

# Public Health and Safety Advisory Committee Members

## CHAIR



**Eileen Barrett, MD, MPH** - is an internal medicine hospitalist based in Albuquerque. She earned her MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her MD at Georgetown University and completed her residency at Oregon Health Sciences University Hospital. She is a published author in peer-reviewed medical journals in the areas of reducing complications from substance use disorders, health equity, and gender equity. She is a multi-state District Chair of the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) and is Vice Chair of the American Medical Women's Association's (AMWA) Advocacy Committee. Dr Barrett is also a former Regent of the American College of Physicians (ACP) and the recipient of New Mexico ACP awards for leadership and advocacy, a NM SHM chapter award as physician of the year, and a national AMWA award for mentorship.

## ALTERNATE CHAIR

**Halley S. Faust, MD, MPH, MA** - has been a public health physician, epidemiologist, professor of health policy and medical business strategy, senior manager for HealthAmerica and Aetna, bioethicist, and venture capitalist. He has been on the faculties of the Universities of New Mexico (currently clinical associate professor of Family and Community Medicine), Michigan (epidemiology), Kentucky (preventive medicine), Hartford (business school), Connecticut (community medicine), and Wesleyan University (CT) (biology and philosophy). He is past president of the American College of Preventive Medicine, and the co-editor and author of several chapters in *Prevention vs. Treatment: What's the Right Balance?* (Oxford University Press, 2012). He has been a resident of Santa Fe fulltime since 2006, and was on the Ethics Committee of the CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical Center for 13 years. While mostly retired, he continues as the managing member of Jerome Capital, LLC, a medical venture capital firm, and teaches at Renesan, the Santa Fe-based family medicine residency, and UNM.





**Krystle D. Apodaca, DNP, FHM** - is a nurse practitioner hospitalist at the University of New Mexico (UNM) Hospital, where she is also an assistant professor of medicine within the university's Clinician Education Track. She earned her BSN and MSN from UNM and her DNP from University of Nevada- Las Vegas. She has been integral not only in the development of UNM's APP program, but also its APP hospital medicine fellowship, which she helped to co-found. She is a published author and an invited speaker to medical conferences sharing her passion of harm reduction, including medication assisted therapy. She certified patients for the NM Medical Cannabis Program for 6 years. She serves on the leadership board of the NM Society of Hospital Medicine as Treasurer and was previously President-Elect and President. She was also the recipient of the 2020 SHM Clinical Leadership for Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants Award of Excellence. She loves NM, nature, traveling, and scuba diving.

**Eleni Bucuvalas, MD, MPH** – is a board-certified emergency physician who practices with Presbyterian Healthcare Services in Albuquerque. She earned her MD and MPH from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, and completed her residency at the University of New Mexico. Her clinical committee work focuses on planning and implementation of ED-based interventions that offer evidence-based treatment of substance use disorders. Through provider and staff education, Dr. Bucuvalas advocates to create a clinical environment that destigmatizes substance use disorders. Her research, as part of the ED-INNOVATION trial, focuses specifically on opioid use disorder and its treatment with buprenorphine.



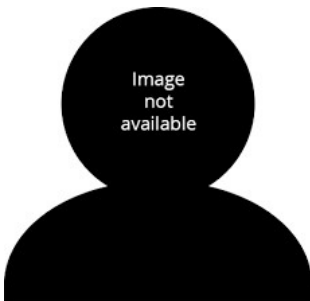
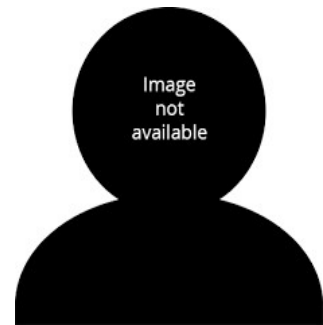
**Matthew Clark** - is the Emergency Services Director for Otero County. He served in the United States Air Force and retired after almost 24 years. He has been stationed at Holloman AFB NM, Sembach AB Germany, RAF Lakenheath United Kingdom, Malmstrom AFB MT, and Mountain Home AFB ID. Originally from Wisconsin and having spent over 12 years stationed at Holloman he decided to move back to Alamogordo in 2011. He has an Associate of Science in Fire Science from New Mexico State University Alamogordo, an Associate of Science in Logistics from the Community College of the Air Force and a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Health and Safety with an emphasis on Fire Safety from Columbia Southern University. He has been serving as a volunteer firefighter and EMT off and on since 1989 until taking on the role of emergency services director in 2019. Matthew oversees 18 volunteer fire departments with 16 of those departments having an EMS service. Additionally, he is the emergency manager and floodplain manager for Otero County.



