

2020 NMHIMA Spring Conference Speakers

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Reuben Murray, CPA, CFO

Reuben Murray is the Chief Financial Officer, CFO at CHRISTUS St. Vincent Health System, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He previously worked at Lovelace Health System in Albuquerque, N.M., for a decade. There he served in several leadership roles, including his most recent role as CFO of Lovelace Medical Center, the health system's flagship. He has also served as controller for Pulte Homes of New Mexico and as a fraud specialist for America Online.

Mr. Murray holds a master's degree in organizational management from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.



**Thomas East, PhD,
CEO/CIO**

Thomas D. East, Ph.D. is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Information Officer (CIO) for NMHC/ LCF Research. LCF Research operates the New Mexico Health Information Collaborative which is the NM state designated health information exchange.

Dr. East has over 30 years of experience in health information technology, 17 of these in executive information technology leadership in four healthcare systems in Utah, Alaska, Illinois and New York. Dr. East has a strong background in pulmonary medicine and critical care, strategic planning, program/project management, resource management, adoption of best practices, and innovative technology to support rural healthcare.



Lisa Butler, MPH

Lisa has been a surveillance officer for New Mexico's Emerging Infectious Program (NM EIP), since 2003. Lisa has provided surveillance for both the Southeast region (2004-2007), and for the Northeast region (2007- current). Before joining the EIP team, Lisa worked for the New Mexico Aging Process Study (UNM), the Diabetes Prevention Program (UNM), and the NIH Clinical Research Center (UNM). Lisa earned her Master in Public Health degree at UNM in 2007.

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Over the past three decades, Karen has held numerous HIM leadership positions in various hospitals and health systems. In her current role as VP of Industry Relations for Just Associates, she advocates for improving healthcare data quality, works with the best and brightest in the Enterprise Master Patient Index (EMPI) space and assists clients with strategic and operational Master Patient Index (MPI) management consulting. Throughout her career, she has been an active member of AHIMA and has held numerous HIM State board positions including past president of THIMA.

Karen Proffitt, MHIIM, RHIA,
CHP



Shawna Ramey RHIT, CHPS, CCS, is the Director of Health Information Management at San Juan Regional Medical Center. Shawna has been working in ancillary healthcare for 27 years. She sits on the Advisory Board for the Health Information Technology Program at San Juan College in Farmington, NM. She believes in continual learning and staying current in the industry. She is currently studying for the Clinical Documentation Improvement Practitioner (CDIP) credential. Shawna mentors and encourages those she works with to help them achieve their educational and professional goals. Personal interests include sewing, travel, and spending time with her three grandchildren.

Shawna Ramey RHIT, CHPS,
CCS

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**Katherine Lusk, MSHM, RHIA,
FAHIMA**

Katherine Lusk, MSHM, RHIA, FAHIMA is the Chief Information Management and Exchange Officer for Children’s Hospital System of Texas. She is an active AHIMA Member focusing her attention of patient identity, health information exchange, standard development and information governance. She received AHIMA’s Pioneer Triumph Award in 2012 for her innovative approach to use the technology. She has served as the President of TxHIMA and as a member of AHIMA’s House of Delegated. Children’s has received the following awards: HIMSS Level 7 Analytics, HIMSS Davies and AHIMA Grace under her leadership. She speaks on national and state levels on health information management opportunities, clinical documentation improvement, patient identity and promoting the role of the HIM profession.



Craig Nelson, Data Scientist

Craig Nelson is a Data Scientist at Sandia National Laboratories in the Assurance Data Sciences department. Prior to this role, he worked for 25 years as a statistician for Presbyterian Healthcare Services. He oversaw all survey research at Presbyterian and served as a consultant to the organization on statistical matters. Craig is also owner of an LLC that provides statistical consulting. Craig serves on the Albuquerque Quality Network Board of Directors. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Biology from Virginia Tech and Master’s degree in Applied Statistics from the University of New Mexico

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**Pearl Mohnkern, MHSA,
SHR**

