



## **Veterans Rural Health Resource Centers Leadership**

### **Iowa City, Iowa**

Carolyn Turvey, PhD, Clinical Director

Iowa City VA Health Care System

[Carolyn.Turvey@va.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Turvey@va.gov)

Dr. Carolyn Turvey is clinical director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Iowa City, Iowa. She is a clinical psychologist who joined the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to explore the use of telemedicine to improve access to care for homebound elders. She has since developed a range of interventions to improve access to care including combined telephone-delivered psychotherapy and home monitoring to promote illness management, deploying clinical video telehealth to college settings to support academic performance, and leveraging My HealtheVet to improve care continuity for dual-use Veterans. In her role as clinical director, Dr. Turvey is focused on implementing population health models that improve care continuity for rural Veterans.

### **Iowa City, Iowa**

Samantha Solimeo, PhD, MPH, Operations Director

Iowa City VA Health Care System

[Samantha.Solimeo@va.gov](mailto:Samantha.Solimeo@va.gov)

Dr. Samantha Solimeo is operations director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Iowa City, Iowa. Dr. Solimeo is a medical anthropologist who studies chronic disease in later life and the science of teams. She has conducted ethnographic research on a variety of subjects including the role of gender in men's experiences with osteoporosis, patient-centered medical homes and team formation. Dr. Solimeo is the author of *With Shaking Hands: Aging with Parkinson's disease in America's Heartland* (2009 Rutgers University Press) and peer-reviewed articles on osteoporosis, anthropology of aging, Parkinson's, and the VA Patient Aligned Care Team model. In addition to her work for the Office of Rural Health, Dr. Solimeo is an HSR&D investigator with the Center for Access & Delivery Research and Evaluation, and the Primary Care Analytics Team – Iowa City, and an Assistant Professor of General Internal Medicine at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.



### **Salt Lake City, Utah**

Byron Bair, MD, Clinical Director

VA Salt Lake City Health Care System

[Byron.Bair@va.gov](mailto:Byron.Bair@va.gov)

Dr. Byron Bair is clinical director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Salt Lake City, Utah. He has credentials in General Internal Medicine, Geriatric Internal Medicine, Psychiatry and Geriatric Psychiatry as well as an MBA. He directs the Geriatric Medicine and Psychiatry Clinical & Training Program at the Salt Lake City VA Medical Center. Dr. Bair is also a Professor of Geriatric Internal Medicine and Geriatric Psychiatry at the University of Utah School of Medicine and an Adjunct Professor of Nursing at the University of Utah School of Nursing. His research interests include rural health care delivery systems, decision support systems for health care providers, and disruptive behaviors in cognitively impaired elders.

### **Salt Lake City, Utah**

Nancy K. Dailey, MSN, RN, Operations Director

VA Salt Lake City Health Care System

[Nancy.Dailey@va.gov](mailto:Nancy.Dailey@va.gov)

Nancy Dailey, MSN, RN, is operations director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Salt Lake City, Utah. Prior to 2008, Ms. Dailey was the manager of the VA Salt Lake City Health Care System Telehealth Department, which developed the first telehealth outreach clinic in Elko, Nevada and was critical in the development and implementation of in-home telehealth monitoring for the Veterans Health Administration. She also served on the faculty of the College of Nursing at the University of Utah in association with her role as the Director of the VA Nursing Academy at the Salt Lake City Healthcare System. Ms. Dailey joined the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) clinical team in July 2003, after a long tenure with a large national managed care organization. Her background is in population health management, utilization management, quality management and case management.



### **White River Junction, Vermont**

Bradley Vince Watts, MD, MPH, Clinical Director

White River Junction VA Medical Center

[Bradley.Watts@va.gov](mailto:Bradley.Watts@va.gov)

Dr. Bradley Vince Watts is a psychiatrist at the White River Junction VAMC, an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and has served as clinical director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in White River Junction, Vermont since September 2019. He has extensive experience with Veterans Health Administration operational activities, serving in leadership roles in the National Center for Patient Safety and the Office of System Redesign and Improvement. He also has many years of medical research experience, having served as the principal investigator on numerous VHA Office of Research and Development and National Institutes of Health funded projects. As a clinician and researcher, Dr. Watts provides the VRHRC critical skills in mental health care delivery, program implementation, quality improvement and safety. Since joining the Resource Center, Dr. Watts has been integral in strategic planning and process improvement.

