

## 2025 CHEAC Annual Meeting Workshop Session Biographies Connecting for Better Health

### **Timi Leslie (she/her), Executive Director, Connecting for Better Health, President, BluePath Health**

Timi Leslie is the Executive Director of Connecting for Better Health, a nonprofit coalition that strives to improve the state's data sharing infrastructure with a goal of transforming health and social outcomes. She is also President of BluePath Health, a woman-owned, California-based healthcare consulting firm. Timi has over 30 years of experience in the health care industry, advising organizations on business strategy, technology innovation, partner relations, product management, and system implementation.

### **Julie Silas (she/her), Senior Directing Attorney, HomeBase**

Julie is a strategic and collaborative leader with a strong commitment to social justice and systemic change, particularly in the areas of health care and public benefits. Julie excels at helping partners and communities see what is possible, connecting the dots between disparate systems, and encouraging bold, collaborative action. As a lifelong learner, she skillfully uses stories, data, and vision to inspire change and communicate the tangible impacts of collective efforts.

With decades of experience in safety net programs (i.e., public benefits, health care systems, homelessness and housing), Julie thrives on building knowledge, breaking down barriers, and translating complex systems to foster effective collaboration. She has a talent for seeing the big picture, identifying opportunities for creative solutions, and motivating stakeholders by celebrating successes and encouraging bold efforts.

Julie approaches her work with unwavering hope and optimism, firmly believing that everything is possible. Her personal experience growing up in a single-parent household shaped her perspective on the importance of stability, support, and opportunities—insights that continue to inform her work. Whether collaborating with partners, mentoring colleagues, or developing new content, Julie's persistence, creativity, and enthusiasm inspire others to imagine and achieve sustainable change.

### **Eric Gianella (he/him), Associate Research Professor, McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University**

Eric does applied research on improving benefits access and leads the development of open source data sharing tools for resource-constrained CBOs and government agencies. Prior to Georgetown, he was the Senior Director of Data Science at Code for America (CfA), where he worked for six years. At CfA he contributed to and oversaw projects spanning research and field experiments to improve access to programs like SNAP, EITC, and CTC, data harmonization and linkage for programs like Pandemic EBT and Summer EBT, and machine learning to improve outreach and to support clients outside of client support hours. His published research has won several awards, including the American Journal of Public Health Best Paper Award and the Behavioral Science & Policy Best Paper Award. He has a PhD from UC Berkeley and an MS and BA from Stanford.

**Christina Andersen (she/her), Senior Manager, Connecting for Better Health**

Christina Andersen is a Senior Manager at BluePath Health with more than 12 years of experience spanning strategy, implementation, operations, and finance across the healthcare industry. She leads multi-stakeholder initiatives that address critical health-related social needs – including housing and homelessness – by bringing together public agencies, healthcare organizations, and community-based partners to design and implement sustainable, systems-level solutions. Christina provides strategic guidance, manages complex project execution, and facilitates cross-sector collaboration to strengthen capacity and improve outcomes for vulnerable populations.

Christina holds a BS in Biology, an MPH, and an MBA. She also serves on the board of a nonprofit supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and regularly volunteers with food access programs such as Meals on Wheels.