States. Yusuf serves as the President of the South Asian Public Health Association, a national nonprofit that aims to promote the health and well-being of South Asian communities in the United States. She sits on several nonprofit boards serving Asian American communities in New York and internationally. Yusuf completed her Masters in Public Health at the SUNY Downstate School of Public Health with a specialization in Epidemiology and a research focus in maternal health and her PhD in women's and maternal health with a certificate in health communications from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



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