

## **PRESENTERS BIOGRAPHIES**

**Jessica Collins, MS**

**Director**

**Special Initiatives, Partners for a Healthier Community, Inc.**

Jessica Collins has over fifteen years experience in domestic and international community health leading communities to create and sustain programmatic, policy and infrastructure change that supports quality of life. Ms. Collins is the Director of Special Initiatives at Partners for a Healthier Community, a key organization in the Greater Springfield, MA area leading on initiatives such as Preschool Oral Health and access to healthy food and physical activity. Ms. Collins' main focus and passion are the issues of nutrition, physical activity, and environmental change improvements. For the past eight years Ms. Collins has been a leader in childhood obesity prevention through community based participatory research. She was the Project Manager at Tufts University's "Shape Up Somerville: Eat Smart. Play Hard." study, nationally recognized for the successful results of effectively reducing BMI-z score in high risk 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in the Somerville Public Schools. She was also the Project Manager at the Institute for Community Health, overseeing a pilot study that sent health report cards with height, weight and fitness data home to parents in the Cambridge Public Schools, which has now become a nationally recommended obesity prevention strategy. She has a Master's Degree in Applied Nutrition and Food Policy from Tufts University. Jessica is passionate about walking, enjoying locally grown food and spending time with her family.

**Joseph A. Curtatone, BA, JD**

**Mayor, City of Somerville, Massachusetts**

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone was re-elected to his fourth term on November 3, 2009. He had previously served for eight years as an Alderman at Large. He earned his B.A. from Boston College in 1990, and a J.D. from New England School of Law in 1994. As Mayor, he has successfully implemented a wide range of reforms and new programs that have earned Somerville many distinctions by regional and national organizations, including the designation by Boston Globe Magazine as "the best-run city in Massachusetts," by America's Promise Alliance as one of the "100 Best Communities for Youth," and a winner of the 2009 "All America City" competition. Under his leadership, the City of Somerville has become a national and international leader in childhood obesity intervention, working with Tufts University on the renowned Shape Up Somerville program, which was recently lauded by First Lady Michelle Obama during the launch of her "Let's Move" initiative. During Curtatone's administration, the City has also received recognition for its innovative government management practices such as its SomerStat data-driven approach to management, and the 311 Constituent Service Center. In his free time, Mayor Curtatone volunteers as an assistant coach for the Somerville High School football team. He currently lives with his wife Nancy and his sons Cosmo, Joseph, Patrick and James in the Ten Hills neighborhood of Somerville.

**Joanna Dolgoff, MD**  
**Board Certified Pediatrician**

Joanna Dolgoff, M.D. is a Pediatrician, Child Obesity Expert, and Author of Red Light, Green Light, Eat Right (Rodale, 2010). Dr. Dolgoff's child and adolescent weight loss program (<http://www.DrDolgoff.com>) has been featured on The Today Show, Nightline, Good Morning America Health, Extra!, WABC News, WNBC News, Fox 5 Morning Show, My9 News, and WPIX News. She is an official blogger for the Huffington Post and is the official doctor for Camp Shane, the nation's longest-running weight loss camp. Children from 45 different states and Canada are losing weight with Dr. Dolgoff's online weight loss program (<http://www.DrDolgoff.com>). Dr. Dolgoff attended Princeton University and the NYU School of Medicine and completed her Pediatric Residency at the Columbia Presbyterian Children's Hospital of New York. She is a Board-Certified Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a former certified fitness instructor. Dr. Dolgoff resides in Roslyn, NY with her husband and two children, ages 4 and 7.

**Robert W. Dudley, MD, MEd, FAAP**  
**Clinical Advisor to School-Based Health Centers**  
**Community Health Center Inc.**

