

Opioid Overdose Response Teams: Best Practices

OCTOBER 23-24, 2024

Summit Faculty

Jim Albright, BA, MS, NRP, (He/His/Him) is the current Director of Guilford County Emergency Services. Emergency Services provides numerous community functions including EMS, Emergency Management, Fire Marshal's Office, and coordination of the County Fire system.

Mr. Albright is a Greensboro native and graduate of Grimsley High School. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a graduate degree from UNC-Greensboro. He has been employed by Guilford County since 1989 and has served in a number of capacities including Paramedic, EMS Captain, Assistant Shift Commander, Training Officer, Administrative Officer, and Deputy Director.

Prior to working for Guilford County, he was employed by Orange County EMS and was a volunteer with South Orange Rescue Squad and Carrboro Fire Department. He is also active with the NC Association of EMS Administrators and serves on the Guilford County School's Student Health Advisory Committee, Guilford County Behavioral Health Oversight Committee, and the North Carolina EMS Advisory Council. He is also the founder of Guilford County Solutions to the Opioid Problem (GCSTOP) which is a harm reduction and treatment navigation collaborative between Guilford County and the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

Katie Alexander, **BA**, (She/Her) is one of the Regional Directors for the Health and Economic Opportunity Program at Pisgah Legal Services, where she helps folks in WNC apply for healthcare coverage and file their taxes. Prior to her role at Pisgah Legal, Katie worked for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network where she advocated for Medicaid Expansion in 8 states across the country, including North Carolina.

Brooke Barnhill, MPH, CHES, represents Carteret County Health Department as the Post Overdose Response Team (PORT) Manager/Navigator. Brooke is a graduate of East Carolina University with a Master's of Public Health-Health Policy, Administration, and Leadership and a Bachelor's of Public Health with a minor in Alcohol and Drug Studies. Brooke started out with the Health Department as an Overdose Prevention Specialist under the CDC Foundation OD2A grant where she developed and taught substance use prevention curriculum to high school students. Brooke soon transitioned into helping develop and now leads the county PORT. Along with leading the county's response team, Brooke continues to teach prevention to high school students where she helps individuals with lived experience engage with students during these prevention efforts.

Mary Lynn Barrett, LCSW, MPH, (She/Her) has dual master's degrees in social work and public health from the University of Washington. She is the former Director of Behavioral Medicine in the Family Practice Residency Program at MAHEC's Family Health Centers from 2009 to 2019 and then held a faculty position (2019-2024) in the program teaching physicians to manage the mental and behavioral health aspects of primary care and treating patients who experience these challenges to their overall wellbeing.

She left MAHEC in March of 2024 to pursue a full-time private practice, training, and consulting business. Her clinical work focuses on adult mental health addressing the long-term consequences of Adverse Childhood

experiences on behavior, mental and physical health, as well as other traumas and difficult life experiences. Additionally, she provides training and consulting in promoting resiliency practices for individuals, groups, and systems. Mary Lynn has always been very interested in the relationship between stress, trauma, and chronic disease and is passionate about disseminating information about the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study along with resiliency tools so that individuals, agencies, and systems can become more trauma and resiliency-informed and promote well-being for all.

Mary Lynn was part of the leadership team of resiliency trainers who started the local non-profit agency, Resources for Resiliency, and the curriculum Reconnect for Resilience. She has taught about resiliency for many years locally in North Carolina, nationally, and internationally, having trained people in resiliency skills in Honduras, Rwanda, and Tanzania.

Samantha Bradley, NCCPSS, (She/Her) is a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Samantha works as a peer support specialist for Sunrise Community for Recovery and Wellness, as the RCO Director, and Siquo Danvhna "They are Living" Reentry Team Program Director. Samantha's wellness journey consists of many tools including medication-assisted treatment, CrossFit, traveling, embracing motherhood, harm reduction, meditation, prayer, and never giving up. Samantha is dedicated to improving the wellness of her EBCI community and building a supportive ecosystem within NC's western counties.

