

## 2017 ThinkFirst Conference on Injury Prevention

### Faculty

1. **Holly Adnan** is a Registered Nurse and Injury Prevention Specialist with the Trauma Services Department at St Anthony Summit Medical Center and lives in Silverthorne, Colorado. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Arizona and has been a nurse since 1995. When she is not out representing ThinkFirst in her community, Holly can be found enjoying the outdoors hiking, biking, skiing or paddle boarding with her husband, Ken, and their two children, Bodhi and Satori (6 and 8 years old).
2. **Kathleen Boyer MSN, RN** is the Injury Prevention Coordinator for Christiana Care Health System Trauma Program. Kathy graduated with her BSN from the University of Delaware in 1988 and was accepted into Christiana Care Health System's (then known as The Medical Center of Delaware) Critical Care Nurse Internship Program in Newark Delaware. After completing the program Kathy worked for 22 years in the Surgical Critical Care Unit as a staff nurse caring for trauma, surgical and neurosurgical patients. She maintained her CCRN certification for over 20 years. Kathy was hired as the Injury Prevention Coordinator for Christiana Care's Trauma Program in January of 2012. She received her MSN in 2013 from Wilmington University.
3. **Jill Braselton, RN, BSN**, is the Team Lead Specialist for Injury Prevention at Northwestern Medicine–West Region, Central DuPage Hospital and Delnor Hospital and the ThinkFirst State Chapter Director for Illinois. She has worked for Central DuPage Hospital for 30 years and in her current role oversees ThinkFirst Northwestern Medicine's Injury Prevention programs that reach almost 22,000 students each year. She developed and implements the ThinkFirst For Youth program in elementary and middle schools, presenting ThinkFirst assemblies/classroom presentations to over 8,000 students each year. She teaches 2 parent classes each month on Child Passenger Safety and facilitates a new mother's

weekly support group for the hospital. She created the ThinkFirst Boost IL/CPS program at Northwestern Medicine distributing over 300 Child Safety Seats each year to families in need.

Jill received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Science from Wheaton College, in Wheaton, Illinois and her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Rush University in Chicago. She is a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician Instructor and Certified Breastfeeding Counselor. She lives in Glen Ellyn, IL with her husband, two daughters and granddaughter.

4. **Wallace Chan** is the Education Presenter and Event Coordinator for OHSU ThinkFirst Oregon. He holds a B.S. in Communications Studies from Portland State University. He joined OHSU ThinkFirst Oregon in October of 2013. As Education presenter, he educates the community on the importance of the brain and spinal cord as well as talk about ways youth can prevent injuries. He is now tasked with working with, training and recruiting new volunteers for OHSU ThinkFirst Oregon. You can reach him at [chanwal@ohsu.edu](mailto:chanwal@ohsu.edu)
  
5. **Deana (DEE-NAH) Dothage (DOE-HAYG)**, Director of First Impact, has a unique background that makes her the perfect fit for the position she filled with the ThinkFirst Missouri chapter this past January 2017. Deana has a B. S. in Administration of Justice - Policing Option from the University of Missouri @ St. Louis. Her career experience includes law enforcement, insurance claims and agency and church office management. Her most recent work was at a Regional Planning Commission where she developed a transportation referral service known as MO RIDES. Under her leadership, MO RIDES expanded from a regional pilot program to one that currently serves the residents of all Missouri Counties.

For Deana, reducing traffic fatalities is personal. In two separate auto crashes, both over 40 years ago, her father died, and her 19-year-old brother died. While implementing

First Impact, a program designed to teach parents of new drivers the Graduated Driver's License law in order to reduce traffic fatalities, she is living her work. Her son, Danny age 15, has his permit so Deana (DEE-NAH) is actively practicing the First Impact model as his passenger.

6. **Alex Epstein** serves as the creative, strategy and management lead on national public education programs and initiatives, managing creative teams that develop digital content in all its forms, including social media, videos, websites, apps, games, promotions, etc. in support of the National Safety Council mission to eliminate preventable deaths. He currently spearheads the NSC Advanced Automotive Safety Technology initiative and its public facing *MyCarDoesWhat* national driver education campaign on Advanced Driver Assistance Systems and vehicle automation. Alex also manages and directs the Market Research and Creative Services functions at NSC.

