

# COVID's Impact on Health Equity and Access to Health and Social Services

A Conversation Across the RWJF 'For Action' Signature Research Programs

Research-in-Progress Webinar January 12, 2022 12-1pm ET

### Agenda



#### Welcome:

Jacquelyn Orr, DrPH, FACHE - RWJF Program Officer

#### **Presenter Discussion:**

**Julia Raifman, ScD, SM,** Assistant Professor - BU School of Public Health– Evidence for Action

**Aditi Bhanja, MPH** - Research Advisor for Women's Refugee - Policies for Action

Naderah Pourat, PhD - Associate Center Director at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research – Systems for Action

**Q&A:** Moderated by **Jacquelyn Orr, DrPH, FACHE** 



## Join our discussion on Twitter using #covidresearchwebinar



#### **Presenter – Evidence for Action**





Julia Raifman, ScD, SM



**Boston University** School of Public Health

Julia Raifman, ScD, SM conducts research on health and social policies drivers of population health and health disparities. Her current work is focused on evaluating how policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis are shaping COVID-19, mental health, and economic precarity. She created and leads the COVID-19 U.S. State Policy Database (CUSP), tracking more than 100 state policy responses to the pandemic to facilitate rapid response research and journalism: https://statepolicies.com.

Dr. Raifman leads the Health Inequities Strategic Research area at the Boston University School of Public Health and the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Committee in the Health Law, Policy, & Management Department. She is committed to supporting structural changes to improve diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in academia.

Dr. Raifman teaches Quantitative Methods for Health Services and Policy Research. She enjoys mentoring and is committed to promoting the success of diverse students.

Dr. Raifman received her doctoral and masters degree from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins prior to joining Boston University.

#### Presenter - Policies for Action





Aditi Bhanja, MPH



Aditi Bhanja, MPH worked as a Research Project and Data Assistant at Harvard T.H. Chan's School of Public Health. Her work spanned both health policy and healthcare management and included research on the Affordable Care Act and related policies, as well as the dynamics and optimization of healthcare "teaming." Her prior research work consists of understanding the impacts of migration, disasters, and crises on population health. Overall, Aditi is passionate about turning research into action.

Aditi will soon begin her new role as Research Advisor for Women's Refugee.

#### **Presenter – Systems for Action**





Naderah Pourat, PhD

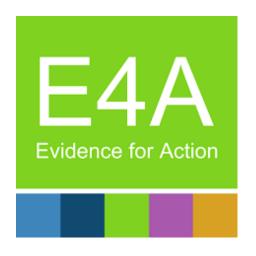
UCLA
FIELDING
SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Nadereh Pourat, PhD is the Associate Center Director at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Professor of Health Policy and Management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and Professor at the UCLA School of Dentistry. Dr. Pourat's research focuses on assessing disparities in access to care of underserved populations, including the role of the health care delivery system in disparities and health care outcomes. She has extensive experience in evaluations of national, statewide, and local programs using mixed-methods evaluation designs.

Contact: pourat@ucla.edu

#### **RWJF Funded Research Projects**





Evidence for Action: COVID-19 U.S. State Policy (CUSP) Database



COVID-19–Related Insurance
Coverage Changes and
Disparities in Access to Care
Among Low-Income US Adults in
4 Southern States



Using Whole Person Care to
Coordinate Health and Social
Services for Medicaid
Populations during the COVID19 Pandemic

#### **Question 1**



Are there promising innovations to address inequities that have been unveiled during the pandemic? What learnings can we take away from how federal, state and other stakeholders (researchers, non-governmental organizations, etc.) responded during the pandemic?

#### **Question 2**



What is the role of researchers in translating evidence (i.e. moving evidence to action) for the public and decision-makers in a quickly changing pandemic and political context?

#### **Question 3**



What are the remaining unanswered questions around how we can help sectors/stakeholders work together in future large-scale national emergencies?



## **Questions?**

Please use the Q&A box at the bottom of your Zoom screen to enter your question.

If we're unable to answer your question during today's session,

we will do our best to follow-up and answer your question post-webinar.

### **Acknowledgements**



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