April Bragg, PhD, As Senior Officer of Community Investment for Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder at Dogwood Health Trust, Dr. April Bragg conducts grant-making focused on addressing behavioral health and substance misuse challenges across the Western North Carolina region. Dr. Bragg received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Emory and Henry College, earned a Ph.D. in cell biology from Vanderbilt University, and completed postdoctoral training in physiology and biophysics at the University of Washington in Seattle. She transitioned from neuroscience research to pursue work in strategic program development, operational business growth, and public- and private-sector fundraising in nonprofit healthcare. During this time, she successfully secured over \$21 million in federal, state, and private funding for various local, regional, and national nonprofit healthcare programs bringing evidence-based care to vulnerable and historically marginalized populations. In her time at Dogwood Health Trust, she has overseen the administration of over \$15 million in grant awards to various organizations involved in behavioral health and substance misuse prevention and treatment services, including harm reduction programs and innovative prevention programs for youth. In her free time, April enjoys reading, writing, and entertaining her two cats, as well as running and hiking in the beautiful mountains around Asheville.

Alicia Brunelli serves as North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition's (NCHRC) Technical Assistance Coordinator and brings a unique perspective to the work. As an Outreach Worker, Alicia gained experience in improving and providing harm reduction strategies while bridging gaps to current drug users, justice-involved individuals, structurally marginalized populations, and those who engage in sex work. Influenced by experiences as a drug user and former federally incarcerated individual, she aspires to make an impact in raising the quality of life for those individuals while lessening the harms of drug use and judicial trauma.

Ainsley Bryce (She/They) is the Organizational Director of Holler Harm Reduction. For the past decade, Ainsley has worked in Harm Reduction programs from Massachusetts to Connecticut to Louisiana in a variety of roles and program models before settling in North Carolina. Since 2020, Ainsley has been with Holler Harm Reduction, based in Madison County, a sustainable and value-driven organization focused on centering the voices of community members who use drugs.

Mike Campbell, EMT-P, is the Training Division Chief for Stanly County EMS and played an integral role in developing PORT-based EMS Community Paramedic Divisions in North Carolina. Mike is also an EMS Educator and former Community Paramedic. He has been in Emergency Services since 2010 and has worked in healthcare since 2003. He is married to his wife of almost 20 years, has 2 teenage daughters, and in his free time enjoys being in the NC mountains or on Lake Norman, hunting, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors with his family and friends.

Andrew Casstevens, CCP, is a Critical Care Paramedic/Sergeant employed by Surry County Emergency Services since 2004 and an MIH paramedic program co-founder. He has been involved in fire and rescue services since 2002.

Rebecca Cerese (She/Her) is a social justice activist, award-winning documentary filmmaker, and a passionate healthcare advocate. She was the first-ever Health Engagement Coordinator at the NC Justice Center and is now

the Health Policy Advocate, working with coalition partners and community members around the state to promote better healthcare policies for all North Carolinians. In that role, Cerese partners with people who have been directly impacted by our dysfunctional healthcare system to amplify their stories and fight for policy changes.

Her passion for healthcare justice comes from a very personal place: watching her mother struggle through breast cancer treatment without any insurance. Never wanting another family to have to deal with that kind of financial stress, Cerese got involved with health advocacy during the ACA hearings and has been pushing to transform our healthcare system ever since.

For the last 5 years, Cerese and the Health Advocacy Project (HAP) have worked on a campaign to expand Medicaid that centered on the experiences of individuals and families who had been negatively impacted by North Carolina's decision to delay enacting Medicaid expansion. Utilizing personal stories, advocacy days, letters to the editor, press conferences, postcard campaigns, and other tactics helped to push the state legislature to finally expand Medicaid. The HAP team is now focused on enrolling every last eligible person into Medicaid with a robust education and outreach strategy in partnership with organizations and individuals across our state.

She is also a proud founding member of the NC Medicare For All Coalition—a diverse coalition made up of 45 different organizations and individuals committed to fighting for a universal single-payer healthcare system that puts patients over profits.

Sonya Cheek, CPSS, CADC-R, is the Intervention Team Coordinator for the Office of Substance Abuse Recovery in Surry County. She is a Certified Peer Support Specialist and is currently working on a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counseling Licensure. She has been part of the intervention team since 2021 and has been in recovery since January 2019.

