

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Infant Health Summit

**Location:** Cendera Center

**Date:** September 11, 2014

**Title:** Fragile Families: Impact on Infant Health

**Topics:** Preconception Health

Infant Health

Effective Fathering

**Goal:** To bring together local health care providers, social service providers, and public health providers to translate recent scientific advances, policy changes, and public health trends into actions that will improve the health of families and infants.

**Objectives:**

Identify the needs of fragile families.

Use data to support the development of programs and approaches to improve the health of the family and infant.

Apply innovative strategies to encourage preconception health and effective fathering to improve the health of families and birth outcomes.

### Presenter Biographies

**Yolanda Chávez Padilla**, PhD, is Professor of Social Work and Women's Studies at The University of Texas at Austin, where she also holds faculty affiliations at the Population Research Center and the Center for Mexican American Studies. Dr. Padilla is a fellow of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, a Bachelor of Social Work, and a Master of Science in Social Work from The University of Texas at Austin. She returned to the Midwest to pursue a joint Ph.D. in Social Work and Sociology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Padilla's research has primarily focused on contributing to knowledge that can advance our understanding of poverty and that will inform the development of effective social welfare policy. Within the broader area of poverty, she investigates racial and ethnic disparities in health and well-being in the United States, particularly among Latino populations.

**Gilbert Chavez**, B.A, is a Program Manager in Family Initiatives, a division of the Texas Office of the Attorney General's (OAG) Child Support division. He is responsible for developing, coordinating and managing partnerships and projects that educate parenting and non-parenting teens on issues related to legal paternity, child support, and the benefits /characteristics of healthy relationships including marriage. He oversees the implementation of the "No Kidding" project, the p.a.p.a. educational curriculum and coordinates a Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement Demonstration and evaluation project titled The Urban Fathers Asset Building Project. "No Kidding" is a school-based, peer led parenting, paternity, and child support program; p.a.p.a. (Texas Parenting and Paternity Awareness) is a state mandated child support curriculum being implemented in all Texas High School Health classes; and the Urban Fathers Asset Building Project is a financial literacy and Assets for Independence program targeting low-income fathers and families in Houston. He is a skilled trainer and frequent

presenter on Family Violence dynamics, Child Support, and Father Involvement. He has a BA in Biology from Texas A&M University.

**Marcy Paul**, M.A., is the Project Manager for the Healthy Moms-Healthy Babies-Healthy Community (H3) Infant Mortality Initiative, at the University of North Texas Health Science School of Public Health and Texas Prevention Institute where she is also on faculty in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health. Marcy's academic background is in Womanist/Feminist, Gender, Race and Ethnicity Studies as well as Mass Communication. H3 is a Community Based Participatory Research Project working to reduce infant mortality in Southeast Fort Worth, Texas. The project is a collaborative Oversight Board partnership with 32 members who live, work, or serve in the Stop 6 Fort Worth community.

**Bruce Whitted**, B.A., is currently the Sales and Marketing Manager for the Translation and Interpretation Network, a business of Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth. Bruce is a graduate of Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire and possesses a BA degree from that institution. He brings an extensive sales and management background covering various industries and has successfully sold and created new markets for companies such as Alcoa, Owens Corning and Office Depot (Business Division). His career has led to positions in Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Missouri and Texas. Bruce has been involved with many community and business organizations in the course of his work. He was also a board member for People for Pembroke, a nonprofit organization out of Chicago, Ill., for 3 years.

**Veronica Meneses**, MD, MSHS, is a Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrician at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas, where she works as part of an interdisciplinary team to assess and provide longitudinal care for children with chronic medical, developmental, and/or behavioral conditions. She provides support to orthopedic surgeons who treat these children. Dr. Meneses attended Whittier College and majored in Biochemistry and English Literature. She completed medical school at Weil Medical College of Cornell University in Manhattan, New York. Her graduate medical training was at University of Texas Houston for internship and Loma Linda University in California for Residency in General Pediatrics. She completed a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars fellowship in Health Services at UCLA, earning a Masters of Science in Health Services from the UCLA School of Public Health. She completed a Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Fellowship at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

**Judith Alexander Priest**, M.S., LPC-S, is the Director of Behavioral Health Programs at Recovery Resource Council in Fort Worth, Texas. With twenty years in non-profit and private practice, her experience includes work in addiction and recovery, codependency, trauma, crisis intervention, domestic violence and spiritual concerns. At present, much of her work is focused on women's wellness, veterans' families and leadership development.

**Evyn Ellis**, M.S., LCDC, is the Assistant Director of Recovery Services at Recovery Resource Council. With eight years in the addictions field, she has experience working with youth and adults and is skilled in the implementation of services across the substance use continuum from prevention education to outpatient treatment. Evyn earned her Master of Science in Counseling Psychology from Tarleton State University. She is currently licensed with the State of Texas as a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor (LCDC) and a Licensed Professional Counselor Intern (LPC-I).

**Andrea Urquidez**, RD, is the Nutrition Education Coordinator for the Tarrant County WIC Program, and before this role served as a clinical nutritionist for WIC. She has been trained in Touchpoints™ Faculty and Individual Level Training from the Brazelton Touchpoints Center® and is the Tarrant County

Touchpoints Site Coordinator. Andrea is a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

**Carlos de Anda**, B.S., is an Early Childhood Specialist at Early Childhood Matters at the Fort Worth Library. He is Touchpoints™ Faculty Level Trained from Harvard University, and has his B.S. in Psychology at Texas A&M University.

**Cynthia Osborne**, PhD, is an Associate Professor at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin. She is also the Director of the Child and Family Research Partnership (CFRP) at the LBJ School of Public Affairs and Primary Investigator on the long-term evaluation project of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission's Home Visiting Program. She has extensive experience in evaluation of state and national programs, including the Texas Parenting and Paternity Awareness (p.a.p.a.) Curriculum and the Raising Texas initiative. She directed the Project on Education Effectiveness and Quality (PEEQ), a statewide project for the Texas Education Agency. Dr. Osborne joined the faculty of the LBJ School of Public Affairs in 2005 after completing a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Center for Research on Child Wellbeing at Princeton University. Her teaching and research interests are in the areas of social policy, poverty and inequality, family and child well-being, family demography, teacher quality, and school entry among disadvantaged children. She holds a Ph.D. in Demography and Public Affairs from Princeton University, a Master's in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and Master's of Arts in Education.