

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

# School of Community Health Sciences

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MPH Advisory Committee Members



**Peggy Anne Roefer**

**Regional Water Quality Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority**

Peggy Roefer is the Regional Water Quality Manager for the Southern Nevada Water Authority. She has worked for SNWA for 28 years and her jobs have included Microbiology Supervisor and Regional Water Quality Supervisor. She has a degree in Microbiology from the University of Texas at Austin and has spent the last 18 years dealing with emerging issues in southern Nevada such *Cryptosporidium*, perchlorate, selenium, and quagga mussels.



**Mike Lubbe,**

**CEO of the YMCA of Southern Nevada.**

He has served in this capacity for 14 years. During that time the YMCA has seen dramatic growth. Prior to moving to Las Vegas, he worked in a variety of Y's throughout the midwest in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa.



**Patricia Rowley**

**Disease surveillance and Vital Records Manager**

Ms. Rowley has lived in the Las Vegas area for 21 years and has worked at Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) for 20 years, starting out in the Environmental Health Division and transferring to the Office of Epidemiology in 1998. She did her undergraduate degree at University of Victoria (Canada) and later attended University of Washington for graduate studies in public health and epidemiology. Patricia currently manages programs and activities of the Office of Epidemiology Disease Surveillance and Vital Statistics Programs at SNHD. She provides oversight and direction for planning, development, implementation and evaluation of disease surveillance and communicable disease investigation programs and projects, and manages communicable disease outbreaks and public health event response activities. She manages the Vital Statistics Program, ensuring that accurate birth and death records are registered,

maintained and issued. Patricia has been involved in mentoring some of the UNLV MPH students disease outbreaks and public health event response activities. In the area of vital records, she provides oversight of the services for distribution and/or registration of burial permits, birth certificates, and death certificates. Patricia has been involved in mentoring some of the UNLV MPH students.



**Jeffrey B. Klein, FACHE**  
**President & CEO**  
**Nevada Senior Services Inc.**

He has extensive experience nationally in health care management and business consulting for hospitals, health care organizations and community-based services. He is currently the President/CEO of Nevada Senior Services Inc. operating adult day health care centers and specialty programs including: chronic disease self-management, comprehensive geriatric assessment and memory loss programs in southern Nevada. As a consultant, Mr. Klein has been a founder and Principal at Altila Group conducting and supervising extensive engagements for hospitals, medical groups and academic centers. Specialty areas of consultation include; activity based costing for hospitals and physicians groups; cost per case analysis for hospitals; strategic planning, merger and acquisition, feasibility analysis, financial structuring, project financing, turn around, grant development and implementation of innovative programs in care continuum development for geriatrics, rehabilitation, neurosciences, chronic disease care and disease state management.



**Joseph P. Iser, MD, DrPH, MSc**  
**Chief Health Officer**  
**Southern Nevada Health District**

He received his medical degree from the University of Kansas and is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, General Preventive Medicine and Public Health, and Occupational Medicine, with a broad background in primary care, public health, and medical education. He has specific interests in indigent care, infectious diseases, disaster medicine, and international medicine, and he has worked in food outbreak investigations, pharmaceutical and device regulation, hepatitis program development, implementation, evaluation, and research. He is retired after 24 years active duty with the US Public Health Service, and he was the Director and Health Officer for two California counties.

He has a Doctorate in Public Health in health policy from the University of Michigan, and he has an MSc in infectious diseases from the University of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is the Chief Health Officer for the Southern Nevada Health District (Clark County, Nevada, and five incorporated cities).



**Deborah M. Williams, MPA, MPH, CHES**

**Manager of the Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (OCDPHP) at the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD).**

Prior to accepting her current position with SNHD in August 2005, Deb worked for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) for 23 years. She began her career in the KDHE Health and Environmental Laboratories as a virologist. After almost 11 years of confirming vaccine preventable outbreaks of mumps and measles Deb decided to make a career change to a more proactive role in disease prevention. She has worked with HIV community planning, trauma system development, public health improvement planning and most recently with chronic disease prevention. As Director of Special Studies in the Office of Health Promotion at KDHE from 2000 - 2005, Deb managed statewide programs for arthritis, diabetes, heart disease and stroke, nutrition and physical activity, and community health interventions. Deb holds a Bachelor of Arts in Microbiology and a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from the University of Kansas and a Master of Public Health (MPH) from Wichita State University. She also is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).



**Cheryl L. Radeloff, PhD**  
**Disease Investigation and**  
**Investigation Specialist II**  
**Southern Nevada Health District**  
**Office of HIV/AIDS/STD**

Cheryl Radeloff has been employed with the Southern Nevada Health District as a Disease Investigator and Intervention Specialist with the Office of HIV/AIDS/STD since fall 2008. Her main responsibilities in her current position are working at various HIV/STD testing and counseling sites, investigating HIV/STD morbidity, and working as a lead for the education team. This includes directing student interns as well as presenting various classes for SNHD and other venues as requested. She received her PhD in Sociology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2004. After finishing her degree, she served as an Assistant Professor in Women's Studies at Minnesota State University-Mankato from 2004-2008. She is currently an adjunct professor at the College of Southern Nevada and has taught courses in Sociology and Women's Studies. She has co-authored articles exploring feminist curriculum initiatives in the Geosciences and Women's Studies, co-authored several book chapters including a chapter on mandatory HIV testing and sex offenders, as well as written essays on safer sex, feminist pedagogy, and feminist methodology.