Justin Garrity, MSW, (He/Him/His) is in sustained recovery from opioid and stimulant use disorders which he attributes to supportive community resources and active networking with other individuals following similar recovery pathways. Justin currently serves as the Director of Recovery Services at Healing Transitions' Men's Campus, a non-profit homeless shelter with a long-term, peer-based, recovery program. In this position, he oversees the peer-based recovery program, a recovery outreach program, clinical case management, Alumni services, and the Rapid Responder program, a Post Overdose Response Team that sends peer support specialists with Wake County EMS to follow-up on opioid overdose survivors within 24-72 hours of the overdose episode. Providing tertiary prevention and harm reduction supplies, the Rapid Responder program encompasses a Syringe Services Program, unsheltered outreach, Jail in-reach, and naloxone training and distribution. He lives in Wake Forest with his wonderful wife and their three cats.

Justin Greer, EMT-P, CP-C, (He/Him/His) is a Certified Community Paramedic with 8 years of Emergency Room experience and 6 years of EMS experience. He has extensive expertise in opioid-related issues and has led initiatives in medication-assisted treatment, Naloxone distribution, and harm reduction.

Justin Hall, NCCPSS, EMT-B, CADC-R, is a person in long-term sustained recovery from an opiate addiction as well as all the mental health struggles that come with addiction. He has worked in the mental health and substance use field for just over 6 years. His work began with an ACTT team serving those with Severe and Persistent Mental Health diagnoses who frequently were incarcerated or institutionalized due to these conditions. His roles included both peer support specialist and housing specialist. He has since obtained EMT and Addiction and Drug Counselor credentials and is one of the founders of the Community Paramedic Program, now serving as the Program Supervisor overseeing the services this program provides. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, live music, and anything that is not related to mental health and substance use.

Brandi Hayes, CNA, NCCPSS, CHWA, (She/Her/Hers) is a native of Buncombe County, a CNA, a North Carolina Certified Peer Support Specialist, and a Community Health Worker. Brandi worked at Mission Hospital for 12 years. She is in recovery from alcohol abuse and Mental Health issues. Brandi has worked in the community as a peer support specialist for the last four years, first with Umoja HWJ Collective and then with the Community Paramedics PORT Team. Brandi is now the Peer Coordinator for the PORT team. She is very passionate about the work the PORT team is doing in the community. Her father passed away from an overdose in 1996. She believes "Everybody is somebody's, Somebody." Brandi is a wife to Michael Hayes and mother to 4 beautiful children. In her free time, she loves getting her nails done, watching movies, and singing karaoke.

Michael L. Hayes, NCCPSS, CCHW-VPP, (He/Him/His) is the founder and Executive Director for Umoja Health Wellness and Justice Collective, the Urban Arts Institute (UAI), and the Ujima Trauma Recovery Center. Umoja's flagship HOPE 4 the Future program serves youth in Black communities in WNC with a trauma-informed and culturally humble approach that builds leadership and understanding of what is necessary and possible for healing and recovery in the Black community.

Chase Holleman, MSW, (He/Him) has served as SAMHSA's leading subject matter expert in harm reduction since 2021. Housed in the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)'s Office of Prevention Innovation (OPI), at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Chase acts as an external liaison to partners and community collaborators, tracking on trends, promising practices, and challenges. Additionally, as SAMHSA continues to integrate harm reduction activities that support sustainable community-level harm reduction activities, Chase provides guidance and resources supported by evidence-based practices and community insight. Chase led the development of SAMHSA's Harm Reduction Framework in collaboration with key community partners.

Chase began working in harm reduction as a syringe services volunteer with the North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition (NCHRC). Several years later, as the Director of Guilford County Solutions to the Opioid Problem (GCSTOP) and Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at UNC-Greensboro, he co-founded a harm reduction services program that doubled as a clinical training site for social work students.

Chase is especially grateful that harm reduction enabled him to live through multiple overdoses and knows that he is alive today because he had access to harm reduction services, quality treatment, and recovery mutual aid from his peers.

Claire Hubbard, EMT-P, RN, (She/Her) has been a paramedic with Buncombe County EMS since 2014. She has also worked locally with sexual assault and DV as a forensic nurse. Currently, she works as the Community Paramedic Program Manager with Buncombe County's Community Paramedic Program, as a clinical instructor for EMS students through AB Tech, and part-time with Planned Parenthood Asheville as an RN.

Bubba Killgo, NRP, has over 30 years of experience in public safety both in Fire and EMS. He is currently an MIH Paramedic with Surry County EMS and co-creator of the MIH division inside Surry EMS.

