



2023 CHEAC Annual Meeting Workshop Session Biographies

Odd Couples: Law Enforcement & Public Health Overdose Data to Action

Wendy Hetherington, Chief of Epidemiology & Program Evaluation

Wendy Hetherington is Chief of Epidemiology & Program Evaluation for Riverside County Public Health. She oversees the Epidemiology Data Team, Vital Records, Riverside Overdose Data to Action (RODA), Health Equity, and District Community Outreach. Wendy is a trained epidemiologist earning her Master's in Public Health at San Diego State University. She has a wide variety of experience and is particularly focused on incorporating health equity in all public health programs, promoting data to action, and increasing overdose awareness and prevention in Riverside County.

Jessica Cuevas, Program Director

Jessica Cuevas is a Program Director with the Riverside County Department of Public Health's Epidemiology and Program Evaluation branch. She is responsible for the planning and implementation of the Riverside County Overdose Data to Action (RODA) program, a community health improvement effort formed to enhance surveillance of overdose morbidity and mortality and to create more responsive and collaborative prevention efforts to address the upstream causes of substance use disorders and overdose. With over 10 years of experience in Behavioral and Public Health programs, her efforts have focused on mental health education and overdose prevention, which includes many campaigns within the community to promote mental health awareness and public safety.

Aaron Gardner, Senior Epidemiologist

Aaron Gardner has been with Riverside University Health System – Public Health since 2005. Aaron has extensive experience in qualitative and quantitative data collection, analysis, and communication, with a particular focus on health equity and social justice issues. He has been a project lead on HIV surveillance studies, program evaluation, grant writing, and LGBTQ health.