**Vance K. Farrow**  
**Industry Specialist – Health Care**  
**Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development**

He is responsible for supporting the recruitment, retention and expansion of healthcare professionals and businesses to strengthen the sector’s infrastructure within Nevada. His additional duties include the development of recommendations for workforce training and the removal of barriers that impede growth within the sector. Mr. Farrow assists with the efforts of Nevada’s regional development authorities and works collaboratively with state and local governments, regional sector leaders, company officials, and a variety of multi-departmental stakeholder associations and groups. Considered an expert in the health and human services field, Mr. Farrow holds more than 12 years of research experience.

Mr. Farrow earned a Bachelor of Science Degree with an emphasis in microbiology and chemistry from Howard University in Washington, D.C., a master’s degree in public health from the University of Michigan, School of Public Health and also received instruction from the Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia, Penn. As a result of his extraordinary dedication and commitment, Mr. Farrow has been appointed by Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval to serve as a Commissioner for the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.



**Maggie Rafferty, DHA, RN**  
**Chief Experience Officer**  
**Dignity Health**  
**St. Rose Dominican Hospitals**

Maggie Rafferty joined Dignity Health in 2013 year as the Chief Experience Officer for the Nevada Market. Her responsibilities include driving a distinctive patient experience agenda for the three hospital system.

Prior to joining Dignity Health and relocating to Nevada from Chicago, Maggie held executive positions in Consulting, Management Services and Higher Education. She also served as a Vice President for a large suburban hospital in the Chicago area. In this role, she was a member of the executive team which championed the hospital’s turnaround to top decile performance.

A registered nurse, Maggie holds a Master’s degree in health administration from Governors State University, her M.B.A. from the University of Chicago and a Doctor of Health Administration from Central Michigan University. Dr. Rafferty’s area of research is focused on the feedback of medical tourists of their experiences as travelers for healthcare. Her research was published in

the Journal of Medical Internet Research and she has been speaker on this subject in several national and international forums.

Maggie and her husband have 5 grown children who they left in various parts of the country when they moved to Nevada. As a newbie to the southwest, she has really enjoyed sending back photos of the great Nevada weather to all her friends and family in the Midwest this past winter.



**Jodi Tyson**  
**Government Affairs Director**  
**Three Square**

Mayor Carolyn Goodman recently recognized Jodi Tyson, in her role as Government Affairs Director at Three Square, as a leader and passionate advocate for individuals and families in the greater Las Vegas Valley. This acknowledgement was catalyst by one of Jodi's largest government partnership efforts at Three Square: expansion of Kids Cafe (free after-school meals) in 60 additional poverty-stricken neighborhoods in the Cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas, representing a combined site increase of 350%.

Many might perceive that the substantial impacts in hunger-relief resulting from hard-won advocacy as just a normal day of activity. "Nothing could be farther from the truth," says Jodi, who has been with Three Square since 2009. "Our department is elated every time a new partnership is implemented, a new funding source is secured, and each time a person in need of nutrition assistance receives it through our collaborative efforts."

In addition to leveraging partnerships to advance state and federal nutrition programs, Jodi uses her undergraduate education in Political Science and her graduate work in Public Health to study trends in social needs, and study the impact of collective hunger-relief efforts in our community. Her favorite area of research though is policy analysis. In her view, informed decision-making only happens when communication travels in two directions: up and down the policy chain.

Recently inducted to the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Nevada Hall of Fame, Jodi has 20 years of professional experience in public health advocacy and in non-profit and government-based service delivery systems in Southern Nevada.

**Maria Castillo Couch**  
**Senior Neighborhood Specialist**  
**City of Las Vegas**

**Marya Shegog**  
**Lincy Institute**  
**University of Nevada, Las Vegas**

**Vivek Raman**  
**Environmental Health Supervisor**  
**Southern Nevada Health District**

**Tracey Green**  
**State Health Officer**  
**Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health**

**Charles Bernick**  
**Neurologist**  
**Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health**

#### **STUDENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS**



**Jennifer Lucas**  
**MPH Alumna**

Jennifer Lucas is a public health PhD student in the UNLV School of Community Health Sciences studying pediatric asthma and obesity in the epidemiology and biostatistics concentration. She graduated from the SCHS Masters of Public Health Program in 2012. She has worked on various projects while at SCHS, including MPH accreditation, quagga mussel research, and childhood asthma prevention as a graduate assistant.



**Tanvi Patel**  
**MPH Alumna**

Tanvi Patel recently graduated MPH candidate and newly admitted Public Health PhD candidate. Research interests: quagga mussels, thyroid cancer in firefighters, aeroallergens, and UNLV Pollen Program Supervisor



**Khaye Rufin**  
**MPH Student**

Khaye Rufin is a MPH candidate in Environmental and Occupational Health. Research interests: infectious diseases, healthy housing, and social media disease surveillance





**Noehealani Antolin**

**MPH Student**

MPH candidate in Social and Behavioral Health. She currently works on the Henderson Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Program, Dignity Health Asthma Program, and does work for MPH accreditation. Research interest: adolescent health and risk behaviors