

SAVE THE DATE!

Latino Mental Health in the Age of the Affordable Care Act Community Conference & Reception

Saturday, May 3, 2014 • 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Proshansky Auditorium, City University of New York Graduate Center
365 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10016

FREE Registration:
Registration required. To register, [Click here.](#)

At a time when the Affordable Care Act is changing the landscape of healthcare in New York State and the country, it is of paramount importance for government officials, providers, consumers, advocates, researchers, and other stakeholders to come together to discuss the impact of these reforms on Latino Mental Health.

Mental illness is one of the leading causes of disability in New York and the United States. Mental health disparities affect Latinos in the areas of assessment and diagnosis, access to services, quality of care, and research. These disparities have an enormous human cost on the quality of life of Latinos, limit their opportunities for social and economic integration, and challenge the economic development of the state.

The Community Conference and Reception “*Latino Mental Health in the Age of the Affordable Care Act*” will bring together state government officials, consumer advocates, providers, and researchers, to build an agenda for all stakeholders to continue working together towards the goal of reducing mental health disparities for Latinos in New York State.

Program:

- 4:00pm** **Keynote: Margarita Alegría, Ph.D**, Director of the Center for Multicultural Mental Health Research, Cambridge Health Alliance, and Professor of Psychology at Harvard Medical School.
- 5:15pm** **New York State Stakeholder Panel** focusing on the impact of the Affordable Care Act for Latinos in New York State and New York City, which will include:

Ann Marie Sullivan, M.D., Acting Commissioner, New York State
Office of Mental Health

Rosa Gil, DSW, Chief Executive Officer, Communilife, Inc.

Pablo Farias, M.D., Chief Executive Officer, Grameen PrimaCare

George Badillo, Consumer Advocate

Moderator: Roberto Lewis-Fernández, MD, Director of the New York State (NYS) Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence and the Hispanic Treatment Program at NYS Psychiatric Institute, and Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center

6:30pm Reception and Poster Session featuring **early career investigators working on Latino mental health** who will present their research, chosen from a nationwide competition.

Registration:

FREE to mental health providers, advocates, community and mental health agency leaders, and anyone with an interest in Latino mental health.

Registration required. To register, [Click here](#).

Or copy and paste the following link:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/latino-mental-health-in-the-age-of-the-affordable-care-act-tickets-10495106145>

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Presented by the American Psychiatric Association's Division of Diversity and Health Equity in collaboration with the American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry (ASHP) and the New York State Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence at the New York State Psychiatric Institute (NYSPI).

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Keynote Address: Margarita Alegría, PhD,

Director of the Center for Multicultural Mental Health Research, Cambridge Health Alliance and Harvard Medical School, and Professor of Psychology, Harvard Medical School Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Alegría has dedicated her career to generating knowledge that can be used to increase equity in behavioral health outcomes for disadvantaged and minority populations. Her research has integrated three methods: a multidisciplinary approach to research; a multi-level framework which gives necessary consideration to environmental and social context, the individual and family system; and a strong focus on which aspects of culture and context need to be addressed to improve health, as well as service delivery to disadvantaged populations. Dr. Alegría is currently the Principal and co-Principal Investigator (PI) of two National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research studies: “International Latino Research Partnership”; and “Effects of Social Context, Culture and Minority Status on Depression and Anxiety.” She is a PI of a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) project, “Effectiveness of DECIDE in Patient-Provider Communication, Therapeutic Alliance & Care Continuation.”

Dr. Alegría has published extensively in the behavioral science field with over 200 papers, editorials, intervention training manuals, and several book chapters on topics such as improvement of health care services delivery for diverse racial and ethnic populations, conceptual and methodological issues with multicultural populations, and ways to bring the community’s perspective into the design and implementation of health services. She has presented at numerous international and local conferences, workshops, and panels; and is an active committee member of several national organizations including Institute of Medicine, National Hispanic Science Network, and Center for Health Policy Development. Dr. Alegría mentors many minority junior investigators and researchers from mentoring programs at Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Harvard University, and Harvard School of Public Health.

