

## 2025 Hawai'i Addictions Conference

### Speaker Bios

(In order of appearance)

- **William Haning, MD, DFASAM, DLFAPA**

William (Bill) Haning, MD, DFASAM, DLFAPA. Punahou '67, Princeton '71, JABSOM UHM '75 Bill is a physician and Emeritus Professor at the University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine. Certified in psychiatry, addiction psychiatry, and addiction medicine, he directs addiction training programs for that university; instructs and supervises medical students and resident physicians; chaired the ABPN Addiction Psychiatry

Examination Committee through 2019; and is President of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), where he chaired the Publications Council and Public Policy Coordinating Council and edited the ASAM Weekly. His last position in the Office of the Dean of Hawai'i's medical school was as the Director of Medical Student Education. Bill is now a Regent of the University of Hawai'i System. A retired Navy Captain who served with the USMC, he is the undeserving spouse of Libby Char, MD, FACEP, FAAEM.

- **Pauline Salis, Outreach/Case Manager, FTS Salvation Army Treatment Services "Women's Way"**

Pauline recently celebrated 21 years of sobriety (1/22/20004) and describes herself as a product of treatment; She works a 12-step program (AA) from the day she left treatment 2004. It's been a full circle for her - she came from a treatment center and now she works in a treatment center and has been employed with them since March 2012 (13 yrs.) The position she holds at Women's Way enhances her repour with the clients because she can relate to them - "Been there Done that!" She loves what she does, and she loves seeing that the women can arrest their addiction by utilizing the tools that they learn that empower them in making positive changes in their lives. She works in Intake and Admittance at FTS Women' Way and when she is not doing an Intake/Admit or in the office, she is doing outreach work in the community.

- **Richard Rawson, Ph.D.**

Richard A. Rawson, Ph.D., is the retired Co-Director of UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs and now Professor Emeritus at the UCLA Department of Psychiatry, in which he has been a member for more than 20 years. He received a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the University of Vermont in 1974. Dr. Rawson oversees clinical trials on pharmacological and psychosocial addiction treatments. He is principal investigator of the NIDA grants on aerobic exercise, screening and brief intervention in a mental health setting, and a Fogarty training grant between UCLA and Cairo University. He also is principal investigator of the SAMHSA/PEPFAR: Cooperative Agreement for Workforce Development in Vietnam: HIV-Addiction Technology Transfer Center and recently completed the SAMHSA/Department of State: Iraq Drug Demand Reduction Initiative. He has led addiction research and training projects for the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the Drosos Foundation and the U.S. State Department, exporting science-based knowledge to many parts of the world. Dr. Rawson has published 3 books, 35 book chapters, and over 200 peer-reviewed articles and has conducted over 1,000 workshops, paper presentations, and training sessions.

- **Richard Witt, Drug Intelligence Officer, HI-HIDTA**

Mr. Witt was born in New York City and studied and practiced Dentistry in Mexico. He returned to the U.S. and became a U.S. Postal Inspector in 1989. During his 24 years of U.S. Postal Inspector experience, he conducted drug and weapons of mass destruction (anthrax) investigations and performed surveillance and covert investigative operations. He also taught postal law enforcement skills at the U.S. Postal Academy and worked closely with Hawaii law enforcement agencies across the state, including parcel interdiction and narcotics investigations. Since retiring from the U.S. Postal Services in 2012, Mr. Witt serves as a Spanish interpreter for the U.S. Court in Hawaii, and voluntarily assists Hawaii Law Enforcement with Spanish interrogations and interpretations. Mr. Witt joined Hawaii HIDTA in 2018 and manages the HIDTA performance database. He also conducts statistical research projects involving drug threats and drug related deaths in Hawaii. In 2020, he was appointed as the Hawaii HIDTA Drug Intelligence Officer—a key component of the newly created Overdose Response Strategy (ORS), a product of the HIDTA program and the Office of National Drug Control Policy. As the Drug Intelligence Officer, Mr. Witt serves as a liaison for law enforcement, public health sectors, and social service agencies in Hawaii.

- **Chany Hamilton, DBH, LCSW**

Dr. Chany Hamilton resides on the island of Kaua'i and has been in the field of Social Work since 2003 and further obtained her Doctorate in Behavioral Health in 2021. She has held many different clinical roles to support youth and adults in her community, and currently maintains a private practice specializing in trauma-based care, as well as providing behavioral health support to the pediatric team she collaborates with at Kapa'a Pediatrics on Kaua'i.

- **Carla Houser, Executive Director, RYSE Hawai'i (Panelist)**

Carla has a broad background in education and social services, with specific focus on youth at risk of poverty, homelessness, and justice involvement. She currently serves as the Executive Director for Residential Youth Services and Empowerment (RYSE), a street outreach and housing program for transition aged youth experiencing homelessness. As a founder of this start up agency, she wanted RYSE to be able to fill a void in our community and provide a low barrier, youth centered safe haven for houseless, transition aged youth.

Carla has also served as the Program Manager for the Waikiki Health-Youth Outreach program and oversaw their Teen Clinic, and the community health, employment and education programs.

Before arriving in Hawaii, Carla worked for the city of Long Beach, CA as a health and wellness director for at-risk, low-income youth throughout the city. She has also been a teacher and coach in the Los Angeles community. Prior to her work with youth, she served as a case manager and social worker for the homeless communities of Los Angeles' skid row.