Dr. Rob Dudley joined the Community Health Center of New Britain as a National Public Health Scholar in the summer of 1996 after completing his residency in general pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He has been involved in the New Britain community since as the district's school medical advisor. He serves on New Britain's local Headstart health advisory board as well as health advisor to Klingberg Family Centers. He is a member of the state AAP School Health Committee, where he has served several roles, most recently as liaison to the state legislative committee looking at the role of school nurses. At CHC Dr. Dudley has served as On-Site Medical Director for New Britain, Vice President of the Clinical Staff, and currently as the Advisor for School Based Health Services. Dr. Dudley has championed numerous quality improvement initiatives involving developmental screening, immunizations, asthma, medical homes, and STD screening. He has a strong interest in childhood obesity and participates in the New Britain Discovery Collaborative as well as CHC's Healthy Tomorrows program. He has presented on CHC's obesity programs at the AAP Future of Pediatrics conference in Anaheim, CA and at the NICHQ annual conference in Grapevine, TX. He currently serves as the state American Academy of Pediatrics CATCH facilitator. He is an assistant clinical professor at the University Of Connecticut School Of Medicine. A native of Maine, Dr. Dudley attended Amherst College and the University of Pennsylvania Schools of Medicine and Education, where he completed a joint MD/M.Ed. program.

**Mary Farnsworth**  
**Community Health and Wellness Programs of CHC, Inc.**

Mary is the manager of the Community Health and Wellness Programs for the Community Health Center. She oversees obesity prevention projects, the statewide mobile dental program, and community enrichment programs such as a dance hall and family wellness center. She is committed to creating creative, community-based solutions to entrenched and emerging health disparities. Mary came to healthcare in a non-traditional path. After receiving her BA in American Studies from Pomona College in California, she worked as a community dance organizer and teacher for several years in Rhode Island and CT. Her work at the Community Health Center has reflected that commitment to community-based change that exists outside of traditional health-care settings. In the past 3 years at the Community Health Center Mary has developed and grown a number of community-based programs statewide, including work on a Robert Wood Johnson Grant for obesity prevention and CT Health Foundation Funded Initiatives on access and advocacy for dental care. She currently oversees Food and Fitness, a grant from the CT Department of Public Health with funds from the CT Cancer Partnership to implement and evaluate four different cooking and physical activity curricula in elementary schools.

**Margaret Flinter, APRN, PhD**  
**Vice President/Clinical Director, CHC Inc**  
**Director, Weitzman Center**

Margaret Flinter is the Vice President and Clinical Director of the Community Health Center, Inc. and the Director of its Weitzman Center for Innovation in Community Health and Primary Care. Margaret earned her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from the University of Connecticut, her Master's Degree from Yale University, and is currently a candidate for the doctoral degree at the University of Connecticut. She is licensed as an advanced practice nurse and is certified as a family nurse practitioner. She was a Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow from 2002–2005, and served as President of the Connecticut Nurses Association from 2005–2007. Following her graduate training at Yale University, Margaret joined the Community Health Center in 1980 as a National Health Service Corps Scholar and CHC's first nurse practitioner. Since 1987 she has held both clinical and administrative leadership roles in the organization, and helped pilot its expansion from a single clinic to its current statewide enterprise of a primary care organization serving 70,000 patients. In 2005, she established the Weitzman Center for Innovation in Community Health and Primary Care as the "research and development" arm of CHC. In 2007, she was appointed by the Connecticut Legislature to serve as the co-chair of the state's two major health reform authorities, the HealthFirst CT. Authority and the Statewide Primary Care Access Authority, and continues to lead these efforts. Margaret is a native of Waterbury, CT. and except for brief stints in Washington, DC and Georgia, has made Connecticut her home. She currently lives in Higganum with her family.

**Adele Gordon**  
**Director, Fairfield County Sites, CHC Inc.**

Adele Gordon, a graduate of Boston University began her career as a Speech and Hearing therapist in the Stratford, CT School System and worked for many years in non-profit agencies, such as the Kennedy Center and the Rehabilitation Center in Bridgeport and ARI in Stamford. A long standing advocate for public education, Adele served on the Stamford Board of Education for ten years, two years as its president; and also as president of the Connecticut Association of Boards Of Education. She is a founding member of The Connecticut Association of Children With Learning Disabilities (CACLD), the Stamford Public Education Foundation. Over the years she has served on many boards and commissions, including: Domestic Violence Crisis Center, Stamford Partnership, ARI, Red Cross, Literacy Volunteers, the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission and the Stamford Police Commission. As a natural transition from education and social service, Adele became a partner in a unique company called The Training Connection that improved women's self esteem and helped them to become self sufficient. It was through her efforts to get dental care for Training Connection clients, that she realized the absence of dental providers for low income people. In 1999 she led a group of committed community people to open a dental clinic, The Dental Center of Stamford. The mission of the Dental Center was to provide high quality cost effective oral health care and to ensure that patients were treated with dignity and respect. She first served as the chair of the Board of Directors and subsequently became the executive director. The Board of Directors determined that CHC was an organization that would continue the mission and philosophy of the Dental Center and joined CHC in November, 2005. Adele became the Fairfield County Site Director when Norwalk Smiles opened in 2006 and the Danbury Community Health Center opened in 2008. She continues to promote and provide health care for CHC as the Fairfield County Site Director.

