

MEHAF

MAINE HEALTH ACCESS FOUNDATION

Community-Based Initiatives Learning Community Meeting
March 8, 2017

Speaker Biographies

Polly Arnoff, M.S.W.

Evaluator, S.E. Foster Associates

Polly Arnoff is an independent consultant who brings over 25 years of experience in evaluation, policy, and planning. At Abt Associates, a social science research firm in Cambridge, MA, she evaluated many Federal demonstration projects in the areas of children's mental health, Medicare and Medicaid, and community health. Polly has lived in West Bath, ME for 10 years where she is engaged in the community. She serves on the Board of Seeds of Independence, a grassroots volunteer-based mentor organization that helps at-risk youth connect to creative services to help them become productive members of society.

Rebecca Boulos, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Senior Research Associate, University of Southern Maine; Executive Director, Maine Public Health Association

Rebecca Boulos is senior research associate at the University of Southern Maine and executive director of the Maine Public Health Association. Becca specializes in community-based participatory research, targeting obesity prevention, physical activity promotion and nutrition interventions. She holds a doctorate from the Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, a Master of Public Health from Yale University and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from The George Washington University. Becca is a Maine native and now resides in South Portland.

Teresa Doksum, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Evaluator, S.E. Foster Associates

Teresa Doksum is a health services researcher with expertise in both quantitative and qualitative methods. She has evaluated federally funded programs related to Medicare, mental health, and maternal and child health. For the National Coalition for Health Professional Education in Genetics (now the Jackson Laboratory in Maine), she evaluated an electronic family history tool for prenatal providers at the Maine Dartmouth Family Residency Program. As Chair of the Institutional Review Board of Abt Associates Inc., she is responsible for reviewing evaluations of a range of health, housing, and social programs to ensure compliance with ethical standards and data security regulations.

Susan Foster, M.P.H., M.S.S.W.

Owner, S.E. Foster Associates

Susan Foster is a research and evaluation consultant who has designed and conducted numerous evaluations of the development and implementation of complex system change initiatives in health care, behavioral health, and the environment. She has also conducted environmental scans and strategic planning, most recently on the needs of older individuals experiencing social isolation in Boston. For the past two years, Susan has been the lead evaluator for MeHAF's Community-based Initiatives. During this time, she has also provided evaluation and consultation services to the Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Maine Network Partners, and the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation.

David Wihry

Research Associate, University of Maine Center on Aging

David Wihry is a Research Associate at the University of Maine Center on Aging where he has coordinated or worked on a number of community-based research and evaluation initiatives on topics including transportation services gaps for older adults, mental health services, falls prevention, and evaluating systems-change initiatives and community collaborations. Through the Center on Aging, David has provided consultation services on needs assessment, process, and outcome evaluations for Maine Health Access Foundation's Thriving in Place, Access to Quality Care, and Healthy Communities initiatives in Piscataquis and Penobscot Counties.