

# 2024 State of Oregon Data Equity Summit

## Presenters

### **Dr. Andres Lopez**

Andres Lopez is the Research Director at the Coalition of Communities of Color and Data Justice leader in Oregon and will provide a keynote address to attendants of the first annual Data Equity Summit focused on building a data equity imagination. Adapted from the concept of a sociological imagination, a data equity imagination centers data actors (folks who work with data) in relationship with other data actors, data structures (e.g., state agencies) and communities represented by data systems. Building a data equity imagination is critical for connecting professional data skills with our individual and shared lived experiences, driving data actors from highly technical to more meaningful workers who think of equity in expansive ways.

### **Kathryn Darnall Helms**

Kathryn Darnall Helms currently serves as Oregon's inaugural Chief Data Officer. Kathryn has recently led the development of Oregon's first Enterprise Data Strategy and is developing new capabilities to support statewide data analytics. In previous roles, Kathryn led data and information governance at the City of Austin and provided archival consulting services to human rights organizations in Rwanda, El Salvador, Austin and Guatemala as part of the Human Rights Documentation Initiative.

### **Meenakshi Rao, Ph.D.**

Meenakshi Rao is currently the Data Equity Consultant in the Data Governance and Transparency team led by Kathryn Darnall Helms, Oregon's Chief Data Officer. Her 40+ years of experience include working in the academia as well as the private and public sectors.

### **Cypress Clark (they/them)**

Cypress Clark is a behavioral health equity research analyst in the Equity & Inclusion Division at the Oregon Health Authority. They have a Masters degree in Biological Psychology with a focus on research methodology and statistical analysis.

### **Eaen (they/them)**

Eaen is an Environmental Health Education and Equity Specialist with the Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division. With a background in accessibility, disability



justice and adult education, they are passionate about creating public health resources that communities across the state can easily use.

After spending several years in the higher education and non-profit worlds, Eaeen joined OHA in April 2022 as a member of the COVID Response and Recovery Unit's Accessibility Team. After this team's work came to an end in 2023, they began supporting broader accessibility and equity efforts in the Public Health Division. Eaeen holds a bachelor's degree in communication from Southern Oregon University and a Master of Education degree in Student Development Administration from Seattle University.

## **Matt Bagwell**

Matt Bagwell is a Statewide Research Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Transportation, Chair of the Communities and Commerce Expert Task Group in the ODOT Research Section and an Equity Researcher. Matt's research interests include research design, methodology and health equity. He has worked in both academia and government service for over 15 years, primarily in research roles related to healthcare administration, medical research, higher education, as well as public organizational development and management. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Affairs from the University of Central Florida where he studied Governance and Policy Research in the areas of Public Healthcare Administration and Health Equity.

## **Josh Roll**

Josh Roll, the Research Coordinator at Oregon's Department of Transportation, focuses on bicycle and pedestrian safety, decarbonization, and equity. He specializes in data analysis and modeling to evaluate travel costs and benefits, aiming to guide investment decisions that will improve traffic safety, eliminate social inequity, lower emissions and improve health outcomes.

## **Ritu Dhungana**

Ritu Dhungana was born and raised in the Kathmandu, Nepal. She has a BA in Political Science from Morgan State University and PhD in Political Science with concentration in Postcolonial International Political Economy and Feminist International Relations from West Virginia University. She is currently in job rotation in Health Policy and Analytics Division of Oregon Health Authority (OHA) as Health Care Workforce Team Manager. Her primary position is with REALD and SOGI Section in Equity and Inclusion Division as Data Equity Policy Advisor. She has been in this role for a little over three years. Prior to this, she was the Program Coordinator for the DELTA (Developing Equity Leadership through Training and Action) Program in Equity and Inclusion Division.