Alex has extensive broadcast TV news experience, having worked for the Gannett Corporation in the L.A. Bureau of the *USA Today On TV* national television news program, as well as for the Walt Disney Company as senior producer/special projects for KCAL-TV News Los Angeles, where he wrote and produced television programs, series, specials and mini-documentaries.

A native of New York City, he began in broadcast television at the CBS affiliate in Fairbanks, Alaska. He is a graduate Bennington College and the Yale University School of Organization and Management.

7. **Debby Gerhardstein, RN, BSN, MA** has served as the Executive Director of the ThinkFirst Foundation since 2007. Debby began her nursing career in patient care, including ten years as a rehabilitation nurse, where her commitment to brain and spinal cord injury prevention began. She began working as a ThinkFirst chapter director in 1994, and over thirteen years was a state chapter director, trainer, program manager and child

passenger safety technician. She served on injury prevention-related state committees and numerous ThinkFirst Foundation committees while completing a master's degree in Organization Leadership with a concentration in nonprofit management. Debby directs all ThinkFirst operations and works with all committees to support ThinkFirst's mission and attain our goals, and represents ThinkFirst on related national injury prevention coalitions.

8. **Linda L. Hill, MD, MPH**, Professor, UC San Diego: Dr. Hill is a Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health at UCSD. She is the Medical Director of the UCSD Training, Research and Education for Driving Safety ([treds.ucsd.edu](http://treds.ucsd.edu)) and Co-Director of the UCSD Injury Epidemiology and Prevention Research Center. She is engaged in prevention research and teaching with current/past support from the NIH, the California Office of Traffic Safety, Robert Wood Johnson, American Cancer Society, and Health Services Resource Administration, and the AAA Foundation For Traffic Safety, including research in injury prevention, driving safety, obesity, decision making, compliance, physician training, physical activity, and refugee health.
9. **Krista Jones, BS, CPST-I**, Injury Prevention Coordinator: Krista holds a Bachelor's of Health Science in Community Health Education from Ohio University. With her current role as an Injury Prevention Coordinator she plans, budgets, implements, evaluates and facilitates multi grant funded programs, and provides public relations services for all injury prevention programs throughout TriHealth. She has been a National Child Passenger Safety Technician/Instructor for the past 16 years. Krista is a member of numerous injury prevention committees and is a certified Stepping On and Matter of Balance Facilitator.
10. **Mary Kunz**, chapter director for ThinkFirst Saginaw, began working as a VIP (Voice for Injury Prevention) speaker in 1993 and began working with the Field Neuroscience

Institute, ThinkFirst-Saginaw chapter in 2006 as an injury prevention educator and VIP speaker. Now the chapter director, Mary's duties include administration, coordination and education of ThinkFirst for Kids, Think First for Teens and the chapter's other injury prevention programs. Mary uses her personal experience with a spinal cord injury to help others learn the importance of promoting safe behavior.

11. **Nancy Kyrouac** is chapter director of ThinkFirst / Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, and holds a Master of Public Health. She has been a nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technician for ten years and a Child Passenger Safety Technician Instructor since 2012. Nancy has been involved in prevention education for more than 20 years, including injury, violence, and drug and alcohol prevention.

12. **Stephanie Lambers M.Ed., OTR/L**, and Injury Prevention Coordinator: Stephanie is responsible for defining the injury prevention efforts in schools, hospital and community for TriHealth. She is an Occupational Therapist with a Masters of Education in Community Health Promotion. She has been an injury prevention advocate for over 20 years. In addition, she is a liaison with local government and medical agencies concerned with reducing the incidences of injuries. She is a member of numerous injury prevention committees and serves on 2 community agency boards and is a certified Stepping On and Matter of Balance facilitator. Her patient care and community health experience have led to her passion for prevention of traumatic injuries.