Jay Ludlam, JD, is the Deputy Secretary for NC Medicaid and leads the \$21 billion North Carolina Medicaid program through Medicaid expansion, the end of the Public Health Emergency & continuous coverage unwinding, and the transformation of the fee-for-service to a managed care delivery system for DHHS. He is committed to transforming Medicaid through a person-centered, integrated approach aimed to enhance what is already successful in North Carolina, ensuring the program's sustainability and financial stability.

In his role as Assistant Secretary, Mr. Ludlam led the implementation of critical healthcare initiatives, such as the Healthy Opportunities Pilots, the nation's first comprehensive program to test and evaluate the impact of providing select evidence-based, non-medical interventions related to housing, food, transportation and interpersonal safety and toxic stress to high-needs Medicaid enrollees. The federal government authorized up to \$650 million in Medicaid funding for the Pilots over five years. In 2021, NC Medicaid also helped launch the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian (EBCI) Tribal Option a first-in-the-nation Indian Managed Care Entity that provides care coordination for Medicaid-eligible Tribal members to improve their healthcare outcomes.

Mr. Ludlam received his law degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and his Bachelor of Science degree in social psychology from Grinnell College.

Michael Lyons, BS, EMT, has been working in EMS for over 28 years, including the last almost 19 years at Wake County EMS. Hired as one of the original Advanced Practice Paramedics, he has spent the last nearly 16 years involved in community paramedicine and mobile integrated health. Over the past 1½ years, he has served as the Assistant Chief of Mobile Integrated Health for Wake County EMS, overseeing the largest expansion in the program's history. Michael's overall focus in leading the Wake County EMS program is to build strong leadership qualities by developing the unique skill sets and passions of the APPs while combining his educational background in business management to evolve the program into an industry leader in mobile integrated health. His vision is to connect patients with the right resources, break down silos preventing healthcare integrations, and shift the paradigm of prehospital medicine.

Jess Maloney, NCCPSS, CWF, (She/Her) is a 37-year-old Certified Peer Support Specialist (CPSS) and WRAP facilitator. With five years of experience at Olive Branch Ministry, Jess coordinates the Syringe Services Program (SSP) across two counties, providing mobile and fixed site exchange. In partnership with Olive Branch and Gaston County EMS, Jess provides peer support and follow-up as part of the overdose response team. Jess has coled focus groups to help lift up the voices of those living the experience of active drug use in opioid settlement fund decisions. She served as an interviewer for an NIH-funded RTI fentanyl test strip study. Committed to harm reduction and compassionate care, Jess leverages her personal recovery experience to create safe spaces and support for people who use drugs.

Illyana Massey, MSW, LCSWA, (She/Her) is a Community Liaison for the UNC Opioid Data Lab. In her role, she assists with the operations of the UNC Street Drug Analysis Lab working with local and national partners. She received her master's from the UNC School of Social Work with a background in Public Health. Illyana is also currently a sex therapist and has years of experience as a therapeutic clinician working with youth, individuals living with substance use and mental health disorders, and people with chronic illnesses. Illyana served as a county-wide community health education specialist (CHES) in HIV prevention and harm reduction prior to becoming a licensed clinical social work associate.

Rev. Michelle Mathis (She/Her) is Co-Founder and Executive Director of Olive Branch Ministry, a faith-based harm reduction agency serving multiple counties in North Carolina through overdose prevention and response, justice-centered education, peer support partnerships with local county government, syringe services programs, and low barrier/low threshold MOUD and HepC treatment in collaboration with two FQHCs. She serves as Board Chair for National Faith in Harm Reduction and Chair of the Gaston County Controlled Substance Coalition and is a 2023 recipient of the coveted Dogwood Award from NC Attorney General Josh Stein in recognition of her contribution to harm reduction in the state. The work of Olive Branch Ministry is featured in Beth Macy's book "Raising Lazarus," the title of which came from a sermon Rev. Mathis delivers about how everyone has a role to play in harm reduction.

Marvin McCoy, RN, EMS, ACLS, PALS, NRP

Angie McKay, NCCPSS, (She/Her) is the co-creator and developer of the Carteret County Post Overdose Response Team. She is a person with lived experience in long-term recovery serving our community as a peer mentor and peer support specialist since 2018.

Brandon Miller, BS, NRP, CP-C, is a Captain with Gaston County EMS in Gastonia, North Carolina. He has been instrumental in developing and implementing the Gaston County EMS Community Paramedic program, addressing the physical, mental, and emotional needs of community members and patients. Brandon has also played a key role in deploying initiatives such as a post-overdose response team, a medication-assisted treatment bridge program, and a recovery transportation program. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Emergency Medical Care from Western Carolina University and continues to make significant contributions to his community and the field of EMS.