## **Jo Johnson**

Jo Johnson holds an MPH and currently serves at HPA's Data Equity Program Manager. Jo works in partnership with teams from the Equity and Inclusion Division (E&I), and across the agency to REALD and SOGI implementation, support data equity and find ways to operationalize and embed equity into the way we do business. Presently, Jo is a Ph.D. student in Organizational Health and Wellbeing at Lancaster University. She holds a master's degree in public health and has more than 10 years of experience in public health. In addition to direct experience furthering Oregon's equity transformation, Jo has a strong personal commitment to growth, equity, inclusion and belonging. Outside of work, you may see her reading, gardening, dancing, training in Krav Maga, at Toastmasters or exploring the outdoors with her Australian Cattle Dog Brontë.

## **Matt Friesen**

Matt Friesen holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Oregon where he studied social movements and social change. He is currently the REALD and SOGI Data Equity Manager in the Office of Equity and Multicultural Services (OEMS) in the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS). Prior to his work in ODHS he was the Assistant Director of Career Services at Western Oregon University, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Bluffton University in Ohio and community organizer in Southeast Chicago.

## **Rose Harding**

Rose Harding was born in Daejeon, South Korea and raised in Eugene, Oregon. She holds a BS in Political Science from the University of Oregon and an MPH from the Oregon Health & Science University-Portland State University School of Public Health. Rose's current role is as the Data Justice and Equity Coordinator in Oregon Health Authority's Office of the State Public Health Director. As a member of the science and evaluation team, she works with diverse partners across the state to develop and implement public health data plans that reflect community needs. She is passionate about uplifting community voice and expertise in planning processes and is committed to making public health data more reflective of all Oregonians' experiences. In her spare time, Rose is an avid Portland Trail Blazers fan and enjoys spending time with both the two and four-legged members of her family.

## **Dan Farley**

Dan Farley is the Assistant Superintendent of Research, Assessment, Data, Accountability and Reporting at the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), having previously served as ODE's Director of Assessment. Prior to coming to ODE, Dan



worked as a researcher, test development specialist, state and school administrator, Title 1 Assessment System Peer Reviewer, educational diagnostician and public-school teacher. Dan earned his PhD in quantitative research methods from the University of Oregon's Educational Measurement, Policy and Leadership department in March 2017.

### **Isabella Jacoby**

Isabella Jacoby is the Agency Director of Data Stewardship at the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), having previously served as Senior Data Policy and Practice Strategist. Prior to this role, Isabella has worked at ODE since 2010 in roles including operations and policy analyst, business analyst, data collection team lead and data steward.

### **Kathryn Torres**

Kathryn Torres, Ph.D., is a Summer Learning Program Analyst in the Office of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment at the Oregon Department of Education. Dr. Torres has over 16 years of experience in research, equitable evaluation, technical assistance, and project and grant management within content areas that span the P–20 educational pipeline. She specializes in mixed-methods research and evaluation that focuses on education equity issues for students in the Pacific Northwest, equitable family-school-community engagement, data-driven decision-making, instructional leadership and organizational and systems change. She has a doctorate in education leadership and organizations from the University of Washington.

### **Julie Johnson (Paiute/Shoshone)**

Tribal Affairs Director, Oregon Health Authority

### **Leona Enright (Cayuse, Umatilla, Walla Walla)**

Strategic Director of Tribal Initiatives, Oregon Department of Human Services, Office of Tribal Affairs

### **Kendi Oldshield (Sioux, Seneca, and Choctaw)**

Community Strategies Liaison, American Indian, Alaskan Native and Urban Native

### **Marie Hill (Aamsskáápipikani (Blackfeet), Cree and Ojibwe)**

Learning and Development Unit, Oregon Department of Human Services



**Chenoa Landry she/her (Puyallup, Ojibwe)**

Education Mode Lead, Future Generations Collaborative | Native Wellness Institute

**Michael (My'kee) Martinez (Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs)**

Tribal Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Prevention Specialist, Oregon Health Authority, Behavioral Health Division, Addictions, Treatment, Recovery and Prevention Unit

**Emily Terry (she/they)**

Service Equity and Inclusion Manager and Tribal Liaison, Oregon Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Disabilities

**Harriett Godoski (she/her/ella)**

Regional Engagement Specialist, Oregon Health Authority, Equity & Inclusion Division