

## Biography

### Susan Beaton RN, BSN, CPN, CPC

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Director of Medical Management Services  
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Susan received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She is currently a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. Susan also holds professional designations and certifications as a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Generalist and is a Certified Professional Medical Coder.

She is the Director of the Medical Management Service Teams with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska (BCBSNE) located in Omaha, Neb., and began her career in the Medical Field in 1991 and has over 20 years of experience in the Nursing Field. Susan joined BCBSNE in 1997 and has held various positions within the medical management and product installation/build teams.

Susan's current position of Director of the Medical Management teams allows her the opportunity to organize and lead a team of Clinical Staff whose responsibilities include the following: development, implementation and management of the Medical Management programs which include Utilization and Case Management, Medical Claims Review, Pre- Authorizations, Appeals, Medical Research and Records Unit and Clinical Support Staff.

# Biography

## Tracey Bonneau, BA

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Senior Community Health Educator  
Office of Women's & Men's Health  
Nebraska DHHS

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In 1995, Tracey Bonneau joined the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Women's and Men's Health. Over the past 16 years she has developed and fine tuned her skills and for the past 12 years has served as a Community Health Educator Senior. She is responsible for all marketing aspects of the Every Woman Matters Program, WISEWOMAN Program and the Nebraska Colon Cancer Screening Programs.

With nearly 12 years of graphic design and social marketing experience she has a talent for collaborating with multiple partners to carry out innovative statewide media campaigns utilizing varied media strategies such as billboards, television, radio and print marketing, mobile marketing and small media. She oversees outreach/recall contractors across the state and is responsible for all program forms and marketing development for public and professional education.

Tracey will graduate from Doane College in May 2013 with a Bachelors in Graphic Design. She started her degree in 1998-99 after which she took a break to raise her children. She returned to college in 2010 to complete her bachelor degree. Tracey also has an associate degree in Legal Assisting.

Tracey has been married to her high school sweetheart Troy for the past 14 years and has 4 children (Tristan-12; Makenna-10; Cadence-7 and Corbin-7). When not at work she can be found playing the role of referee between her children and as a chauffeur to their many sporting activities. She enjoys photography, decorating cakes and painting/designing door signs for her mom's craft/floral store in northeast Nebraska.

## Biography

### Kelly Bouxsein, MPH, MS, CPH

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NAP SACC Coordinator  
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Kelly Bouxsein, originally from Baltimore, MD, came to Nebraska as a Behavior Analyst at UNMC's Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders. After several years managing clinical intervention programs Kelly recognized a connection between the field of public health and her interest in behavior change, health, systems change, and policy. She returned to Baltimore and completed a Master in Public Health degree at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She also holds a Master of Educational Psychology from Georgia State University and a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology from Emory University.

Since returning to Nebraska in 2011, Kelly has been fortunate to be connected with several tremendous public health initiatives around the State. She is currently working with Live Well Omaha Kids, a childhood obesity prevention coalition, coordinating a program focused on active living policy within child care centers. Kelly recently completed a one-year position as the Motor Vehicle Safety Policy Coordinator with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NE-DHHS) Injury Prevention Program. This CDC-grant funded position worked with injury prevention and policy experts in Nebraska to determine priority areas and develop a strategic policy intervention plan to reduce motor vehicle related injuries in Nebraska. Kelly also works with the Douglas County Health Department and NE-DHHS in their efforts around using Health Impact Assessments to address the relationship between the built environment and the health of Nebraska residents.

Kelly is certified in public health and is a member of the Public Health Association of Nebraska and the Safe States Alliance. Kelly is passionate about food (eating and cooking), enjoys fitness activities and sports, loves to travel, and considers herself a "lifetime learner."

## Biography

### Barbara Chadwick, RN, BSN, MA, PNP, LNC, ABD

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Director, Clinical Services Division  
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Barbara's long career has focused on maternal-child health and access to care issues and systems. She currently has oversight for the clinical services at LCPH for both the Communicable Disease Branch and Office of Chronic Disease. Most recently she has spear-headed a team to implement Practice Management and EMR systems, that will enhance LCPH sustainability efforts. By engaging and empowering her staff, LCPH has seen a four-fold increase in clinical outreach efforts and number of services provided to the community.

Work-life balance is attempted by working in her garden, being known as the "plant whisperer", walking every day, bragging about having competed in 2 half triathlons and 5 marathons, and enjoying her large family. Should retirement ever come, she plans to work overseas helping to improve the life of others.

