

# Biographies



## **Charity Guyava** (*Moderator*)

Charity Guyava is an alumnus of the Women Deliver Young Leaders program and works for Clinton Health Access Initiative as a Program Analyst. She has over ten years of experience in SRHR and HIV programming. Charity plays an active role in advocating for access to comprehensive youth-friendly SRH/HIV services, information, meaningful engagement of young people in decision-making and youth-led data-driven accountability for SRHR, HIV, and SDGs in Zimbabwe. She was a member of the Global Consensus Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement Accountability System steering committee (2020-2021), spearheaded by the PMNCH, IYAFP and FP 2020. Charity was also part of the Youth Review Group, which reviewed the Guidelines on mental health promotive and preventive interventions for adolescents: Helping Adolescents Thrive.

Charity has an MSc in Public Health – Health Promotion from Leeds Beckett University and is a Commonwealth Scholarship Alumnus. She is currently studying for a postgraduate diploma in health economics at the University of Cape Town.



## **Dakshitha Wickremarathne** (*Moderator*)

Dakshitha Wickremarathne works as the Senior Technical Lead – Advocacy, Accountability and Partnerships FP2020 – Asia and the Pacific Hub. He is a Board Member of Women Deliver and an alumnus of its Young Leaders programme. Sri Lankan by birth, Dakshitha has worked on youth and adolescent health for over 10 years focusing on both policy and programming. He was a Commissioner in the Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Well-being and co-authored the chapter on youth engagement and accountability and later on played an instrumental role in setting up the Lancet Youth Network. Based on his work in the areas of health and gender, he was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as the youngest member of Every Woman Every Child (EWEC) Independent Accountability Panel which published an annual report on the implementation of the Global Strategy EWEC. He co-founded Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka in 2014, a youth-led entity working on designing and delivering both policies and programmes on adolescent health and well-being.

Dakshitha was a Chevening Scholar in the UK and has a MSc in Public Policy from University College London. He also has a Masters in Development Studies and a Post Grad Diploma in Global Affairs.

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## **Anna Kågesten**

Anna Kågesten is Associate Professor at the Department of Global Public Health, Karolinska Institutet. She has 15+ years' technical and research experience related to adolescent health, with focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality across different low-and middle-income countries (e.g., Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Indonesia). Her expertise spans multi-country quantitative data collection and analysis, systematic reviews, measurement and monitoring, as well as qualitative methods and triangulation of data. As consultant to the WHO, she led a 12-country feasibility study on adolescent health indicators, and has also contributed to the development of Programme Reporting Standards for sexual, reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health. Anna has an MPH ('12) and PhD ('17) from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and is a Fulbright Alumni.



## **Marina Melkumova**

Marina Melkumova is a pediatrician, Adolescent Health Program Coordinator, adolescent doctor at Arabkir Medical Centre – Institute of Child and Adolescent Health, Assistant Professor at the Department of Family Medicine of the National Institute of Health, Principal Investigator of the Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative Study (COSI) Armenia, Co- Principal Investigator of the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Survey (HBSC) Study, National Expert on School Healthy Lifestyle Curriculum.

Dr. Melkumova collaborates with WHO, UNESCO, United Nations Population Fund, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Science, Education, Culture and Sport of Republic of Armenia and many other recognized organizations at national and international levels. As an international expert she provided consultancy for the trainings and studies in Georgia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Russia. As a reporter and invited speaker, she attended and reported at many forums such as National and International Pediatric and Adolescent Health Conferences and Congresses. As an expert she has been invited to participate in WHO Technical Groups works on school and adolescent health. Dr. Melkumova is an author and co-author of various articles, reviews and thesis published in peer-reviewed journals.

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## Andrew Marsh

Andrew Marsh, PhD, serves as a consultant in the Department for Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health and Ageing at the World Health Organization (WHO). He brings over 13 years of experience in global public health, specializing in improving health measures across the continuum of care. His contributions at WHO have included supporting the cost-effectiveness analysis for the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Diarrhea, leading coordination for the Effective Coverage Think Tank Series, and assisting in the selection of priority indicators for the Global Action for Measurement of Adolescent health.