**Jack F. Jones II** - is a lifelong resident of New Mexico. He has served in law enforcement as an officer, manager, and trainer for a several years. Since 2015 he is part owner and Operations Officer for Law Enforcement Training International (LETI). Jack retired from the U.S. Army in 2003. His assignments gave him the opportunity to travel the world as a soldier, paratrooper, and scuba diver. He had the good fortune to train individuals and groups from many different countries and in many different disciplines. He has over 40 years of progressive leadership and training with the military, police departments (Federal, State, and local), Department of State (DoS) and Department of Energy (DOE). He has managed and lead complex projects and programs. Jack joined Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) in

2003 as a Senior Member of Technical Staff and served as team lead and project manager working vulnerability assessments (VA) and system effectiveness analysis (SEA) of critical sites in Russia, Ukraine, Libya, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Jack is a certified Master Instructor/Trainer by the New Mexico Department of Health and Public Safety Law Enforcement Academy in several disciplines. He has developed multi-agency training with statewide integration and has taught Naloxone, Harm Reduction and Medical Cannabis Programs for New Mexico the last seven years.

**Matthew Pearson, PhD** - is an experimental psychologist and Research Associate Professor at the University of New Mexico's Center on Alcohol, Substance use, And Addictions (CASAA). He studies substance use broadly with specific expertise in technology-delivered interventions, harm reduction, mechanisms of behavior change, and advanced quantitative methods. Dr. Pearson was the founder/president of the Research Society on Marijuana (RSMj, [researchmj.org](http://researchmj.org)), which is a non-profit organization incorporated in New Mexico dedicated to improving applied research on both the deleterious and salutary effects of cannabis. RSMj hosts an annual scientific meeting that gathers applied cannabis researchers as well as a peer reviewed, scientific journal, Cannabis.



**Allen Plymale** - an almost lifelong New Mexican, was born in Amarillo, Texas, but grew up in Raton, New Mexico. He went to UNM for training and joined the working world as a pharmacist. He is married and has 2 sons who are grown and have good careers. Presented with the opportunity to advance himself, Allen obtained his Doctor of Pharmacy from Idaho State University and subsequent licensure as a pharmacist clinician. He worked as a pharmacist and was part owner of a pharmacy business. After selling off his stake in the pharmacy business, he attended the University of Health Sciences Antigua Medical School. After graduating in 2007, Dr. Plymale went to work

full-time as an internist at Mimbres Internal Medicine Clinic. In 2020, Dr. Plymale reduced his work schedule to two days a week which provided him the opportunity to volunteer to serve on Medical Cannabis Advisory Board and Public Health and Safety Advisory Committee. Dr. Plymale acknowledges, "that the people of New Mexico and more so in the Deming area have been good to me, so this is one way for me to give back."

**Katie Witkiewitz, PhD** - is a Regents' Professor of Psychology and a scientist at the Center on Alcohol, Substance use, And Addictions (CASSA) at the University of New Mexico. Her research examines treatment of substance use disorder, with an emphasis on reducing human suffering and supporting recovery. Dr. Witkiewitz is also a licensed clinical psychologist and has worked extensively on the development, evaluation, and implementation of mindfulness-based treatments for substance use disorder. Her research has been supported by multiple grants from the National Institutes of Health, totaling over \$50 million in research funding since 2004. Most recently, she has co-led the UNM Substance Use Disorder Grand Challenge and along with her UNM colleagues just received over \$10 million dollars in funding to support a new center at UNM devoted to treating opioid use disorder and chronic pain. She has authored 6 books and over 265 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters, has given over 100 presentations and invited talks, and was recently appointed to the National Advisory Council on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services.

