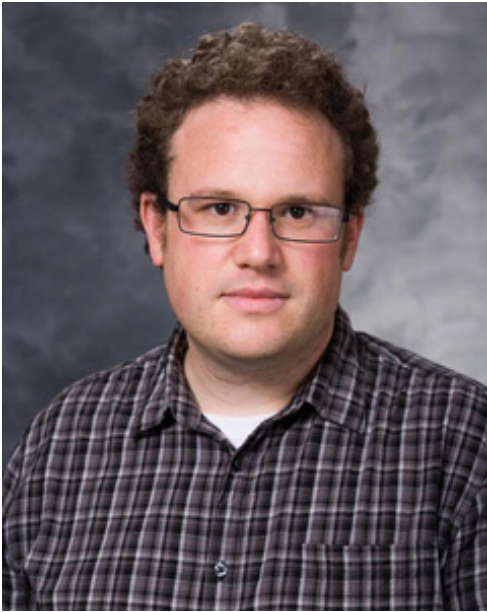




Speakers and Bios

In Order of Appearance



Ezra Lyon was born in central Kansas and grew up in Galesburg, Illinois. He graduated with a B.A. in biology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. He studied ecology and evolution for 2 years at the University of Minnesota and then worked as a bioinformatician. He attended Ohio State for medical school and completed a residency in Family Medicine at the University of Wisconsin Department of Family Medicine and Community Health in Madison, Wisconsin. Ezra Lyon currently works as a full-spectrum family physician at ThedaCare Physicians in rural northeastern Wisconsin in the city of Waupaca. He practices outpatient medicine, teaches residents, attends births, and works as a hospitalist at ThedaCare-Waupaca, a 25-bed critical access hospital.

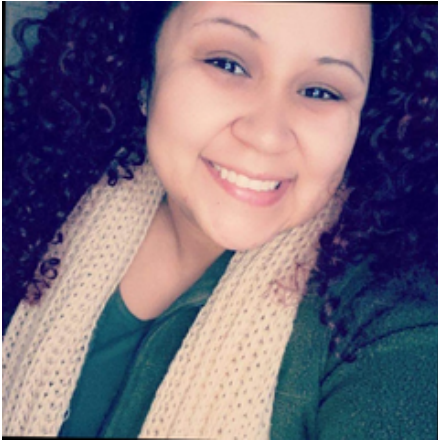
Ezra serves part-time as the Associate Medical Director for Integrative Addiction Treatment for ThedaCare, a regional health system of 7 hospitals and clinics in northeastern Wisconsin. In this role, he works to expand the use of medications for opioid use disorder in primary care, emergency department and inpatient settings. Over the last three years, the number of clinicians prescribing buprenorphine in the ThedaCare system has increased from 5 to over 20. In his Waupaca family medicine clinic, over half of the physicians and nearly all of the nurse practitioners and physician assistants now treat patients with opioid use disorder. He has collaborated with WISAM to host 2 free CME trainings on treatment of substance use disorder. He also serves as the ThedaCare system lead for the WISAM Overdose Response Protocol, a project that will bring universal screening for opioid use disorder, naloxone distribution, and buprenorphine prescribing to all 7 EDs in his system. In collaboration with OB system leadership, he is implementing universal verbal screening for substance use disorder for pregnant people using the SBIRT model in OB/FMOB clinics and in the hospital. Ezra also coordinates ThedaCare's partnership with the Menominee Tribal Clinic on a HRSA grant targeted at preventing neonatal abstinence syndrome in Menominee and Shawano Counties. Ezra will be the principal investigator and medical director of the WISAM-housed and DHS-funded Wisconsin Buprenorphine Hotline, a free telephone hotline for the treatment of opioid use disorder. He is active with the Waupaca Recovery Coalition and has spoken about opioid use disorder treatment at coalition events and at peer recovery coach trainings.