Dr. Marsh holds a Master of Public Health (2012) and a Doctor of Philosophy in Global Disease Epidemiology and Control (2018) from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. His doctoral research focused on validating maternally reported care-seeking for childhood illnesses in rural Pune, India, as part of Johns Hopkins University's Improving Coverage Measurement project.



## Emma Wallengren

Emma Wallengren is a young public health professional with a deep interest and commitment to promoting equity in adolescent sexual and reproductive health. She holds an MMSc in public health from Karolinska Institutet and a dual bachelor's degree in biology and social sciences from Sorbonne Université and Sciences Po Paris.

As a research assistant in the Department of Global Public Health at Karolinska Institutet, Ms. Wallengren is contributing to the process evaluation of an intervention on the appropriate use of caesarean section in Argentina, Burkina Faso, Thailand and Vietnam. Prior to her current role, Ms. Wallengren interned at the United Nations Population Fund, where she supported the gender-based violence team in the areas of violence against women data and sexual and reproductive health and rights. She also interned at the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education to strengthen the organization's research and advocacy efforts to promote equitable access to abortion. Through these experiences, she witnessed first-hand the impact of actionable data in shaping global priority-setting and programming. With the aim of one day contributing to this evidence base, she will start a Ph.D. in Population, Family and Reproductive Health at Johns Hopkins University in the fall of 2024.

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## Holly Newby

Holly Newby has over 20 years' experience working in data and measurement, including direct technical support to governments on data collection, analysis, and use, as well as global-level monitoring and reporting.

Holly's recent consultancies have included indicator reviews for the Global Action for Measurement of Adolescent Health (GAMA), the Mother and Newborn Information for Tracking Outcomes and Results (MoNITOR), and the Child Health Accountability Tracking technical advisory group (CHAT), as well as supporting indicator development and testing for the Measurement of Mental Health among Adolescents at the Population Level initiative (MMAPI).

She previously worked in UNICEF's Data & Analytics Section, first as the lead for health and nutrition data and then as the Chief of the Data Analysis Unit. She also worked as a Survey Manager for the Demographic and Health Survey Programme and as the Chief Analyst at the Context Analysis and Foresight Unit at Save the Children. Holly has an MA in demography from Georgetown University.



## Zoya Ali Rizvi

A meritorious and hard working doctor having vast experience of working in the government health sector at various levels, District, State and National for more than two decades.

An alumnus and gold medalist from King George's Medical College, Lucknow (India) and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, she is at present working with the Government of India, as Deputy Commissioner in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

She heads the *Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram* (National Adolescent Health Programme) which deals with the promotive and preventive health care of adolescents in facilities, schools and communities and also the flagship School Health & Wellness Programme under *Ayushman Bharat* (Long-live India) to improve the health seeking behavior and knowledge of our school going children and further strengthen the partnership between the health care providers and the school teachers.

She also holds the portfolio of Nutrition Programme at the MoHFW which encompasses the whole lifecycle spectrum covering facility based, community and school based nutrition interventions.

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## **Parviz Abduvahobov**

Parviz Abduvahobov leads the work on M&E and research for UNESCO's health and education section, focusing on school health, school violence and bullying, and comprehensive sexuality education. He contributes to measuring the education sector's response to ending AIDS and promoting better health and well-being for all children and young people. He recently headed the data analysis for the global status reports on sexuality education and school health and nutrition. Parviz has more than 10 years of experience in his field, working for UNICEF and other international organizations and supporting governments in Albania, Yemen, Afghanistan, Nepal, and Tajikistan in evidence-based education sector planning, education management information systems, and post-crisis transition and recovery.

Parviz holds a Master's degree in International Strategy and Economics from the University of St. Andrews (UK).



## **Carol A. Ford**

Carol A. Ford MD is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania (PENN) Perelman School of Medicine, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), Craig-Dalsimer Division of Adolescent Medicine. Dr. Ford is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Adolescent Health (JAH), the official journal of the Society for Adolescent Health & Medicine (SAHM), and leads the MCHB-funded CHOP/PENN Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) interdisciplinary training program. Dr. Ford is trained as an internist, pediatrician, and adolescent medicine sub-specialist. The arc of her academic career has included research, training, clinical care, and advocacy focused on the importance of confidentiality in adolescent health care settings as well as developmentally-appropriate parent/caregiver involvement when feasible as complementary strategies to improve adolescent and young adult health outcomes.