As an acknowledgement of her contributions and dedication to her field, Dr. Alegría has been widely recognized and cited. In 2003, she was awarded the Mental Health Section Award of American Public Health Association; the Health Disparities Innovation Award from the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, 2008; the Carl Taube Award from APHA, 2008; the Simon Bolivar Award from the American Psychiatric Association, 2009; Harold Amos Award from the Harvard Medical School, 2011, and the Award of Excellence from the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse, 2011. In October 2011, she was elected as a member of the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Alegría received the Frances J. Bonner Award in 2012, from the Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Psychiatry, which was awarded for meritorious service in the mental health field for the ethnic and racial minority community. In 2013, Dr. Alegría was named to the 8th annual Powermeter 100, 2012-2013 by El Planeta (Massachusetts’s largest circulating Spanish-language newspaper) as one of the 100 most influential people for the Hispanic community in Massachusetts.

New York State Stakeholders Panel

Ann Marie T. Sullivan, M.D.

Acting Commissioner, New York State Office of Mental Health

Dr. Ann Marie Sullivan was appointed as Acting Commissioner for the New York State Office of Mental Health on November 18, 2013. Previously, she was the Senior Vice President for the Queens Health Network of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. As Senior VicePresident, she was responsible for Elmhurst and Queens Hospital Centers, two public hospitals which serve a community of over 2 million New York City residents.

Along with ensuring the seamless integration and coordination of services across the Network, Dr. Sullivan has aligned and helped to implement key corporate programs such as the Care Management Initiative on the inpatient units and in the emergency services; the development of Breakthrough; the launching of best practices to improve patient safety; and the integration of behavioral health and medical sciences.

Dr. Sullivan grew up in Queens, New York City. She graduated from NYU and its School of Medicine and completed her Psychiatric Residency at New York University/ Bellevue Hospital in 1978. She has served as Associate Director of Psychiatry and Medical Director of Ambulatory Care at the Gouverneur Diagnostic and Treatment Center and joined the Queens Health Network as Regional Director of Psychiatry in 1990, overseeing the administrative, budgetary, and clinical aspects of the psychiatric services of both Network hospitals. She has enjoyed an extensive career in public psychiatry and has lectured and published on best practices in community care.

Dr. Sullivan is an active advocate for her patients and her profession, is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and has served as the Speaker of the American Psychiatric Association's Assembly and on its Board of Trustees. She is a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, a member of the American College of Psychiatrists and the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry.

Rosa M. Gil, DSW

Founder/President/Chief Executive Officer, Comunilife, Inc.

Dr. Rosa M. Gil is the Founder, President and CEO of Comunilife, Inc., a health and human services agency founded in 1989 to improve the quality of life and create a healthier tomorrow for New Yorkers with special needs in the Hispanic and broader community-by providing culturally competent health and human services and a continuum of affordable and supportive housing for homeless persons. Comunilife has been recognized for developing Community-Defined Best Practices for Latinos.

She has had a distinguished career in the fields of health, mental health, social services and higher education. Dr. Gil served as Health Policy Advisor to Mayor Giuliani and Health Administrator of New York City. She is the former Chairperson of the New York City Health and Hospital Corporation. In addition she has held positions as Executive Director of Woodhull Medical Center and Metropolitan Hospital; Senior Vice President of Generation and Northern Manhattan Health Network; Senior Vice President Mental Hygiene Services at the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation; Executive Deputy Commissioner for Families and Children Services at the NYC Human Resources Administration. Dr. Gil is the former University Dean for Health Sciences at the City University of New York.