13. **Bonnie Muntz-Pope, BSN, RN**, a native of North Dakota and graduate of Jamestown College in Jamestown, ND has called Charleston, SC home since 1974. She retired from Medical University of SC with over 40 years as a neuroscience nurse in 2011. She helped found the ThinkFirst Low country chapter at Medical University of SC in 1995. In 1999 she became the state director/trainer in SC (a position she still holds). In 2013 she spearheaded incorporating ThinkFirst South Carolina-Low country Program as a non-profit. She currently heads this chapter as a volunteer. She has served on the ThinkFirst

Efficacy Committee, ThinkFirst for Youth Curriculum Development Task Force, ThinkFirst for Concussion Committee, and served on planning committee for annual meeting of ThinkFirst several times. She has done research with ThinkFirst for Kids, ThinkFirst for Youth in Middle Schools and Boost 'em Up Project. She currently has a grant from SC Dept. of Disabilities to promote ThinkFirst Programs in South Carolina and serves as a consultant on the SC Brain Injury Associate grant from Dept. of Disabilities and serves on their Awareness and Injury Prevention Committee and the SC Coalition of Water Safety sponsored by Children's Trust of South Carolina. She serves on the board of directors of SC Health Educators group of the SC Assoc. of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

14. **Brian Oh**, Transportation Planner with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation: Brian is a community planner working on transportation solutions for the Los Angeles Department of Transportation. As a life-long Angeleno, he is currently re-exploring the city through his 1-year-old daughter's eyes and at her height.
15. **Angel Federico Velasquez Neurosurgeon**: Honduran Neurosurgeon with 16 years' experience and a long-time ThinkFirst advocate.
16. **Kahyra Ramirez** is the Education and Fall Prevention Coordinator for OHSU ThinkFirst Oregon. She has her Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Studies from Goshen College in Indiana. Her studies are inclusive of Psychology, Kinesiology and Nursing. She began working for OHSU ThinkFirst Oregon in August 2016. She has been working to present fall prevention programs throughout the Portland Metro area as well as A Matter of Balance Programs
17. **Dr. Uzma Samadani** is a neurosurgeon at the Minneapolis VA and Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota to which she was recruited in 2015 to serve as the Rockswold Kaplan Endowed Chair for TBI Research. She is also an Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota. She has had 4 million dollars in Federal, State

and Industry funding over the last 8 years to investigate means for prevention, classification and treatment of brain injury.

18. **Mark Spatola MD FAANS**, Chief, Section of Neurosurgery\_ Orange Park Medical Center, Orange Park FL: A Graduate of Johns Hopkins University, New Jersey Medical School, and Neurosurgery Residency at Albert Einstein/ Montefiore Medical Center. Chief of Neurosurgery, former Chief of Staff and Chair of Board of Trustees at Orange Park Medical Center. Former Chair of Ethics for the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, Vice Chair of Neurosurgery PAC in Washington DC. Board positions, Intecare, Physician Network, chair, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, chair of governance committee, Concert on the Green, St Johns River State College Foundation. Faculty at University of Florida, neurosurgery, teaches orthopedic physical therapy residents at Brooks Health/University of North Florida, and Family Practice Residency at Orange Park Medical center, medical ethics, Presently serves as the Chair of Board of Directors of ThinkFirst National Injury Foundation.
  
19. **Roberto de Leo, MD** graduated from La Salle University School of Medicine, Mexico, Summa Cum Laude. He did his post graduate training in the National Medical Center, Mexico, his residency in surgery at the University of Rochester, NY and residency in Neurological Surgery at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, graduating with Honors. Dr. de Leo has organized Neurological Surgery and Rehabilitation Centers in several hospitals. He is President and Founder of ThinkFirst Mexico Chapter, receiving the Foundation's International award. He is currently the Chairman of the ABC Neurological Surgery Center in Mexico. In 2011 Dr. de Leo received the highest award given by the American British Cowdray Medical Center entitled "Excellence in Medicine".
  
20. **Katie Walro, BS, CPST**, Injury Prevention Educator: Katie holds a Bachelor's in Organizational Communications with a Business Minor from Wright State University.

With her current role as an Injury Prevention Educator she oversees the ThinkFirst For Your Baby English and Spanish program in Cincinnati, OH. She has been a National Child Passenger Safety Technician for the past 2 years. Katie is a community educator with the Kiwanis Safety Rocks program. With this program she reaches over 800 Headstart children each year. Along with playing an instrumental role with the Crosstown Concussion Crew, Katie also is a water fitness instructor with her local YMCA and a scout leader and a religious emblem advisor with Boy Scouts of America.

21. **Kayt Zundel**, since 2009, Kayt has been the Chapter Director for Oregon Health and Science University's injury prevention programs. She has worked to provide, create, collaborate, and share injury prevention programs at both the local and national levels. She lives with her husband, two children, and four dogs in Portland, Oregon.