**Jayne Hannay, PhD, MPH**  
**Director Grant Funded Research**  
**Community Health Center Inc.**

Jayne Hannay is currently Director of Grant-Funded Research at Community Health Center, Inc. She has over twenty years experience in program development and evaluation, grant writing and qualitative research. Since 1998, she has been a consultant with the Grants Results Reporting Unit of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, N.J. Jayne has written and reviewed over 30 reports on closed Foundation grants, analyzing results and findings and extracting "lessons learned" to benefit RWJF program development efforts as well as other researchers in the field. Projects have included large national programs, such as Free to Grow, research studies such as the Harvard College Alcohol Study, and a variety of ad hoc projects. From 1986 to 1998, Dr. Hannay was Grants Manager/Director at Saint Joseph's Mercy Foundation in Atlanta, Georgia. She earned her doctorate from Columbia University and her master's degree from Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health.

**Yvette Highsmith–Francis**  
**Director, Hartford County Sites, CHC Inc.**

Yvette is the Director of Community Health Center, Inc. Hartford County Sites. She oversees CHC of New Britain and CHC of Enfield and is committed to eliminating racial/ethnic health care disparities. Yvette looks forward to ensuring that the community's underserved populations continue to have access to quality medical, dental, mental health and school-based services. Yvette has done extensive work in the area of HIV/AIDS, providing services to individuals living with HIV/AIDS for over fifteen years. Yvette is a fellow with Connecticut Health Foundation's 2009 Class of the Health Leadership Fellows Program. Yvette has been the recipient of many awards including: the Mayor's Award, presented by Hartford's Mayor Eddie Perez for her work as co-chair of the Ryan White Title I Planning Council, a citation from Meriden's Mayor Mark Benigni for her work in educating the community on the importance of HIV testing, the 2005 Meriden–Wallingford NAACP Community Service Award for Health, and a community service award from the Miriam Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star. Yvette was a Martin Luther King Scholar at Long Island University and received her Master's Degree in Management from Cambridge College. Yvette was recently selected to participate in the Johnson & Johnson Health Care Executive program at UCLA.

**Mark Masselli**  
**President & CEO, Community Health Center, Inc.**

Along with a small group of Wesleyan University students and community activists, Mark founded CHC as a free clinic in 1972 and worked with the National Free Clinic Council based in San Francisco in promoting the development of free clinics across America. Like most free clinics of its time, CHC's early days saw limited public support, as community-organized health services were strongly opposed by the medical community and received little in the way of governmental support. With a personal commitment that health care is a right and not a privilege, Mark brought an entrepreneurial spirit to his non-profit organization, building a network of CHC sites that met the highest standard in both care and environment, to respect the dignity of those they serve. Mark has played a leadership role in founding or leading numerous health and human service initiatives in Connecticut addressing problems such as child abuse, domestic violence, housing, chronic mental illness, and public insurance. In addition to local issues, Mark has worked on a range of international human rights issues. He has worked with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and has traveled in Tibet, Nepal, India and China addressing the issues facing the Tibetan people. He also was active in the development of the Bishop Tutu Refugee relief agency during the critical years fighting the apartheid system in South Africa. Mark is currently Chairman of the Middletown Housing Authority and recently opened a housing project for the sensory impaired, one of only a handful of such projects in the United States. He also chairs the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce technology committee and has been a pioneer in creating free Wi-Fi networks that service both the business community and low-income neighborhoods. Along with his wife, Jennifer, he was recently named the 2008 Distinguished Citizen by the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce. In May, 2009, Masselli received an honorary degree for his community activism from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., at its 177<sup>th</sup> commencement.