Some of her accomplishments include prevention and wellness initiatives; expansion of primary care; implementation of Medicaid managed care in New York City; increased access to health insurance; created a continuum of supportive housing for seniors, persons living with HIV/AIDS and mental illness; developed the first ever Respite Program in New York City; implemented a nationally recognized program for suicide prevention among Latina adolescents, Life is Precious™ and developed the Multicultural Relational Approach for Diverse Populations™

Dr. Gil is the Chairperson of the Community Advisory Board of New York University Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). She is a member of President Carter Center Mental Health Task Force and the Board of Trustees of EmblemHealth, Inc. Dr. Gil has served on the New York State Commission of Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century (The Berger Commission); New York State Governor's Adult Home and the Mentally Ill Persons Task Force; Planning Board of the Surgeon General Report on Mental Health; National Advisory Council to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Minority Women Panel of Health Experts of the U.S. Public Health Services. She is one of the founders of the Urban Institute for Behavioral Health of New York City, Latino Commission on AIDS, the Association of Hispanic Mental Health Professionals and 100 Hispanic Women.

Dr. Gil has published numerous articles on mental health, ethnicity, and child welfare and gender issues. She is the co-author of the "Maria Paradox," the first authoritative book on self-esteem and Hispanic women.

Pablo Farías, M.D.

Chief Executive Officer, Grameen PrimaCare

Pablo Farias became CEO of Grameen PrimaCare in September 2013, joining the organization's founders and the Grameen family in developing a new program to expand the health resources of women entrepreneurs in low income immigrant communities across the United States.

Prior to joining Grameen PrimaCare, Pablo served as Vice President for the Economic Opportunity and Assets Program of the Ford Foundation from 2004 to 2013. In this role he oversaw grant making focused on expanding opportunities and providing fair and equitable ways for people to earn a decent living, build economic resources and achieve security across generations. This work also supported a vision of smart, regional development to build strong and equitable cities, where all communities had access to quality opportunities and a seat in decision making processes. Pablo was also in charge of the foundation's regional programming in China, Indonesia, and India, and oversaw its Program Related Investments.

In addition, Pablo served as Chair of the Board of Living Cities, an innovative philanthropic collaborative of 22 of the world's largest foundations and financial institutions. Living Cities supports efforts that simultaneously tackle issues of people, place and opportunity across cities in the United States.

Prior to joining the Ford Foundation in 1998, Pablo was the founding Director General (1992-1998) of the College of the Southern Border (ECOSUR) in Chiapas, Mexico, a research institute focused on the challenges of poverty alleviation and sustainable development. He served on the board of Mexico's National Council on Science and Technology and the national advisory councils on sustainable and social development.

Pablo studied medicine at Universidad de Monterrey and trained in psychiatry and medical anthropology at the Cambridge Hospital/Harvard Medical School. He began his career working as a physician in the Comitán General Hospital and in the refugee camps in the Mexico-Guatemala border. A native of Monterrey, Mexico, he now lives with his wife and three children in New York City.

George Badillo

Consumer Advocate

George Badillo is an active consumer advocate who has dedicated the last fifteen years of his life to train psychiatrists, providers, families, and his peers, on advocacy and peer support, and on how to improve the mental health system and improve the quality of life of the people in mental health recovery. His training and advocacy work has brought him across the United States and U.S. Territories, including Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and Saipan (South Pacific).

Mr. Badillo believes strongly in providing his peers with the opportunity to make informed choices about mental health services and community supports. He has served as Peer Trainer for PEOPLE Inc, where he trained people with psychiatric histories to increase their access to healthcare by offering information on issues such as Medicare Part D. For 7 years he worked as a Peer Educator with the Resource Center, Inc., in Albany, NY, providing education and information about patient rights, policy issues, and mental health services to peers in outpatient and inpatient settings. From 2000-2003 he served as a bilingual interviewer with the Consumer/Survivor/Ex-patient (C/S/X) Oral History Project, interviewing peers about their life stories and experiences in state psychiatric hospitals.