Heather Newton, NCCPSS, FPS, (She/Her) is a forensic peer support-trained NC Certified Peer Support Specialist. She is currently employed with the Carteret County Health Department as a CPSS on the Post Overdose Response Team. Heather previously worked as an Assistant Program Supervisor for Hope Recovery Homes and as a Program Manager for Peer Recovery Center. Heather is from Casar, a small town in Cleveland County, NC. She graduated with an Associate Degree in Nursing and worked as a registered nurse for nearly eleven years, mostly in the emergency department.

Heather's lived experience with substance use, criminal justice involvement, felony convictions, and probation led her to residential treatment and then peer support (Heather was employed by the program where she had been a client). After losing her only son to a fentanyl overdose in December 2022, it became clear that her ultimate purpose was to share these stories to help prevent more deaths from overdose and provide support to the ones who were left behind.

Her biggest achievement has been starting her life completely over and gaining control over it. Heather wants to let people know that it is OK to not be OK. It is OK to stumble and need support. Her hobbies are a big part of her daily recovery including spending time with her dog, Angel, fishing, collecting rocks, and jigsaw puzzles.

Tim Nolan, ANP, is an Adult Nurse Practitioner who has worked with HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and substance use in the

setting of primary care for over 30 years. His current emphasis with High Country Community Health is providing low barrier outreach/mobile MOUD care and Hepatitis C treatment in McDowell and Burke counties in the setting of Harm Reduction services in collaboration with Olive Branch Ministry and Project IMPACT.

Lars Paul, BA, brings a wealth of experience and dedication to the forefront of harm reduction efforts, particularly within law enforcement circles. Retiring as a Captain from the Fayetteville, NC, Police Department after 25 years of service, Lars's journey in harm reduction began in 2013 with the inception of the department's naloxone program, a pioneering initiative in the state at the time.

With a BA degree from Fayetteville State University and a prestigious FBI National Academy alumni status (247th session), Lars's professional credentials underscore his commitment to excellence and continuous learning. His proactive engagement with the North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition (NCHRC) has been instrumental in driving innovative solutions to address substance abuse and its associated challenges.

Lars's pivotal role in establishing the department's naloxone program laid the groundwork for subsequent endeavors in harm reduction. In partnership with NCHRC, he initiated the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program in 2016, positioning Fayetteville as a trailblazer in diversionary approaches to law enforcement.

Even in retirement, Lars remains deeply connected to the harm reduction community. Through teaching Harm Reduction classes to police departments across Eastern NC and providing technical assistance to agencies nationwide, he continues to champion progressive strategies that prioritize public health and community well-being.

Lars's legacy is one of innovation, collaboration, and unwavering dedication to creating safer, healthier communities. His contributions serve as a beacon of inspiration for law enforcement professionals nationwide, demonstrating the transformative potential of harm reduction initiatives in addressing complex societal issues.

Jason Powell, CCEMTP, CPSS, (He/Him) is the Program Coordinator for the Caldwell County RESTART, while also having experience as a Critical Care Paramedic and a certified North Carolina Peer Support Specialist. As a program coordinator with the RESTART program, Jason meets with patients where they are in their recovery process without prejudice to promote evidence-based strategies and improve patient recovery efforts after an overdose reversal. This involves follow-up with patients and their families almost immediately after receiving life-saving overdose care. Jason also lives in Boone with his daughter and therapy dog-in-training, Cyren.

Elyse Powell

Nidhi Sachdeva, MPH, (She/Her) is a thoughtful leader and passionate public health professional committed to creating healthy, safe, and equitable communities. She is a systems-thinker with hopes of creating a culture of curiosity and care. Ms. Sachdeva serves as the Director of Strategic Health and Opioid Initiatives with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) where she assists counties in planning for and utilizing national opioid settlement funds, implementing and evaluating health initiatives, and maximizing resources and impact through technical assistance, outreach, education, and collaboration. She has worked in public health and harm reduction in various capacities and on multiple levels within government (local and state) and research universities.

