

NIFA Nutrition Security Webinar Series
Prioritizing Nutrition Security: Emerging Approaches in Research and Practice
Monday, September 27th at 2:45 pm to 4:30 pm EST
Speaker Bios



Dariush Mozaffarian, MD, DrPH
Dean
Friedman School of Nutrition Science & Policy
Tufts University

Dariush Mozaffarian is a cardiologist, Dean, and Jean Mayer Professor at the Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, and Professor of Medicine at Tufts School of Medicine. His work aims to create a food system that is nutritious, equitable, and sustainable. Dr. Mozaffarian has authored more than 450 scientific publications on dietary priorities for obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases, and on evidence-based policy approaches and innovations to reduce these burdens in the US and globally. He has served in numerous advisory roles, and his work has been featured in a wide array of media outlets. Thomson Reuters has named him as one of the World's Most Influential Scientific Minds. Dr. Mozaffarian received a BS in biological sciences at Stanford (Phi Beta Kappa), MD at Columbia (Alpha Omega Alpha), residency training in internal medicine at Stanford, fellowship training in cardiovascular medicine at the University of Washington; an MPH from the University of Washington; and a Doctorate in Public Health from Harvard. Before being appointed as Dean at Tufts in 2014, Dr. Mozaffarian was at Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health for a decade and clinically active in cardiology at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He is married, has three children, and actively trains as a Third Degree Black Belt in Taekwondo. As one of the top nutrition institutions in the world, the Friedman School's mission is to produce trusted science, future leaders, and real-world impact. The Friedman School pursues research, education, and public impact across five Divisions, the Feinstein International Center, the Food & Nutrition Innovation Institute, and multiple academic programs. Areas of focus range from cell to society, including molecular nutrition, human metabolism and clinical trials, nutrition data science, behavior change, business innovation and entrepreneurship, community and organizational interventions, communication and media, agriculture, food systems, and sustainability, hunger and food security, humanitarian crisis, and food policy and economics. Friedman School graduates are leaders in academia, US and international government, policy, advocacy, industry, public health, community service, and entrepreneurship. The School's unique breadth, engagement with the world, and entrepreneurial spirit make it a leading institution for nutrition education, research, and public impact.



Emily Engelhard, MA
Managing Director of Thought Leadership in America
Feeding America

Emily Engelhard is the Managing Director of Research at Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization. In this role, Emily sets the strategic direction and vision for translating and disseminating research insights to drive action and guide evidence-based solutions. She is also responsible for Feeding America's external research partnerships and thought leadership investments to guide and advance research on food insecurity, poverty, and related social and public health matters more broadly. Emily spearheaded Feeding America's *Map the Meal Gap* project and has published in academic journals including the American Journal of Public Health and American Journal of Agricultural Economics. She brings 15 years' experience in research and evaluation in material hardship and holds a master's degree in the Social Sciences from the University of Chicago.



Julia Caldwell, PhD, MPH
Chief Research Analyst
Nutrition & Physical Activity Program Team
Los Angeles County Public Health

Dr. Julia Caldwell is Chief of Research and Evaluation for the Nutrition and Physical Activity Program at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Dr. Caldwell is a public health researcher who has published on access to healthcare, nutrition, and the impact of community-level indicators and programs on health outcomes. Dr. Caldwell currently leads evaluation efforts for Los Angeles County's SNAP-Education program and the Produce Prescription Project - Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program. Dr. Caldwell received a Master's in Public Health and PhD in Public Health from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago.



Dipa Shah-Patel, MPH, RD
Director
Nutrition & Physical Activity Program Team
Los Angeles County Public Health

Dipa Shah-Patel directs the Los Angeles County Public Health Department’s Nutrition and Physical Activity Program, and has nearly twenty years of experience implementing federally funded and state administered nutrition programs to improve the health of low-income and vulnerable communities. Under her leadership, the Nutrition and Physical Activity Program has shifted its focus to addressing upstream factors that impact diet-related diseases, including food insecurity and poverty. She has served on numerous task forces and presented to a variety of audiences on food insecurity and its relationship to diet-related chronic diseases. Dipa was instrumental in the development of several Board motions adopted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors focused on screening for food insecurity in County clinics and reducing food waste and food insecurity. For the past year, she has served on LA County’s Food Security Branch, established by the Office of Emergency Management to respond to the growing prevalence of food insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dipa is also a board member of the national nonprofit organization Wholesome Wave, which has been a leader in developing produce prescription programs across the United States. Dipa received her both her B.A. in History with a minor in Education and M.P.H. in Community Health Sciences from UCLA. She is also a Registered Dietitian.



Kelly Warner, MPH, RD
Program Manager
Nutrition & Physical Activity Program Team
Los Angeles County Public Health

Kelly Warner is a Program Manager at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Nutrition and Physical Activity Program, where she leads the coalition, *Nutrition Access LA*, a network of multi-sector partners across Los Angeles County working together to increase healthy food access. In her role, she also coordinates all dietetic and MPH interns, and serves as Co-Chair of the LA County Food Equity Roundtable Data Workgroup. Kelly currently serves on the House of Delegates for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, representing California – Los Angeles and Inland Districts. Kelly received her Master’s in Public Health from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and completed her dietetic internship with the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. A double Bruin, she holds a bachelor’s degree in International Development Studies from University of California, Los Angeles. Kelly is also a Registered Dietitian.



Angela Odoms-Young, PhD
Associate Professor
Division of Nutritional Sciences
College of Human Ecology
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Cornell University

Dr. Angela Odoms-Young is an Associate Professor in the Department of Nutrition at Cornell University. Her expertise is consistent with the center's vision and mission, particularly applying knowledge to maximize its impact on practice and policy and training outstanding investigators, with an emphasis on people from underrepresented groups. I hope to connect with other researchers and community partners working on projects that promote equity and justice and center on addressing the social and structural determinants of health and well-being. Dr. Odoms-Young research explores the social and structural determinants of dietary behaviors and diet-related diseases in low-income and Black/Latinx populations and centers on identifying culturally appropriate programs and policies that promote health equity, food justice, and community resilience. Prior to joining Cornell, Dr. Odoms-Young served on the faculty at the University of Illinois at Chicago and Northern Illinois University. She completed a Family Research Consortium Postdoctoral Fellowship examining family processes in diverse populations at the Pennsylvania State University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Community Health Scholars Fellowship in community-based participatory research at the University of Michigan School of Public Health.