



Spring Think Tank 2026

# SPEAKER BIOS

Program Chair

## **Janis Davis-Street, MS, MA, EdD, CHES, HERO Senior Fellow**

Public Health Leader | Workforce WellBeing Strategist | Population Health Innovator

**Dr. Janis Davis-Street** is a seasoned public health and well-being leader with more than 25 years of experience advancing population health, disease prevention, and workforce and community wellbeing across global, complex organizations. She most recently managed Chevron's Workforce & Community Health group after overseeing Chevron's Global Public Health and Wellness & Health Promotion portfolios for 15 years.

Janis has led the integration of public health practices, epidemiological insights, and wellbeing expertise to strengthen workforce safety, elevate leader engagement, and demonstrate the business value of health at Chevron.

Janis' qualifications include a doctorate in health education and master's degrees in nutrition and organizational leadership. She is credentialed as a certified health education specialist and holds a certificate in public health informatics. Prior to Chevron, Janis spent 15+ years as a nutritionist at NASA. Her interests include human performance, organizational learning, health disparities, workforce well-being, education outreach, and the prevention of chronic diseases. She has co-authored a middle school textbook – Space Nutrition – and several publications on corporate wellness, nutrition, and spaceflight.

## **Laurie Whitsel, PhD**

American Heart Association/Physical Activity Alliance

**Dr. Laurie Whitsel** is a nationally recognized leader in translating science into impactful public health policy as the national vice president of policy research for the American Heart Association. She also serves as a senior strategic advisor to the Physical Activity Alliance, driving national policy changes to integrate physical activity into healthcare and other settings. A prolific researcher, she has shaped major public health policies, presented at national conferences, served on influential advisory boards, and received national recognition.



## Jesse Gavin, DrPH

Levinse Well-Being/Baylor College of Medicine



**Dr. Jesse Gavin** is the Founder and Principal Consultant of Levinse Well-Being, where he helps organizations build healthier, more human-centered workplaces by translating evidence-based well-being principles into practical, scalable actions. Known for his pragmatic approach to culture change and organizational well-being, he supports employers nationwide through strategic planning, program design, and implementation support.

In addition to his consulting work, Dr. Gavin serves as the Well-Being Officer at Baylor College of Medicine, where he leads the institution's organization-wide employee well-being strategy. His work focuses on enhancing organizational culture and advancing systems-level approaches that promote long-term health and resilience across the workforce.

A frequent national speaker and thought leader in workplace well-being, Dr. Gavin brings deep experience at the intersection of behavior change, organizational design, and employee engagement.

## Judy Lee, PhD

WebMD Health Services



**Judy Lee** is the Senior People Scientist for the Center for Research at WebMD Health Services, where she focuses on translating research into practical strategies. Her passion lies in empowering both employees and organizations to create healthier and more fulfilling workplaces by blending principles of people science and organizational management theories. With a diverse background in management consulting, research, and product management, Dr. Lee has collaborated with clients and teams across sectors such as Fortune 500 companies, tech startups, and non-profit organizations. These experiences have equipped her with expertise in addressing complex business and well-being challenges at both organizational and individual levels, leveraging mixed methods research, data analysis, and actionable insights. Her contributions have garnered recognition in the field of organizational research and have been featured in news articles. Dr. Lee earned her Ph.D. in Management from the Business School at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, where she had previously earned her Bachelor of Science in Business. Additionally, she completed a study abroad program at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. Dr. Lee lives in West Hartford, CT, with her family. She finds pleasure in both reading and traveling, having embarked on international trips and explored 40+ states within the U.S.

## Jennifer Posa, PhD, MS

3P Productions



**Dr. Jennifer Posa** is the former Chief Wellbeing Officer of the Central Intelligence Agency and a leading expert on organizational readiness, leadership effectiveness, and human performance strategy. She helps leaders understand how to build systems that sustain human performance under pressure, mitigate burnout as a strategic risk, and enhance workforce capacity through organizational well-being. Drawing on executive leadership roles at the CIA, Johnson & Johnson, and Mayo Clinic, Dr. Posa translates lessons from high-stakes environments into practical frameworks that help organizations strengthen culture, readiness, and results. Dr. Posa offers high-impact advisory & consulting, keynote speaking, and bespoke workshops designed to sustain high-performance cultures. For more information, please visit her website, [www.drjenniferposa.com](http://www.drjenniferposa.com).