Jennifer Skolaski, Ph.D., is the owner of Community & Nonprofit Leadership Consulting, LLC (www.canpl.com). She has been involved with a variety of nonprofits including organizations and collaborations that focus on environment, education, health care, safety, youth, domestic violence, substance use, and poverty. Jennifer has taught at both *University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh* and *University of Wisconsin–Green Bay*. She has played various roles in nonprofits over the years from staff member, board member, intern, to volunteer. These experiences have inspired her to continue working in the nonprofit sector to bring results through working collaborations and making an impact in the community. Since 2018, Jennifer has facilitated the Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review (OFR), which is a multidisciplinary team that works to prevent overdose deaths through systems change and collective impact work. She currently serves as the Project Manager of the OFR team. Jennifer continuously looks for opportunities that use her skills, strengthen her personally and professionally, and strive to meet her life goal of making a difference in our communities.



Chris Tarmann is the Chief of Police at UW Oshkosh Police Department. He has worked in Law Enforcement since 2006 and has spent the last 12 years in a leadership role at UW Oshkosh Police Department and has influenced, been a part of, or created innovative policing initiatives. Tarmann has created things like – WILE Guardians, a free wellness app for law enforcement in Wisconsin (2020) and a Podcast (UWOPD on the Mic) aimed at building stronger relationships with community members while making appropriate and timely content available regularly. Tarmann, also played a major role in helping create the We Heart You app (a free app that connects community members to resources in four different Wisconsin counties). In 2016, Tarmann joined the Heroin Task Force steering team and was a major part of the changes that took place over the past 7-8 years. This team transitioned to the Winnebago County Drug and Alcohol Coalition and then shifted again to a team called Breakwater. Tarmann was on the steering team until about 2021, the data team until about 2022, and remains on the Marketing and Communications Team as the Chair, the Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Team, and the OFR Recommendations and Monitoring Team. Through these teams, Tarmann created a recommendation that is now known across Wisconsin and in other states as "We Heart You". There are cards, websites, events, videos, initiatives, awards, training, and soon to be certifications all built to advance the way we meet the needs of our community members. In 2021, then Captain Tarmann along with Chief Kurt Leibold paved the way for Universities across Wisconsin to install Naloxone boxes and make Narcan available, for free, across UW System campuses. Tarmann is on the Board of Directors for Nova Counseling Services in Oshkosh, Wisconsin and he has a strong passion for creating impactful and life-changing programs that save lives and create positive change in our communities.



Heleema Berg has overcome many struggles in her lifetime. Born and raised in St. Louis, Mo. Heleema came to Wisconsin as a teenager. Her lived experience includes poverty, teen pregnancy, domestic violence, substance, and sexual abuse in her younger years that spilled over into her adult life causing her to be confined 6.5 years of overall incarceration in both prisons and county jails. Heleema received her HSED while at John Burke Center in 2010. Released in 2010 Heleema faced many battles to turn her life around to become an upstanding citizen in her community. Heleema began to unofficially meet with recently released and formerly incarcerated individuals, as well as individuals still incarcerated to offer support and insight on troubleshooting life after incarceration. Heleema began a Human Services program at Northeastern Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay, WI. In hopes of gaining a more professional aspect to giving back. Heleema began to volunteer at local shelters, and pantries, and continue to attend trainings geared towards multiple community issues, such as domestic violence, sexual assault, trauma-informed care, child maltreatment, and substance abuse issues. In 2020 in the mist of The Coronavirus pandemic Heleema was an intern at a peer-support ran community center, where she facilitated and co-facilitated SMART Recovery, grief, forgiveness focused, self-improvement, and motivational groups. This internship drove Heleema to become more involved in substance abuse issues and fueled a fire inside of Heleema to walk with others in their journey of becoming sober and living a better quality of life. Heleema changed her focus in college to mental health and substance abuse. In 2021 Heleema Began as an intern at We All Rise African American Resource Center, where she was hired on as BYA (Black Youth Alliance) Wisconsin Community Coordinator, in this role Heleema would visit local schools in attempts to reach out to youth, offering after school preventative programs. While her passion to assist formerly incarcerated individuals grew, she switched roles to Crime Victim Advocate, a role in which she provided case management for individuals in the community both formerly incarcerated and not. While in this role Heleema never stopped learning and growing, she continued to attend multiple trainings every month to provide self-enrichment. During this time, she graduated the Gener8tor program, a course geared towards tech, and customer service learning. In her role at We All Rise AARC Heleema also facilitated workshops geared towards Sex Trafficking with an emphasis on women of color. In December 2021 Heleema graduated with an associate degree in Human Services, as well as a Substance Abuse Counseling Certificate. In January of 2022 Heleema began a new journey at Wisconsin Resource Center In Oshkosh, WI a mental health, substance abuse maximum security correctional facility, as a Recovery Support Specialist, where she offers her life experience to others in their own journey, offering hope, insight and motivation, sending a message that anything is possible with change and determination. Heleema became a Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialist in 2022, and a State Trainer for Wisconsin Certified Specialist and Certified Parent Peer Specialist in 2023. Heleema brings her own personal motto: Do not let anyone put you in a box, including yourself, as you can do anything you want if you work hard for it and never give up, change is possible.



