

# Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Substance Use



**Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**1:10 PM CET**  
**VIA WEBEX**

Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age that shape people's perceptions, norms, and behaviors. These conditions affect health outcomes, including vulnerability to mental health and/or substance use disorders, chronic diseases, and overdose deaths. Studies have shown the impact of such conditions on brain development, psychological functioning, and behaviors. Chronic exposure to some stressful negative conditions experienced during childhood, known as adverse childhood experiences, can have a particularly devastating impact during important developmental stages of life for children and youth and can impact health and social outcomes throughout the lifespan.

Research supported by the World Health Organization suggests that the influence of social determinants can even outweigh health care or individual behavior choices in influencing health.

This event will discuss social determinants of health, with a focus on exploring how disparities, including access to healthcare, socioeconomic status, and racial inequity can impact substance use. Through an interactive discussion, our expert panel will highlight policies and tools to address these disparities as well as strategies for preventing and treating drug use and reducing the harms associated with it.

**Join the event virtually at this link:**

<https://statedept.webex.com/statedept/j.php?MTID=m042038882f2ffec3f8c11cc65c67923f>

Meeting Number (access code): 2764 770 5794

Meeting password: 3aKVPt92396 (32587892 from phones)

Organized by the Government of the United States of America and co-sponsored by Canada, Chile and UNODC



## Speaker Biographies

**Rahul Gupta**, MD, MPH, MBA, is the first medical doctor to serve as the Director of National Drug Control Policy and lead the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), a component of the Executive Office of the President. ONDCP coordinates the nation's \$40 billion drug budget and federal policies, including prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery support, and supply reduction. Dr. Gupta has been a practicing primary care physician for more than 25 years, and has served in private practice and public health in towns as small as 1,900 residents and cities as large as 25 million. He served as the West Virginia Health Commissioner under two governors, where he brought together public health, law enforcement, healthcare, faith-based, business, and other community partners to solve local problems in innovative ways.

**Beth Connolly** is the Assistant Director of the Office of Public Health, within the Office of National Drug Control Policy. In this role Ms. Connolly oversees the development and implementation of public health approaches to reducing drug use and its consequences focusing on prevention, harm reduction, treatment, workforce and recovery-ready workplaces, and recovery support services. Ms. Connolly brings more than thirty years of public health and human services experience, in both government and non-profit sectors, to ONDCP.

**Carlos Charme Fuentes** has a Law degree in Legal Sciences from the Universidad de Los Andes. Currently, he serves as the SENDA National Director since October 3, 2018. He served as Executive Secretary of the Security Commission. During his tenure, he developed President Sebastián Piñera's public security program which focused on prevention of drug and alcohol consumption. Between 2010 and 2014 he served as Head of the National Coordination Division of the Undersecretary for Crime Prevention and Chief of Staff of the Undersecretary. Later, he was nominated as the Chief of Staff of the Municipality of Lo Barnechea and Exec Dir of Lo Barnechea Seguridad.

**Rosamund Dunkley**, M.Sc, is the current manager of the Prevention of Substance Related Harms unit within the Centre for Health Promotion at the Public Health Agency of Canada. Her team focuses on promoting tools for preventing substance related harms among youth through equity, harm reduction, upstream prevention and stigma reduction; providing advice to decision makers on public health issues related to alcohol, cannabis, opioids and other substances; and promoting approaches to stigma reduction for health care workers. She also manages a contribution program which funds projects that catalyze system-level change to enhance pathways to care for people who use drugs.

**Christopher Jones**, PharmD, DrPH, MPH, is the Acting Director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), and a captain in the US Public Health Service. When not serving as the Acting Director, Dr. Jones is the Deputy Director of NCIPC. In this role, he serves as the primary scientific advisor to the NCIPC Director and other senior leadership, and provides strategic policy and scientific direction for the Injury Center's work, shapes the scientific agenda, maintains an active research and evaluation portfolio, and coordinates the Injury Center's strategic priorities – the prevention of overdose, suicide, and adverse childhood experiences.

**Giovanna Campello** has more than 20 years of experience with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in supporting the Member States and stakeholders at all levels in improving their drug prevention response, applying and contributing to scientific evidence. Most notably, she has led the publication of the International Standards of Drug Use Prevention in 2013 and the UNODC/WHO second updated edition in 2018. Since 2016, she has been leading the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section of the UNODC, thus promoting evidence-based, gender and human rights sensitive practice on drug prevention, treatment, care and rehabilitation, as well as access to controlled drug and medical purposes.