

Faculty Biographies

Alex Malter, Panelist. Dr. Malter, MD, MPH, has served as Medicaid Medical Director for Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services for the past six years. Prior to that he worked as a general internist in Juneau. He received his medical degree from Oregon Health Sciences University and his clinical training at the University of Colorado. Before moving to Alaska, Dr. Malter had a faculty appointment at the University of Washington School of Public Health, where he taught health policy and conducted studies in health services research

Naomi Harris, Panelist. Ms. Harris, LCSW, is the Community Relations Manager for OCS. Naomi's extensive experience as a domestic violence and emergency services program manager and as a community mental health therapist inform the work she does on behalf of Alaska's children through policy development, program implementation, and constituent advocacy. Contact Naomi when needing agency information on data or legislation, or have a complaint or concern. She is also a great contact for when you have no idea whom to call or where to find information.

Gary Lose, Panelist. Mr. Lose is 19 years old and has been in state custody for the last 4 years. He has lived in six homes, changed high schools three times, and was exposed to many foster siblings with mental health problems. Gary has been active with FFCA (Facing Foster Care in Alaska) for over four years. He had the chance to go on an archeological dig this summer, and is currently assisting in undergraduate research. Gary attends the University of Alaska Anchorage and plans to get a bachelor's degree in nursing, and continue his education to become a nurse practitioner in the psychiatric field. His goal is to become the psychiatric nurse with OCS in charge of monitoring medication use for all Alaskan foster youth.

John Williams, Panelist. Mr. Williams is a registered nurse who has provided direct patient care for 25 years. His nursing experience has been focused on children and adolescents in both inpatient and outpatient settings. For the past 4 years he has worked with the State of Alaska Behavioral Health Medicaid and Quality section. He provides consultation related to behavioral health medical and nursing issues.