**Dr. Jacqueline Nwando Olayiwola, MD, MPH, FAAFP**  
**Chief Medical Officer, Community Health Center, Inc.**  
**Clinical Instructor of Family Medicine**  
**University of Connecticut School of Medicine**

Dr. Olayiwola is the Chief Medical Officer of Community Health Center, Inc., with headquarters located in Middletown, CT. Prior to this appointment, she served as the On-Site Medical Director for Community Health Center in Meriden, CT. In her role as Chief Medical Officer, she is directly responsible for the supervision of physicians, advanced practice nurse practitioners, and other providers. In this role, she is the clinical leader for the organization, coordinating clinical care, research and development, quality improvement initiatives and incorporating public health initiatives into daily practice. Dr. Olayiwola obtained her undergraduate degree at the Ohio State University, Summa Cum Laude and With Distinction, and her medical degree from the Ohio State University/Cleveland Clinic Foundation. She completed her residency training in Family Medicine at Columbia University, where she was Chief Resident, and her Masters in Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Olayiwola was a Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellow in Minority Health Policy at Harvard Medical School in 2004–2005. During this fellowship and leadership training, she received her Masters in Public Health with a concentration in Health Policy from the Harvard School of Public Health in 2005. She is the Founder and CEO of GIRLTALK, Inc, a non-profit organization in New York, NY that provides HIV/AIDS education and prevention to minority adolescent girls in high risk areas. She is an Advisory Committee member of the “Food Smart & Fit” Obesity prevention initiative for obesity prevention in minority adolescent girls. In June 2005, she was selected to be a member of the Minority Women’s Health Panel of Experts of the Office on Women’s Health (OWH) of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), a national committee dedicated to ensuring that minority women’s issues are incorporated into OWH initiatives.

**Ellen Rome, MD, MPH**  
**Board Certified Pediatrician and Adolescent Medicine**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Head of Adolescent Department, Cleveland Clinic**

Ellen Rome, MD, MPH, currently serves as Head of the Section of Adolescent Medicine at Cleveland Clinic. She is a board-certified Pediatrician who was also among the first in the United States to be board-certified in adolescent medicine. Dr. Rome received her undergraduate degree in psychology, magna cum laude, from Yale University in 1984. She received her medical degree and was initiated into Alpha Omega Alpha in 1988 from Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine, then completed an internship and residency in pediatrics at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She next completed a three-year fellowship in adolescent medicine at Children's Hospital, Boston, during which time she also obtained a Master's Degree in Public Health at the Harvard University School of Public Health. Dr. Rome currently serves as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. She helped start the first Adolescent Health track at the new School of Public Health at Case Western Reserve University, and coordinates the Adolescent Medicine rotation at Cleveland Clinic for residents and medical students.

She is currently on the board of the North American Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology, as well as on the board of the Federation of International Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology. She chaired the 2005 and 2007 national courses on Adolescent Medicine: PREP The Course, and has chaired the Media Committee for the Academy for Eating Disorders. Dr. Rome's research interests include eating disorders and obesity, preventive medicine and reproductive health. She has been an invited speaker locally, nationally and internationally on various topics in adolescent medicine, while maintaining a commitment to ongoing teaching of house staff and students in the local and surrounding areas. She has written and published on various adolescent medicine topics, including eating disorders and obesity, the female athlete triad, nutrition for the teen athlete and adolescent sexuality.

**Marlene Schwartz, PhD**  
**Deputy Director**  
**The Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity**  
**Yale University**

Dr. Schwartz serves as Deputy Director for the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity at Yale University. She received her PhD in Psychology from Yale University. Prior to joining the Rudd Center, she served as Co-Director of the Yale Center for Eating and Weight Disorders from 1996 to 2006. Dr. Schwartz's research is focused on how home environments, communities, and school landscapes shape the eating attitudes and behaviors of children. She collaborated with the Connecticut State Department of Education to evaluate Connecticut's K-12 School Wellness Policies and assess preschool nutrition and physical activity policies. These studies were funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Healthy Eating Research Program. Her other areas of research include studies on the effect of food marketing directed at children, and how the WIC program changes the accessibility and affordability of healthy foods in low-income neighborhoods. She is currently co-chair of Connecticut's Sustinet Child and Adult Obesity Task Force and serves on the Board of the Connecticut Food Bank.