## Biography

### Clarissa Christensen, BS

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Lifestyle Interventions Coordinator  
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Clarissa Christensen is the Lifestyle Interventions Coordinator for the Every Woman Matters Program within the Nebraska Office of Women's & Men's Health. She is responsible for planning, developing and implementing activities as well as tailored education efforts aimed at cardiovascular disease risk-reduction through behavior and lifestyle modifications.

Clarissa has been employed with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services since April 2010. Prior to her work with the Every Woman Matters Program she worked as a health fitness instructor at a medical fitness facility in Lincoln.

She also currently serves as a member of the Air National Guard in the area of Financial Management. Clarissa received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition, Exercise, and Health Sciences from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln in 2008.

Clarissa is passionate about helping others live healthier lives. She serves in various roles in organizations both locally and nationally that align with her passion.

In her free time, she enjoys traveling, volunteering, reading, and staying active outdoors.

## Biography

### JK Costello, AB, MD, MPH

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J.K. Costello, M.D., is a native of Omaha. He attended Brownell-Talbot in Omaha, Harvard College for undergraduate study in biology, and UNMC for medical school and graduate public health study. He currently serves as chief medical officer and practices at Midwest Minor Medical in Omaha. He also coaches the state champion math team at his alma mater, Brownell-Talbot.

J.K. is passionate about optimizing the practice of medicine to improve patient outcomes and decrease costs. He also finds physician-patient communication and relationships fascinating. He is pursuing a Masters' degree in public health administration at UNMC.

Outside work, J.K. enjoys trivia, reading, cooking, and basketball. He has an extensive knowledge of fine cheeses. He lives in Omaha's Dundee area and recently proposed to his fiancée, Grace Rudersdorf.

## Biography

### Becky Davis, MSN

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Assistant Professor  
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I have enjoyed a fulfilling career as a professional nurse for several years. I have grown professionally through each and every nursing role I have undertaken, but especially that of the public health nurse. My experiences have been both community-based and community-oriented, from chronic disease case management to maternal-child home visitation. I particularly enjoy partnership development and program planning activities. Currently, I am employed as a nurse educator at Bryan College of Health Sciences, where I teach community health nursing to undergraduate BSN students. I am thrilled to be able to teach what I am passionate about, and also remain engaged in public health nursing practice and scholarly activities.

I have lived in Lincoln, NE for the past nine years. Prior to that time, my husband and I lived and raised our family in Hastings, NE. We have three married adult children and six amazing grandchildren. I am a firm believer in lifelong learning and the endless possibilities that exist for committed public health professionals to positively impact the public's health.

## Biography

### Karen Hadley, MS

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Director Workforce Initiatives  
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Karen Hadley, MS, holds her undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice and her Masters degree in Counseling. She is currently the Director of Workforce Initiatives for the Health Center Association of Nebraska and assisted in the launch of this new Primary Care Association. She has served on several Governor appointed task forces and was appointed a member of the Judicial Nominating Commission, Court of Appeals. In her prior professional role, she served as the Executive Director of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Greater Omaha (DVCC). Prior to her time with the DVCC, Ms. Hadley held two positions within the University of Nebraska at Omaha. One position under the Public Administration Department as the Executive Director of the Omaha Community Partnership (OCP) and another position under the Criminal Justice Department, coordinating resources for Nebraska's Serious and Violent Offender Initiative. Ms. Hadley worked for the Department of Justice, Drug Courts Program Office in Washington D.C., served as a Juvenile Probation Officer in Douglas County, and a Correctional Officer, Volunteer Coordinator and House Arrest Officer in Johnson County, Kansas.

Karen is the proud mother of three strong women, Skye (25), Ashley (24), and Hannah (16). She is happily married to RJ, an Account Executive with Fox 42, and long-time singer and entertainer. She continues to persevere in community leadership and engagement.



## Biography

### Brandi Holys Tumbleson, MA, BA

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Executive Director  
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Brandi Holys Tumbleson is the Executive Director for Three Rivers Public Health Department, serving Dodge, Saunders, and Washington counties in Nebraska, where she recently authored and secured a grant funding the health department as the Title X delegate. Her education background includes a Masters of Arts in Health Education from the University of Nebraska, with coursework in the UNMC Master of Public Health program. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Human Resources from Hastings College. Ms. Tumbleson has served as the Chair of the Nebraska Women's Health Advisory Council, subgroup chair for the Nebraska Title V Needs Assessment, member of the Nebraska PRAMS advisory committee, and Friends of Public Health in Nebraska. Her previous work includes grant writing and community relations for the Visiting Nurse Association, grant administration at Creighton University, program development and public affairs at the March of Dimes Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota Chapters, and health education at the Nebraska DHHS Office of Women's Health.

