

Illinois Predictive Analytics Forum Biosketches**Steven Anderson**

Dr. Anderson became Dean of Social Work in September 2017, returning to the School where he previously served as a faculty member for 13 years. He also holds BSW and MSW degrees from the School of Social Work, as well as MA and PhD degrees in political science from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Anderson's research interests primarily center on factors associated with the access low-income families have to social benefits, and he is particularly interested in how innovative policy and program strategies

can improve access to benefits. His work has been published extensively in leading social work and social policy journals. He has led many funded research projects evaluating the impact of welfare reforms as well as other social welfare programs, including the implementation of child care, health care, financial training and other support services designed to assist low-income working families. He also has examined the use of subsidized relative caregivers in providing child care, foster care, and home-based services for the frail elderly. His projects typically have involved collaborations with state and community organizations to help develop policies and program strategies designed to improve services to low-income populations. Most recently, he has begun exploring the utility of social entrepreneurship, corporate social responsibility, and other market-oriented social change strategies, both in the U.S. and in the developing world. His book on these issues, *New Strategies for Social Innovation: Market-Based Approaches for Assisting the Poor*, was published in 2014 by Columbia University Press.

**Robin LaSota**

Dr. LaSota is a mixed-methods researcher, program evaluator, and technical assistance provider in the field of education, human services, and youth development. Since June 2018, she has been the Director of Translational Research for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services with the School of Social Work at the University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign. Robin received her PhD from the University of Washington in Educational Policy and Leadership Studies, a master's degree from Stanford University in Educational Policy and Evaluation, and bachelor's degree from Oberlin College in Urban Studies and Government. She has conducted evidence-based assessment for federal registries, including the What Works Clearinghouse, the National Registry on Evidence-Based Programs and Practices, and Crimesolutions.gov.

The Office of Translational Research works to synthesize available knowledge from researchers and practitioners to inform planning and policymaking within DCFS. The services of Translational Research offer knowledge synthesis and evidence-based planning support to programmatic and policy leadership in Illinois DCFS. The core services and competencies are focused on practical, data-informed, and evidence-based improvements that can be implemented and evaluated to influence improved outcomes for children, youth, and families.



Emily Putnam-Hornstein

Dr. Putnam-Hornstein, is an Associate Professor at the USC Suzanne-Dworak School of Social Work where she directs of the Children's Data Network, university-agency collaborative focused on the linkage of administrative data to inform children's policies and programs. She also maintains a research appointment at the UC Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project – a longstanding child welfare data and research collaboration with the California Department of Social Services. Emily's current research focuses on the application of epidemiological methods and the use of linked administrative records to improve the surveillance of nonfatal and fatal child maltreatment. Her work provides insight into where scarce public resources may be most efficiently targeted and informs a population-based understanding of maltreated children. Emily graduated from Yale with a BA in psychology, received her MSW from Columbia University, and earned her PhD in Social Welfare from UC Berkeley. Prior to returning to graduate school she worked as a child welfare caseworker in New York City.



Erin Dalton

As Deputy Director for the Office of Analytics, Technology and Planning, Erin Dalton is responsible for directing the research and evaluation, evidence-based planning and information technology activities of the Department of Human Services.

Ms. Dalton has held policy positions with the Allegheny County Executive's Office and the United States Department of Justice and was an adjunct staff member at the RAND Corporation. Ms. Dalton is a board member of Neighborhood Allies and was a mayoral appointee to the Pittsburgh Civilian Police Review Board and a county executive appointee to the Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Board of Advisers. Ms. Dalton received a Master's of Science from Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz School of Public Policy.

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Dana Weiner

Dr. Dana Weiner is a Policy Fellow at the Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. At Chapin Hall, Weiner provides analytic consultation and policy guidance to child welfare jurisdictions across the country, including New York City; Tennessee; Washington, DC; Texas; and California. In her analytic consultation to child welfare jurisdictions, she uses predictive analytics, latent class analysis, and geospatial approaches to refine understanding of target population needs and distribution.

Weiner served for six years as Senior Policy Advisor to the Director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, and as the Evaluation Liaison for the Permanency Innovations Initiative. In 2011, she was appointed by Illinois Governor Pat Quinn to serve on the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, and in 2013 was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Child and Family Services Advisory Council. Weiner taught Data for Policy Analysis and Management courses to Master's-level students at the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration, and doctoral-level

courses in Research Methods and Statistics at Northwestern University. Weiner's research has focused on quantifying resource accessibility, analyzing the role of geospatial relationships in outcomes in child welfare systems, and evaluating the implementation of evidence-based models in child welfare and juvenile justice contexts.



Brian Chor

Dr. Brian Chor is a Senior Researcher at Chapin Hall. Chor is a licensed clinical psychologist and a child welfare and child mental health services researcher. At Chapin Hall, Chor conducts data-informed research and provides implementation guidance on multiple evaluation projects funded by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), including residential care and monitoring, therapeutic foster care, statewide rollout of immersion sites, and wraparound services for dually involved youth. Chor also provides expert consultation to the New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) to develop, adopt, and implement predictive risk modeling using administrative data to improve case management and decrease repeat occurrences of maltreatment, placement, and involvement with the child welfare system. Chor works with state behavioral health agencies as part of Chapin Hall's Total Clinical Outcomes Management (TCOM) team to leverage Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment data to inform policy and practice.



Michelle Rawlings

Michelle Rawlings has over 20 years of experience working in the Wisconsin child welfare system at the state and county levels. She currently serves as the Director of the Bureau of Safety and Well-Being in the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. As Bureau Director, Michelle Rawlings is responsible for prevention and early intervention programs, policy and program development for the child welfare casework practice functions, and the state's child welfare continuous quality improvement system, including critical incident reviews.



Tamara Fuller

Dr. Tamara Fuller is Director of the Children and Family Research Center (CFRC) and Research Associate Professor at the School of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Over her 22-year tenure at the CFRC, Dr. Fuller has been the Principal Investigator of numerous evaluations for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, including an Illinois Differential Response evaluation, a 4-year RCT evaluation funded by the National Quality Improvement Center on Differential Response in Child Protective Services (QIC-DR). Dr. Fuller also serves as the PI on an evaluation of Differential Response for the Oregon

Department of Human Services and was recently selected to lead a 7.5 year evaluation of children's mental health services funded by the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation.

Dr. Fuller served as the PI of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) Title IV-E waiver demonstration evaluation. This six-year evaluation examined the implementation and effectiveness of Wisconsin's demonstration project. As part of the waiver evaluation, Wisconsin DCF collaborated with the CFRC to develop a predictive risk model that was used to identify the children who were at highest risk of re-entry into substitute care following reunification. The child's score on the risk model was used to determine which families were eligible for post-reunification services. Based on the successful implementation of this PRM, the CFRC is currently developing a second predictive risk model for Wisconsin DCF that will guide decision-making during intake and screening.