Vin Baker was a former Buck and NBA All-Star now in his seventh season as an assistant coach with the Bucks. Baker, who was part of the Bucks' coaching staff that won the 2021 NBA Championship, has reached the playoffs in all six of his seasons as an assistant coach with Milwaukee. Baker authored a memoir, "God and Starbucks: An NBA Superstar's Journey Through Addiction and Recovery" and is opening Vin Baker Recovery, a treatment and recovery center for people with addictions, in Milwaukee. Baker started with the Bucks as an assistant coach in January of 2018 after beginning the 2017-18 season as an analyst for Bucks games on FOX Sports Wisconsin. A 13-year NBA veteran, Baker got his start in coaching with the Texas Legends of the NBA D-League in 2016-17. A four-time NBA All-Star and two-time All-NBA honoree, Baker played the first four seasons of his NBA career with the Bucks who selected him with the eighth overall pick in the 1993 NBA Draft. In four seasons with Milwaukee, he averaged 18.3 points and 9.5 rebounds per game. Throughout his career Baker held averages of 15.0 points, 7.4 rebounds and 1.9 assists over 604 career contests with Milwaukee, Seattle, Boston, New York, Houston and the Los Angeles Clippers. He was also part of the USA men's national basketball team that took home the gold medal during the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney. Baker authored a memoir, "God and Starbucks: An NBA Superstar's Journey Through Addiction and Recovery" and is opening Vin Baker Recovery, a treatment and mental health center for the people of Milwaukee and surrounding areas. Vin also has a non profit 501 C3 Vin Baker Bouncing Back Foundation, to ensure that no one will be turned away from treatment because of fees.

"When you find your purpose-driven life, you start living" – Vin Baker



Ashlee Rahmlow has a Masters Degree in Social Work and is Licensed as a Clinical Social Worker in the State of WI. After years of practice as a mental health therapist, Ashlee made the jump to public health in 2020. Ashlee is the Supervisor of the Community Health and Prevention Division at the Winnebago County Health Department. Ashlee works hard to support and uplift the CHP team and all the amazing talent of the members. Ashlee is a lover of her kids, husband, coffee and exercise.



Sandy Shaffer is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Independent Clinical Supervisor, Clinical Substance Abuse Counselor, and the Founder/Owner of Shaffer Counseling & Consulting LLC *in partnership with Collaborative Wellness*. She is an advocate for bridging the gap of mental health and substance use disorder by specializing in treating people with co-occurring disorders. She has a passion for guiding others to become the best version of themselves, which provides her the gift of growing both personally and professionally. Sandy has been on the Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review Committee since its establishment in 2018 and is involved with various OFR subcommittees. She is the Treatment Provider Representative for Winnebago County Drug Court and serves on the Board of Directors at Solutions Recovery, Inc. and Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc. She is involved in the Oshkosh Area School District Student Wellness Committee, SUD Counseling Program Advisory Committee at Fox Valley Technical College, and the Community Advisory Committee of the UW-Oshkosh Social Work Department.