Brandi and her husband, Jeremy, a radiographer at Bellevue Family Practice, reside in Omaha with their munchkin cat, Bella, and boxer, Sasha. In her free time she enjoys bike riding with Jeremy, reading current health literature, gardening, body pump, and jewelry design.

## Biography

### Brian Porn, BS

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Emergency Response Coordinator  
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Brian Porn received his Bachelor's of Science degree in Education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2009. While at the university, Brian received the 2009 Outstanding Undergraduate Service Award from the College of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation in recognition of his service to the university and community.

Brian joined the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department in 2011 as the Health Educator. In this role, he implemented community programs in the areas of worksite wellness, distracted driving prevention, colon cancer prevention, tai chi for older adults, and oral health access for young children. In 2012, Brian transferred within the department to the position of Emergency Response Coordinator. This position involves preparing the health department to respond to public health emergencies and engaging partners in the community to coordinate response plans.

He is a member of the Public Health Association of Nebraska – Emergency Response Coordinator Section, and is active in the Northeast Nebraska Community Organizations Active in Disaster and the Rural Region One Medical Response System. In his free time, he enjoys mountain bike riding and racing with his wife, Whitney.

## Biography

### Sonja Russell, MPH, BS

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Sonja Russell joined the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Public Health (CoPH), Rural Health Education Network (RHEN), in October of 2007. She received her undergraduate degree in community health education from the University Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) in December of 2007, and has recently graduated from UNMC with her Masters of Public Health (May 2012). Throughout her time at RHEN she has assisted the Center with monitoring fiscal expenditures, program coordination and planning, and supporting research activities. For her service learning capstone experience at OneWorld Community Health Center Ms. Russell created and administered a comprehensive health needs assessment tool, and developed specific recommendations to enhance OneWorld's health education interventions, partnerships, offerings, and outreach activities.

Prior to her time at RHEN she interned with The Nebraska Medical Center's (TNMC) community relations department, where she was responsible for planning and coordination of the hospital's annual health and wellness fair, Camp Quality Heartland Kick-Off event, as well as maintaining TNMC health and wellness club membership programs.

Ms. Russell has received the American Alliance for Health Education (AAHE) Outstanding Health Education Majors of the Year Award, the Outstanding Undergraduate Service Award in Community Health Education, and the University Nebraska at Omaha Student Honors Convocation Award. She has been inducted for lifetime membership in the Delta Epsilon Iota Honorary Society, and is listed in Who's Who among students in American Universities and Colleges. Ms. Russell also holds an adjunct faculty position at UNO in the school of Health, Physical, Education, and Recreation.

## Biography

### Sarah Schram, MS, RD

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Clinical Nutritionist  
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Sarah Schram, M.S., R.D., is a Clinical Nutritionist for the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) in Omaha, Nebraska. She is currently responsible for managing DCHD's Community Transformation Grant (CTG) and provides direct oversight for the Healthy Eating component of CTG.

Sarah has been with the Health Department for over 6 years and has been in her current position as project manager for CTG for the last 10 months. Prior to CTG Sarah worked on developing and implementing the Healthy Neighborhood Store project, which aims to increase the availability and affordability of healthy food items, in Douglas County's most nutritionally fragile areas. Sarah has worked within other public health areas and programs such as; preconception health, breastfeeding, childhood obesity prevention, and with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program.

Sarah received her Bachelor's degree in Dietetics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2002. In 2003, she received a Master's degree in Nutrition and Food Management from the University of Central Oklahoma. Sarah is a registered dietitian and lives with her husband and two children in Gretna, Nebraska.

## Biography

### Mindy Uhle, MPH, BA

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Community Health Consultant  
Iowa Department of Public Health

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Mindy Uhle received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Central College in 2000, focusing on environmental studies and Spanish. After college, she served in the Peace Corps as an environmental management volunteer in Guatemala. She came to the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) in 2003 to work on a lead poisoning prevention Hispanic outreach program and conduct case management for children who were lead-poisoned.

