

Value-Based Payment Transformation Practice Academy

National Council for Behavioral Health Faculty

Nina S. Marshall, MSW, has experience with behavioral healthcare services and their financing on a national, state, and community level. In her current position, Ms. Marshall is Senior Director of Policy and Practice Improvement for the National Council for Behavioral Health, where she oversees both the Care Transitions Network for People with Serious Mental Illness, a CMS-funded initiative to reduce all-cause re-hospitalization rates for people with serious mental illness and support organizations to transition into value-based payment arrangements, and the Center for Behavioral Health Financing Reform and Innovation, a SAMHSA-funded contract to prepare stakeholders to understand and implement financing innovations that expand access to and enhance the quality of behavioral health services. In her time at the National Council, Ms. Marshall has led policy and technical assistance activities on integrating primary care and behavioral health services, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics, and public healthcare financing for behavioral health services. She also directed the Geriatric Technical Assistance Center, which is funded by the New York State Office of Mental Health to assist healthcare organizations with designing and implementing sustainable models of integrated health care for older adults.

Kate Davidson, MSW, is an expert in clinical advisement and quality improvement, technical assistance, and data-driven practice to deliver high-quality clinical services to individuals with serious mental illness. In her current position as Assistant Vice President and Clinical Advisor at the National Council for Behavioral Health, Ms. Davidson provides clinical expertise and advisement for the Care Transitions Network, a CMMI funded program working to reduce all-cause re-hospitalization rates for people with Serious Mental Illness and prepare organizations for Value-Based Payment models in New York State. In her time at the National Council, Kate has led technical assistance activities on value-based payment, integrating primary care and behavioral health services, clinical oversight, program implementation and evaluation, and implementing evidence-based practices. Ms. Davidson coached administrators and clinical leads to read and interpret data trending and foster an environment of accountability to model fidelity and outcomes across five boroughs of New York City and 15 clinical teams.

Samantha Holcombe, MPH, is a Director of Practice Improvement for the National Council for Behavioral Health in Washington, D.C. In this role, Ms. Holcombe oversees a portfolio of technical assistance and capacity-building programs to drive clinical change and improve health outcomes for behavioral health populations. Ms. Holcombe has extensive experience in designing and implementing complex domestic and global training and technical assistance programs from the concept/proposal stage through implementation. Her experience has provided her the skills needed to facilitate strategic planning, manage cross-collaborative teams, and ensure continuous quality improvement. Ms. Holcombe holds a Master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Minor in Terrorism Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park.

National Council for Behavioral Health Faculty Coaches

Pam Pietruszewski, MA, is an Integrated Health Consultant with the National Council for Behavioral Health. She works with leaders and staff in mental health, substance abuse, and primary care organizations as well as state and local governments to design and implement integrated care initiatives. Ms. Pietruszewski provides technical assistance to Innovation Communities with the SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions on Developing High Functioning Primary Care Teams and Building Integrated Behavioral Health in the Primary Care Setting. She also provides consultation and training on SBIRT and Motivational Interviewing.

Elizabeth Arend, MPH, is a senior expert in research and data analysis, project management, and public and behavioral health recommendations to support training and technical assistance initiatives. Ms. Arend has a strong history of developing evaluation and quality improvement (QI) strategies to strengthen large systems. Currently, Ms. Arend serves as the evaluation and quality improvement lead for National Council's CMS Practice Transformation Network Grant to increase the use of evidence-based treatment, care coordination, and technology in reducing overall hospital readmissions for New Yorkers with serious mental illnesses.