Lindsay Loewe is a Licensed Professional Counselor, specializing in trauma, EMDR, and Substance Use Disorders. She is the Founder/Owner of Growing Oak, LLC *A Part of Collaborative Wellness*. Lindsay uses a variety of modalities and theories to better serve and meet people where they're at. She is a mom, a wife, passionate about her work and the underserved populations. Lindsay focuses her attention on compassion, advocacy, and helping people achieve sustainable change by utilizing research and brain-based practices. She believes strongly in a systems-approach which looks at both external and internal support to help achieve well-being. Lindsay currently serves on the SUD Counseling Program Advisory Committee at Fox Valley Technical College, the Ripon Area School District Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning governance board, is part of an Oshkosh Area Women's philanthropic group GEMS, and is passionate about serving others through various community program engagements.



Walter Ragland is a native of Chicago Illinois who made his way to Wisconsin in 1993. He first moved to Madison and then to Fond du Lac Wisconsin where he earned an associate degree in Substance Abuse Counseling at Moraine Park Technical College. Soon after he attended The Upper Iowa University where he obtained a bachelor's degree in psychology. Walter has worked in multiple capacities in the Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Mental Health field since 1999. Inpatient, intensive Outpatient, detox, Sober living, and Medication Assistant treatment. He is currently the Executive Director for AMS of Oshkosh and Minocqua treatment facilities, and the Senior Pastor of Appleton Pentecostal Assembly where he has been Pastoring for the past 4 years. He has been married for 17years and has one child. Walter Ragland has traveled throughout the country teaching and educating Men and women. Walter really prides himself on being a change agent and setting the atmosphere in facilities that produce that change in the people he encounters. Walter's favorite saying is "Your attitude determines your altitude."



Megan Edwards is a person in long term recovery and is a licensed Advanced Practice Social Worker and Substance Abuse Counselor. Megan has professional experience within many levels of the addiction and recovery spectrum including working in diverse environments such as corrections, institutions, inpatient care, residential treatment, and transitional living. Megan has developed several mezzo-level programs within the non-profit sector and currently oversees the Peer Response Team and Sober Living program through Solutions Recovery.



Amanda Tennyson, SAC-IT and Recovery Coach, has been working in harm reduction for 5 years and is currently the Harm Reduction Program Coordinator for Winnebago County Public Health. Amanda is a person with lived experience in mental health and substance use. She works one on one with people who are currently using substances by providing a safe, judgment-free space for people to openly talk about their struggles and needs. She focuses on meeting people where they're at, providing relevant education, and supporting them to choose their own route to recovery. Amanda's primary focus is to use evidence-based practices to keep people alive and healthy until they are ready for the next step in their recovery journey.



LJ Volp has been a Recovery Support Specialist with Unity Recovery Services for over 4 years; and working with the Winnebago County Stimulant and Opioid Addiction Recovery (S.O.A.R.) Program for the past 2-½ years. During that time, Lj has provided guidance, encouragement and linkages to services for hundreds of individuals in and seeking recovery, both in and outside of the S.O.A.R. Program. As a person in long-term recovery, Lj is uniquely qualified to work with and advocate for individuals struggling with alcohol and drug use. Her training as a Recovery Coach and PSS enables her to not only relate to the challenges they face; but, also to establish trust with and give a voice to persons who feel they have no one in their corner anymore. In staying true to Recovery Coach standards, Lj supports the person in whatever recovery pathway they choose to embrace.