### **White River Junction, Vermont**

Matthew Vincenti, PhD, Operations Director

White River Junction VA Medical Center

[Matthew.Vincenti@va.gov](mailto:Matthew.Vincenti@va.gov)

Dr. Matthew Vincenti is operations director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in White River Junction, Vermont. Dr. Vincenti oversees the research portfolio of this VRHRC and advises VA ORH leadership on issues impacting national research priorities. Dr. Vincenti received his B.A. in Biology from the University of Vermont and his PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from the State University of New York Upstate Medical Center at Syracuse. In addition to his experience with rural health research, he has more than 25 years of experience in medical research and education and holds an academic appointment at Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.



### **Gainesville, Florida**

Keith Myers, DPT, Clinical Director

North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

[Keith.Myers2@va.gov](mailto:Keith.Myers2@va.gov)

Dr. Keith Myers is clinical director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Gainesville, Florida. He is a physical therapist at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System, with over 20 years of experience as a clinician and health care administrator. Over the past eight years, Dr. Myers has led the tele-rehabilitation efforts for his health system, as well as a collaborative effort to expand the use of clinical video telehealth as a resource for rural Veterans to access a variety of clinical disciplines at VA medical centers nationwide. In his role as clinical director, he aims to cultivate a wide range of innovative solutions to improve access to care and promote independent living for Veterans in rural areas. Dr. Myers received his bachelor's degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Florida, where he also received his Master's in Business Administration. He received his Doctorate from Utica College.

### **Gainesville, Florida**

Sergio Romero, PhD, Operations Director

North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

[Sergio.Romero@va.gov](mailto:Sergio.Romero@va.gov)

Dr. Sergio Romero is operations director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Gainesville, Florida. He is a University of Florida graduate with a Doctoral degree in Rehabilitation Sciences. Over the past 15 years, Dr. Romero has conducted research to improve function and independence in older Veterans and Veterans with disabilities and/or chronic conditions. His holistic approach considers personal, social, cultural and environmental factors, including rurality, that impact individuals with limited function due to disease or disability. Dr. Romero aims to lead the VRHRC in Gainesville in conducting high level research, program development, and dissemination/implementation solutions to increase rural Veterans access to high quality care and services.



## **Portland, Oregon**

Travis Lovejoy, PhD, MPH, Clinical Director

VA Portland Health Care System

[Travis.Lovejoy@va.gov](mailto:Travis.Lovejoy@va.gov)

Dr. Travis Lovejoy is clinical director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Portland, Oregon. Dr. Lovejoy is a clinical psychologist and health services researcher who holds an Associate Professor appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at Oregon Health & Science University. Dr. Lovejoy's research focuses on the design, rigorous testing and implementation of clinical and health services interventions that improve patient and systems-level outcomes. His recent projects have identified Veteran outcomes following discontinuation of long-term opioid therapy and tested use of telehealth modalities to reach marginalized and traditionally underserved patients living with HIV.

## **Portland, Oregon**

Sarah Ono, PhD, Operations Director

VA Portland Health Care System

[Sarah.Ono@va.gov](mailto:Sarah.Ono@va.gov)

Dr. Sarah Ono is operations director of ORH's Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) in Portland, Oregon. Dr. Ono is an anthropologist and health services researcher with a faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Oregon Health & Science University. Her research strives to connect individual experience with system-level policy to inform a Learning Healthcare System's improvement. Dr. Ono's current projects focus on Veteran engagement in the process of research and qualitative methods (e.g., photovoice) that increase the involvement of Veterans and caregivers in all stages of research on Traumatic Brain Injuries. Dr. Ono has been working with the Office of Rural Health since 2009, when she joined the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in Iowa City, with a focus on understanding decision making and improving access for rural Veterans.