



# ACAAM National Didactic Session

Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

April 14, 2021, 2:00 pm ET

## Unpacking Racial Disparities in Addiction and a Path Forward



**Debra Furr-Holden, PhD** is the Associate Dean for Public Health Integration, C.S. Mott Endowed Professor of Public Health, and Director of the Division of Public Health at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. She is also the Director of the Flint Center for Health Equity Solutions, funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (U54HD011227). She is an epidemiologist and classically-trained public health professional with expertise in behavioral health equity and health disparities research. Dr. Furr-Holden's community-based, action-oriented research has been well received by community stakeholders and driven multiple policy interventions to address some of the nation's greatest public health challenges, especially among racial and ethnic minorities and in racially- and economically-segregated communities. Dr. Furr-Holden's research is grounded in the rubrics of epidemiology and consistent with principles and practices for understanding and intervening on the social determinants of health and health equity. Among her many awards, she was the recipient of the 2006 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (Office of the White House) and received the 2020 Community-Academic Partnership Award from the Healthy Flint Research Coordinating Center. Dr. Furr-Holden attended the Johns Hopkins University Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (BA Natural Sciences and Public Health, 1996) and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (PhD, 1999).

## Transforming Mental Health and Addiction Services for the 21st Century



**Margarita Alegría, PhD** is the Chief of the Disparities Research Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Mongan Institute, the Harry G. Lehnert, Jr. and Lucille F. Cyr Lehnert Endowed Chair at the Mass General Research Institute and a Professor in the Departments of Medicine and Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. She has spent most of her career working on how to reduce health disparities for populations of color, immigrants and linguistic minorities. Dr. Alegría's research focuses on the improvement of health care services delivery for diverse racial/ethnic groups, conceptual and methodological issues with multicultural populations, and ways to bring the community's perspective into the design and implementation of health services. Dr. Alegría is the PI of four National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research studies: The Impact of Medicaid Plans on Access to and Quality of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment, Building Infrastructure for Community Capacity in Accelerating Integrated Care, Building Community Capacity for Disability Prevention for Minority Elders and Latino Youths in Coping with Discrimination: A Multi-Level Investigation in Micro- and Macro- Time. She has published over 300 papers, editorials, intervention training manuals, and several book chapters. In October 2011, Dr. Alegría was elected as a member of the National Academy of Medicine in acknowledgement of her scientific contributions to her field. She has also been a recipient of notable awards, such as the Health Disparities Innovation Award by the National Institutes of Minority Health (2008), the Simone Bolivar Award by the American Psychiatry Association (2009), and the Award of Excellence by the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse (2011). Most recently, she received the 2020 Rema Lapouse Award for Achievement in Epidemiology, Mental Health and Applied Public Health Statistics from the American Public Health Association. Dr. Alegría obtained her BA in Psychology from Georgetown University in 1978 and her PhD from Temple University in 1989.