Pearl Mohnkern served for 40 years in Health Care Human Resources leadership, with 35 of those years in three organizations. Pearl's education includes a B.S. degree from L.S.U., and a Master's Degree in Health Services Administration from University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL. She holds a lifetime SPHR certification. Shortly after college, Pearl held positions of HR Director in two large hospitals in the Louisiana Charity Health Care System, rising within 10 years to the role of Discipline Chief for the ten-hospital state agency before she joined Catholic Health Care for the next 20 years. With CHRISTUS Health, Pearl was soon promoted to VP of HR in the Houston Corporate Office of CHRISTUS Dubuis/Continuing Care Division with responsibility for HR in 16 LTACHS in 7 states. Territory was later added for the Gulf Coast Region of Acute Care hospitals, as well as two dozen Home Health and Hospices in 7 states. Pearl's final service to CHRISTUS was as VP of HR for the New Mexico Region including labor relations leadership in a strong union environment. Spanning her career, Pearl developed, directed and delivered numerous educational programs to employees, managers and Board Members. Throughout her employment, Pearl volunteered on non-profit Boards of a Psychiatric Hospital, a mega Free Clinic, a Battered Woman's Shelter, and with Junior Achievement. She also dedicated substantial volunteer hours over a dozen years as a suicide counselor in Houston, and crises counselor and rape victim advocate in Santa Fe. Mohnkern recently retired to Phoenix, AZ, continuing to provide volunteer services to three non-profit organizations.



Lauren Sims-Norville, DO, FACOI

Dr. Lauren Sims-Norville is the current Physician Advisor for Case Management and Medical Director for Utilization Review at CHRISTUS St. Vincent Health System. She went to Medical School in Fort Worth, Texas and finished in 2000. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine and have been a Hospitalist - both in the teaching and private sector since that time. She became Director of the Hospitalist group in October of 2016. Successes were implementing structures to decrease overall LOS by nearly one day, improving communication between the Hospitalist group and all other Hospital departments, standardizing peer to peer calls with insurance companies, renegotiating our contract to raise all Hospitalist salaries from 25th to 50th percentile according to MGMA. She's currently on the following committees for the hospital: Credentialing, PNT, Ethics, and Mission. She is the Chair of UR and run in conjunction with the Manager of Case Management and Length of Stay meetings as well as transition of care rounds with the Hospitalists. Her goal is to improve collaboration with all departments and develop consistent, meaningful data for tracking Documentation Improvement.

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Jill Etre

Jill Etre is a data specialist for CHRISTUS St. Vincent's Clinician Directed Improvement initiative, the CDPI Project. She has over ten years of experience in the fields of Statistics, Mathematics, and Secondary Education with a degree from the University of Vermont and a pending final thesis of her Master's degree regarding newborns with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. Her current Clinician Directed Performance Improvement projects assist providers in collecting and analysing data in Labor and Delivery, Paediatrics, and the newly formed Green Team Project.



**Lynette Lewis, M.A. Th, BCh.M.,
RN, CTT+, CCM, CCP, FLMI**

Lynette Lewis is a retired Registered Nurse Executive with over 40 years' experience in the health care and insurance industries. She has been recognized by both the Metropolitan and Empire's Who's Who of Executives and Professionals for her distinguished leadership throughout her career. She was formerly the Director of Clinical Review with Florida Blue in Jacksonville FL, Director of Medical Operations with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield of GA in Atlanta GA, and Director of Health Care Services with Cigna Healthcare in Charleston SC. In addition, as a Registered Nurse, she worked as a Clinical Manager with Emory Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta GA, Trident & Summerville Medical Hospitals and Interim Home Healthcare in Charleston SC. Lynette started her nursing education at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in Philadelphia and also attended Trident Technical College and Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Lynette is an ordained minister with a Master of Arts Degree in Theology from Life Christian University, the published author of "Purpose, Pain's Promise - Finding Purpose through Painful Experiences" and an international speaker and facilitator, with her most recent international speaking engagement in Kampala Uganda in December 2019. She is a certified technical trainer, certified facilitator of The Passion Test, as well as Owner and CEO of Purpose Made Alive, LLC. She resides in Jacksonville FL with her husband, Larry Lewis, a fellow RN, and is the mother of 2 adult sons, 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. A recipient of several leadership and community services awards, including ACHI Magazine's Community Leader of the Year Award in 2019, Lynette's purpose statement is to "make a difference in the lives of others through service, education and inspiration, helping people to identify their passions so they can live and walk in their purpose."