Carla also has experience in survey research and secondary data analysis. She laid the groundwork for the UH Center on Family "Street Youth Survey" which provided a first look at Oahu's homeless and runaway youth. In addition, she successfully administered the "Wahine Talk" project, collaborated with other UH researchers, and produced two peer-reviewed publications from the project.

Carla is also an active member of Oahu's Continuum of Care, Partners In Care (PIC) and has also served as the Chair of the Data Committee, member of the Board of Directors and served two years of the advocacy committee.

- **Colleen Fox, PhD, CSAC, CPS, CCS, Director of Adolescent Services, Teen CARE Hina Mauka (Panelist)**

Colleen Fox has dedicated 30 years to supporting children and families and currently serves as the Director of Adolescent Services at Hina Mauka. With expertise in policy, public health, and social work, she is committed to improving outcomes for youth and families affected by substance use and mental health disorders. Colleen holds certifications as a substance abuse counselor, prevention specialist, clinical supervisor, and program administrator.

- **Pia Francisco-Natanauan, MD, Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children (Panelist)**

Dr. Francisco-Natanauan is an Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine specialist at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children where she see patients with eating disorders, gender non-conformity, menstrual irregularities in complex medical states, and high-risk youths. She is the medical provider and consultant to the Detention Home and Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility of the state.

Dr. Francisco-Natanauan's Family Medicine Residency was at Northwestern University and the University of Chicago when Obama was elected president and her Adolescent Medicine Fellowship was at the University of Colorado/Children's Hospital Colorado right before recreational marijuana was legalized in the state of Colorado.

When she isn't working, she enjoys running, SUP and watching late night shows because life's a beach in a 2-physician parent household to 3 daughters.

- **Chelsea Wong, PSY D (Panel Moderator)**

Chelsea is a clinical psychologist who holds multiple roles as a Staff Psychologist at The Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu, HI. She is also a Mental Health Emergency Worker the Hawai'i State Department of Health, and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, John A. Burns School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry. In Oregon, she was a Certified Alcohol Drug Counselor.

- **James Berry, DO**

James H. Berry, DO is Professor and Chair of the Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry at West Virginia University School of Medicine's Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute and the Director of Addictions. He and his colleagues at WVU are actively engaged in novel neuromodulation research related to substance use disorders through WVU's Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute including the nation's first trial of Deep Brain Stimulation and Low Intensity Focused Ultrasound for opioid use disorder which was featured in CBS News' 60 minutes. He has enjoyed advocating on behalf of those suffering from mental illness and addiction before audiences as varied as local town hall meetings to testifying before the United States Senate.

- **Lisa Coutras Terris**

Dr. Lisa Coutras Terris is a theologian and scholar specializing in the intersection of theology, philosophy, and literature. She holds a Ph.D. in Theology and Religious Studies from King's College London, where she conducted groundbreaking research on the theological aesthetics of J.R.R. Tolkien, published as *Tolkien's Theology of Beauty: Majesty, Splendor, and Transcendence in Middle-earth* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2016). She currently serves as adjunct faculty at West Virginia University in the Department of Behavioral Medicine & Psychiatry, contributing to interdisciplinary research on the intersection of addiction psychiatry and literature. She also teaches part time for Houston Christian University.

- **Miki Kiyokawa, MD**

Miki Kiyokawa is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine and Department of Psychiatry at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i. She is the Program Director of the Addiction Medicine Fellowship program. She completed her training with the Internal Medicine residency, Geriatric Medicine fellowship, and Addiction Medicine fellowship at the University of Hawaii. Her primary interest is teaching others about addiction and its management. Sample fields of interest are stigmatization of the addicted patient by health care providers, and diagnostic and monitoring instruments.

- **Rae Elkasabany**

Rae Elkasabany, MSPH (she/her) is the Education Director at DanceSafe, a national harm reduction nonprofit promoting health, safety, and fulfilling experiences for people who use drugs and their communities. With over a decade of experience in harm reduction, Rae has designed and led community-based, mobile, point-of-care drug checking programs using colorimetric reagents, immunoassay test strips, and FTIR spectroscopy—including DanceSafe's national FTIR Program, the DC DanceSafe chapter, and Baltimore's Check It program.

Rae holds a Master of Science in Public Health in Health Education and Health Communication from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she also worked as a researcher evaluating novel drug checking technologies, including advanced lab instruments and newly developed test strips prior to joining DanceSafe's leadership team. Her work bridges community engagement and evidence-based practice, with a focus on accessibility, social justice, and the destigmatization of drug use. She continues to advocate for innovative, compassionate approaches to drug education and harm reduction rooted in community needs.

- **Heather Lusk, LCSW, MSW - Executive Director - Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center**

Heather Lusk, LCSW, MSW is the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center. Heather has over thirty years of experience dedicated to reducing health disparities and stigma as it relates to HIV, viral hepatitis and other chronic conditions linked to substance use. As a Board Member on Oahu's Homeless Coalition, and Co-Director of Hep Free Hawaii, Heather works to support systems integration and the intersection of mental health, substance use, homelessness, chronic health conditions and the criminal legal system.

- **Malvin Vien, MD**

Currently, Malvin Vien is an Addiction Medicine Fellow at the UH Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program. He earned his medical degree from the University of Colorado School of Medicine before completing his residency at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. Board-certified in Family Medicine, he has a special interest in caring for both carceral and LGBTQI communities.