In 2007, she joined IDPH's Bureau of Environmental Health Services to coordinate Iowa's Healthy Homes Initiative. She holds a Healthy Homes Specialist credential from the National Environmental Health Association and received a Master of Public Health degree with a major in environmental health in 2010 from the University of Illinois-Springfield. In her current position, Mindy coordinates outreach and education activities for Iowa's State Indoor Radon Grant, co-facilitates Iowa's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Advisory Committee, and works with the Iowa Asthma, Indoor Air, and Radon coalition.

Mindy enjoys spending her free time traveling, hiking, and enjoying the outdoors with her husband, daughter (15 months), and two dogs.

## Biography

### Deb Vander Plas, BSN

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Community Health Director  
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Deb has worked at Community Health Partners of Sioux County for 23 years. She moved into a management role, as the Community Health Services Director, in 2008. Public health service in Sioux County were privatized in 1998 and is governed by three boards. Deb oversees a staff of twelve professionals, including bilingual staff, who provide services in immunizations, communicable disease investigations, tobacco prevention services, disaster preparedness efforts, environmental health services, and state funded home health services.

Deb graduated from St. Luke's School of Nursing in Sioux City, Iowa in 1979. She obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Iowa in 2004. While pursuing her degree, Deb spent a brief time in Reykjavik, Iceland learning about their electronic record system, healthcare delivery system and culture. She graduated as a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Following a course at National Jewish Hospital in Denver, Colorado, Deb authored an article on Tuberculosis which was published in The Iowa Nurse Reporter.

Deb is a member of the Iowa Public Health Association, the American Public Health Association and the Iowa Cancer Consortium.

Her current volunteer activities include; co-chairing the committee to install a walking trail in her community, coordinating the parish nurse activities at her church, and serving as a member of an international community service organization.

## Biography

### Nizar K. Wehbi, MD, MPH, MBA

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Nizar Wehbi is an assistant professor with the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Department of Health Services Research and Administration in the College of Public Health.

Nizar began his career in clinical medicine, taking care of patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings. His love for research took him to cancer research where, with other researchers, he sought to identify biomarkers (proteins) that would predict prostate and bladder cancer at very early stages of disease. He then moved to hospital administration and worked for The Nebraska Medical Center in strategic planning and business development, providing support to hospital leadership in developing, implementing, and monitoring the organizational strategic planning process.

In the College of Public Health, Nizar serves as the academic advisor of many MPH students and he teaches graduate courses in Health Services Administration, Human Resources Management, US Health Care System, and Health Policy. Nizar also serves on the Faculty and Planning Committee of the Interprofessional Leadership for Excellence and Academic Development, known as iLEAD, a UNMC-wide faculty development program.

Nizar's research interests focus on health care quality, outcomes measures, efficiency of health care services, the use of Six Sigma and LEAN principles for process improvement, health and wellness programs, and strategic planning and governance in health care organizations.

Nizar is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and is board certified in health care management. He is Certified in Public Health (CPH) and serves as an item writer for the National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH exam. He was appointed recently to the 2012 Board of Examiners for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The award program is managed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and is the highest level of national recognition for performance excellence that a US organization can receive. Nizar serves as a trustee and is on the Board of Directors of the Omaha Home for Boys, and is a director of the Heartland Healthcare Executives Group, which is the Nebraska chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

## Biography

### Amy Wieczorek, BA

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"Healthy Works" Grant Project Coordinator  
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Originally from Grand Island, NE, Amy Wieczorek received her Bachelor's degree with Honor's in Community Health Education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2011. While studying at the university, Amy was involved in many health initiatives both on campus and in the city including CPPW grant, Bike Share, Green Fitness, and UNO Choices.

Amy is the Health Educator and Project Coordinator for the "Healthy Works" grant at the Central District Health Department (CDHD). In addition to fulfilling the grant responsibilities, Amy is a participant of the UNMC Nebraska Health Policy Academy, on the CDHD Wellness Committee, as well as a School and Worksite Lead for CDHD's district-wide sugar-sweetened beverage elimination campaign.

In her spare time, Amy loves to travel. She has traveled to Europe, and been on mission trips to St. Lucia in June 2011 and lived in Zimbabwe for a month in July 2012. Amy is also active in the community serving as the Miss Nebraska Collegiate 2012 state queen. Her pageant platform is the prevention of drunk driving which stems from tragically losing her best friend to a drunk driver in 2007. Amy works extensively with Mother Against Drunk Driving speaking at Victim Impact Panels and to schools across the state.