## Peter Rutigliano, PhD

MercerWell Behavioral HealthCenter of Excellence Lead & Sustainability Architect



**Peter Rutigliano** began consulting in the early 1990s which grew to a position at Mercer in 2007 (through the acquisition of Sirota). Peter currently leads the US Behavioral Health Practice at Mercer which supports organizations in managing and measuring the mental health needs of their employees. Client work involves mental health strategy, EAP management, skill building and prevention, mental health measurement and treatment, substance abuse access and treatment, as well as recovery and return to work. Additionally, Peter supports clients with sustainability efforts for Eastern US and Canada. His clients include many fortune 1000 companies around the world.

Before joining Mercer, Peter was an independent consultant for 15 years which also included a professorship at Ramapo College, Quinnipiac University and New York University. In his early years, Peter held positions at Johns Hopkins Medical Center, Hahnemann University Hospital, and Harvard Medical School/Brockton VA Medical Center as well as a number of other healthcare companies conducting therapy and clinical research.

## Valeria Tivnan, MPH, MED

IMA Financial Group



**Valeria (Val) Tivnan** is the Vice-President of Population Health Strategy and Well-being at IMA Financial Corp. In this role she supports IMA clients in their journey to building a culture of health in the workplace while helping leaders transform employees into knowledgeable healthcare consumers. Val's passion is to advise leaders on tactics to bring lifestyle medicine into workplaces with a goal of improving population health, decreasing healthcare costs and transforming corporate cultures.

Val has 25+ years of experience in the wellness, well-being and lifestyle medicine fields. She is the Chair of the lifestyle medicine in the workplace group from ACLM and has contributed to several committees and published papers at prestigious journals such as the Am. J. Health Promotion and the Am J. of Lifestyle Medicine. Val is also on the board of a lifestyle medicine non-profit organization – PAVING the Path to Wellness and is the Chair of the Worksite Wellness Council of MA.

Val has a master's in education from Boston University and an MPH from UCLA. She is an Adjunct Professor at Merrimack College and has won EBA's prestigious 'Wellness Director of the Year' award in 2017.

## Jen Fisher

The Wellbeing Team



**Jen Fisher** is a global authority on workplace well-being, bestselling author of *Work Better Together*, and Founder and CEO of The Wellbeing Team. As Deloitte US's first Chief Wellbeing Officer, she pioneered a human-centered approach to work that reshaped how organizations think about well-being. Drawing on her personal experiences with burnout and cancer, Jen helps leaders build cultures where people thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally. She is the creator and host of *The WorkWell Podcast*, a TEDx speaker, and a featured voice at global events including *Workhuman*, *SXSW*, and the *Milken Global Conference*. Her work has appeared in *Harvard Business Review*, *Fortune*, and *CNN*, and she serves as the U.S. Brand Ambassador for the *World Wellbeing Movement* and Director of Impact for *Happiness Camp*. Jen believes hope is a strategic imperative and equips leaders to harness it to create workplaces that sustain and uplift people. She lives in Miami with her husband, Albert, and their dog, Fiona.

## Marc R. Watkins, MD, MSPH, FACOEM, FACHE

The Kroger Company



**Dr. Watkins** is a board-certified physician executive and nationally recognized leader in retail health, population health, and employer-focused care innovation. He most recently served as Chief Medical Officer of Kroger Health, where he led clinical strategy, quality, and care delivery across one of the nation's largest retail healthcare platforms, including The Little Clinic.

Dr. Watkins brings deep expertise at the intersection of healthcare, nutrition, and workforce performance, with a focus on advancing "Food as Medicine" and scalable, consumer-centric care models. His work has centered on improving access, reducing total cost of care, and driving measurable outcomes for employers, payers, and communities.

He has led multi-state clinical operations, value-based care initiatives, and innovative employer partnerships addressing chronic disease, maternal health, and preventive care. Dr. Watkins currently serves as a board member and advisor to emerging healthcare and nutrition organizations and is an active voice in advancing strategies that link employee health to organizational performance.