Mr. Badillo has traveled to Puerto Rico to present about advocacy and peer support to Office of Mental Health clinic and hospital staff as well as managed care companies, with the hope of improving the quality of life of people in Puerto Rico's mental health system. He has also presented at a Leadership Academy for Spanish-speaking people in Oakland (California).

Mr. Badillo is a dedicated advocate for all populations, but understands in particular the challenges of his peers who are Hispanic/Latinos. He helped create "Tenemos Voz," and "Alma," nationwide organizations of Hispanic people diagnosed with mental illness. Because of these accomplishments and his long history of working to empower his Spanish-speaking peers, Mr. Badillo was honored with the Esperanza Award at the Alternatives 2006 Conference in Portland, Oregon. This award is given by the National People of Color

Consumer/Survivor/Ex-patient Coalition to recognize outstanding achievement on behalf of people of color in the mental health system.

In addition to serving on the Community Consortium's Board, Mr. Badillo sits on the Advisory Board to the New York State P.A.I.M.I., and on the Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee of CONTAC, a national technical assistance center.

Mr. Badillo's personal story of survival and courage has been featured in the film, "Inside Outside: Building a Meaningful Life after the Hospital," produced by Pat Deegan, Ph.D. He has traveled the country presenting the film and discussing the importance of a life in the community for everyone with a psychiatric history. His story has also been featured in Robert Whitaker's book "Anatomy of an Epidemic," and a training video by Mental Health America which described the obstacles he had to endure to gain custody of his son.

Mr. Badillo is bilingual in English and Spanish, and extremely proud to be homeowner, have regained custody of his son and have supported him to become a successful college student.

Moderator: Roberto Lewis-Fernández, MD

Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center, and Director of the New York State (NYS) Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence and the Hispanic Treatment Program at NYS Psychiatric Institute

Dr. Roberto Lewis-Fernández is Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University Medical Center and Director of the New York State (NYS) Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence and the Hispanic Treatment Program at NYS Psychiatric Institute. He is also Lecturer on Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard University.

Dr. Lewis-Fernández's research focuses on developing clinical interventions and novel service-delivery approaches to help overcome disparities in the care of underserved cultural groups. His work centers on improving treatment engagement and retention in mental health and physical health care by persons with anxiety, depression, schizophrenia, and other serious mental illnesses. He also studies the way culture affects individuals' experience of mental disorder and their help-seeking expectations, including how to explore this cultural variation during the psychiatric evaluation. Dr. Lewis-Fernández's research has been funded by US federal and state agencies as well as private foundations. He has published over 120 articles, editorials, commentaries, books, and book chapters on the topic of cultural mental health.

He is the chair of the Cultural Committee of the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, President-Elect of the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture, President of the American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry, and a member of the Community Services Board and the Health and Mental Hygiene Advisory Council of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. He was until recently a member of the National Advisory Mental Health Council of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), a member of the DSM-5 Anxiety Disorders Work Group, and the chair of the Cross-Cultural Issues Subgroup of the Gender and Culture Study Group of the DSM-5 Task Force. He has received numerous awards, including the NAMI Exemplary Psychiatrist Award, the Rafael Tavarez, MD Memorial Award (Association of Hispanic Mental Health Professionals), the Herbert Spiegel, MD Award (Columbia University Department of Psychiatry), the Luke and Grace Kim Visiting Professorship (University of California, Davis Department of Psychiatry), and the Simón Bolívar Award (American Psychiatric Association).

Dr. Lewis-Fernández was educated at Harvard College, Harvard Divinity School, and Yale Medical School. He trained in psychiatry at The Cambridge Hospital (1986-90) and completed a Dupont-Warren psychiatric research fellowship (1990-91) and an NIMH-sponsored fellowship in clinically applied medical anthropology (1991-93) at Harvard Medical School. From 1993 to 1995, Dr. Lewis-Fernández worked for the Puerto Rico Health Department implementing an innovative mental health consultation-liaison program for rural primary care clinics.