Timber Smith currently serves as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator and Special Assistant to the Mayor of the City of Appleton. He developed and serves as producer and co-host for the award-winning City of Appleton's Podcast, Appleton Engaged. Timber also hosts and produces his own podcast, THE KOSH. Timber's higher education roles have included Veterans Resource Coordinator, Admissions Counselor, and Senior Equity Coordinator at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, and he has also worked in the Appleton Area School District and Fox Valley Technical College. He is Vice President of Sigma Upsilon Lambda Alumni Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and proudly served in the Army Reserves.



Sarahjean Schluectermann, MPH is the Epidemiologist for Winnebago County Public Health. After receiving her Masters of Public Health-Epidemiology degree, Sarahjean joined the health department team in 2017 and has served in a variety of roles before landing her dream job. She enjoys being able to help others understand and utilize data within their work. Part of Sarahjean's work involves providing data analysis support for the Health Department's Harm Reduction Program as well as the Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review Team.



Jaimie Simon, ICS, LPC, CSAC, has been working in the field of addiction treatment for the past 13 years across various levels of care including, residential, partial hospitalization, intensive outpatient, and outpatient. She currently serves patients across Wisconsin, in her role as a Clinical Supervisor for Rogers Behavioral Health. She firmly believes addiction

is a medical condition that requires multifaceted treatment, embracing Motivational Interviewing strategies, medication assisted treatment, harm reduction strategies, teaching mindfulness, CBT, and other evidence-based treatments.



Trevor Fenrich is a person in long term recovery as well as the Executive Director for Solutions Recovery, Inc in Oshkosh, WI. The progressive recovery community at Solutions Recovery offers a wide range of services and opportunities for individuals and families to get involved in the recovery process. From sober living, peer support, childcare, family friendly events – to supporting and creating space for over 25 support meetings per week, Solutions has placed itself on the map as the "Hub" for recovery in Winnebago County.



Carrie Kubasta Is the Manager of Outpatient Therapy Services at ThedaCare Behavioral Health. Carrie has worked in the behavioral health field as a Social Worker and Substance Use Disorder Counselor for over 20 years in both direct care and leadership roles. Carrie has been a participant of the Winnebago and Outagamie County Overdose Fatality reviews and Breakwater, through its many transitions since 2014. In her current role, Carrie's primary focus remains on improving access to and removing barriers for individuals in need of behavioral health services in our communities.



Amy Geffers holds degrees in social work and is licensed as a certified substance use Counselor. Amy serves as an Independent Clinical Supervisor in her current roles as Clinical Diversion Team Supervisor and Safe Streets Coordinator. Amy dedicates her expertise to working directly with individuals in the community. Her comprehensive approach addresses substance use, mental health, and basic needs, drawing on 19 years of experience in outpatient treatment, jail, and prison settings with both adolescents and adults. Amy's commitment is evident in her multifaceted roles, making a significant impact on the well-being of those she serves. Amy has also recently earned her licensure as a prevention specialist. The Clinical Diversion Team (Connect program), under the guidance of Amy Geffers, plays a vital role in Winnebago County, specializing in meeting the unique needs of residents facing substance use challenges. The team focuses on aiding, assisting, supporting and providing essential resources to the clients. Their dedicated efforts contribute significantly to supporting individuals through tailored interventions and ensuring a holistic approach to recovery within the community. The Connect space is a friendly and welcoming place for obtaining help and resources for those living in Winnebago County.



Amber Gohlke is a person in long term recovery, a trauma-informed Substance Abuse Counselor, and the owner of Pure Light Counseling, LLC *in partnership with Collaborative Wellness*. Amber is currently transitioning into her master's program for Social Work and has a passion for learning how to better serve all areas of her client's needs. She has been a dedicated support of the recovery community by working with individuals, groups, and families in rebuilding their foundation in recovery while focusing on mind, body, and spirit. In addition, she is currently facilitating a Women's Recovery Management group and co-facilitating a drop in Dual Diagnosis Group at Collaborative Wellness in Oshkosh.