Mary Jo Silver, NCCPSS, (She/Her) is an NC Certified Peer Support Specialist who serves with Olive Branch Ministry in Burke and McDowell Counties. In her position with Olive Branch, she partners with Burke County EMS to provide peer support in the field for overdose response and follow-up. A McDowell County native, Mary Jo knows firsthand that harm reduction enables pathways to positive change, not drug use. Her story has come full circle, and she shares the hope that others may be inspired to take that next positive step in their own self-defined recovery.

Mike Thull, LCSW, LCAS, CCS, (He/Him) is the Executive Director of Guilford County Solution to the Opioid Problem (GCSTOP). He is credentialed in North Carolina as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist, and Certified Clinical Supervisor. Mike previously served as a member of the graduate school faculty at NCA&T State University and UNC-Greensboro. He has worked in multiple clinical settings with a focus on crisis intervention. Prior to entering the human services field, Mike spent his early career in public safety as an EMT and 911 Communications Operator with Guilford County Emergency Services.

Tara Tucker, MS, EMT-P, is a community paramedic and mental health/substance use professional who has been

instrumental in pulling together community partners to address mental health, substance use, and social issues. Currently, she serves as a Community Paramedic with Cape Fear Valley's Mobile Integrated Health Program.

Tara received her undergrad from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her Master's from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She has worked in mental health and substance use in the community and inpatient units as well as emergency services environments. Her experience provides her with the knowledge to better bridge emergency services and behavioral health in their practices and beliefs. She spent ten years of her career working on Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams and this foundation strengthened Tara's belief that we must meet people where they are and treatment should be community-based to better engage people.

Donnie Varnell (He/Him) is presently an investigator with the Dare County Sheriff's Office, where he also sits on several state-level committees combating prescription and opioid drug abuse and is presenting content involved with these matters. Donnie continues to work with law enforcement agencies and policymakers in promoting and enacting harm reduction-based programs such as syringe service programs and pre-arrest diversion concepts. Donnie is also the coordinator for the Northeastern North Carolina Humane Trafficking Task Force.

Donnie was the director of the NCHRC's Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program and served as the NCHRC's Policing Coordinator where he was heavily involved in the Naloxone Program for Law Enforcement and First Responders. He also assisted with developing and implementing harm reduction legislation. Presently Donnie presents and advises at the state, local, and national level on issues dealing with the opioid crisis. Donnie is also a consultant for JBS International working on overdose prevention programs across the nation.

Donnie is a retired Special Agent In Charge for the NC SBI Diversion and Environmental Crimes Unit (DECU) where he developed policy and conducted and supervised investigations dealing with prescription narcotics and environmental violations. Donnie has been an active-duty law enforcement officer since 1988.

Louise Vincent, MPH, is the executive director of the NC Survivors Union in North Carolina and is on the leadership team of National Survivors Union, the American National Drug Users Union. The inaugural recipient of the Dan Bigg Any Positive Change Award, she is an activist and educator who specializes in women's health, drug policy reform, and the meaningful engagement of people who use drugs. Her work in drug user health and social justice has driven the expansion and acceptance of harm reduction throughout the U.S. South. Louise is committed to creating and evaluating user-informed systems and developing organizational leadership using horizontal structures and feminist theory. Her expertise has created opportunities for system change and movement building locally, nationally, and internationally.

Loftin Wilson (He/Him) is a Harm Reduction Programs Manager with the North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition. Loftin grew up in Alamance County and now lives in Durham. He started as a volunteer with NCHRC in 2010 and then worked part-time as an outreach worker for five years, before starting full-time with NCHRC in the fall of 2015. Loftin now divides his time at NCHRC between providing direct services and doing program management and development for NCHRC's harm reduction programs, as well as providing technical assistance for a range of stakeholders. His areas of focus include street outreach as well as making harm reduction accessible for people who are transgender, people who live in rural communities, and people who are currently or formerly incarcerated.

James "Tripp" Winslow, MD, MPH, is a Professor of Emergency Medicine at Atrium Wake Forest Baptist in Winston-Salem. He grew up in Roxboro, NC. His father was a family practice physician there, and he spent much of his time growing up on his grandparent's tobacco farm. He went to Medical School and did his Emergency Medicine residency at UNC Chapel Hill. He also completed his EMS fellowship and master's in public health at UNC. He has worked at Atrium Wake Forest Baptist since 2003. He is medical director of the NC Office of EMS which oversees 42,000 prehospital providers and 17 trauma centers.

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