



# 2023 VTAAC Annual Cancer Summit

Thursday, November 9, 2023

9:00 am-2:00 pm

The Essex Resort & Spa | Essex, VT and Virtually via Zoom

## *Accelerating Momentum*

- 9:00 am **Check-In / Exhibitors Open**
- 9:30 am **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
*Hanna Snyder, VTAAC Coalition Coordinator*
- 9:40 am **The Shit Show**  
*Tim Kavanagh, Comedian & Actor*
- 10:15 am **Trends in Mammography Screening in Vermont and Beyond**  
*Brian Sprague, PhD and Sarah Nowak, PhD, UVM Cancer Center*
- 10:40 am **Break / Exhibitors Open**
- 11:00 am **Cancer in Vermont: A Data Perspective**  
*Lauren Ressue, PhD, Data Analyst, VT Dept. of Health*
- 11:25 am **Equity Focused Cancer Prevention and Control in Vermont**  
*Moderator: Nancy Kaplan, MS, NNE-CTR, LCOM, UVM  
kell arbor, Pride Center of Vermont  
Kerry Goulette, PA-C, MPH, Community Health Centers  
Rebecca Hewson-Steller, RN, CN-BN, SVMC  
Suzanne Kelley, MSW, VT Dept. of Health*
- 12:25 pm **Lunch / Exhibitors Open**
- 12:55 pm **Impact Awards (during lunch)**  
*Sharon Mallory, Comprehensive Cancer Control Director, VT Dept. of Health*
- 1:15 pm **Navigating a Cancer Journey**  
*Polly Macpherson, MS*
- 2:00 pm **Closing Remarks**  
*Justin Pentenrieder, You First Program Manager, VT Dept. of Health  
VTAAC Co-Chair*

Dartmouth  
Cancer Center



THE  
University of Vermont  
CANCER CENTER



THE  
University of Vermont  
HEALTH NETWORK

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## Speaker Bios



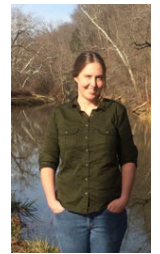
**Tim Kavanagh** is the owner of SAMSON Productions, an entertainment company that has produced numerous variety and comedy improv shows as well as award winning television, film, and stage productions. Tim is in a film 'Sweetwater' that was just released nationwide on April 14<sup>th</sup>. He also played a part in the upcoming Tim Burton film 'Beetlejuice2'. He is also very active with speaking engagements with his one man show that is a self-deprecating look at his own cancer journey called "The Shit Show". Speaking engagements have included local, regional and national appearances. Tim also is co-owner of GameshowsVT, which offers high-energy entertainment with team building game shows to businesses and organizations. Tim has over three decades of experience in hospitality, marketing, relationship management, business engagement, and public speaking with an emphasis on project management and strategic planning. A native Vermonter, Tim enjoys family time with his wife, five children and grandchildren and their rescue dog Adora. More about Tim here: [tkavanagh.com](http://tkavanagh.com) and [imdb.com/me/timkavanagh](https://www.imdb.com/me/timkavanagh).



**Sarah Nowak, PhD** is an Associate Professor at the Larner College of Medicine in the department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and is a member of the UVM Cancer Center. Dr. Nowak studies patient and provider decision making in the context of preventive health decisions, including cancer screening and vaccination. She takes a systems-level approach to her work, incorporating methods from complex systems, behavioral science, and health services research.



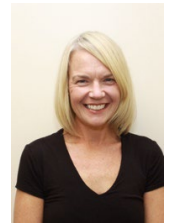
**Brian Sprague, PhD** is a cancer epidemiologist and Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Vermont. His research includes observational studies of breast cancer risk, detection, and survivorship. Dr. Sprague leads the Vermont Breast Cancer Surveillance System (VBCSS), a research program that collects data associated with screening and diagnostic breast imaging at radiology facilities in Vermont. He is Principal Investigator of numerous grants from the National Cancer Institute and co-leads the Cancer Population Sciences research program within the University of Vermont Cancer Center.



**Lauren Ressue, PhD** is a public health analyst in the Division of Health Statistics and Informatics at the Vermont Department of Health. She has worked with both the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and the Asthma Control Program since 2021. She previously worked in the field of refugee resettlement at both the local and national levels.



**Nancy Kaplan, MS** currently works at the Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont. She is a Research Navigator for the Northern New England Clinical & Translational Research Network. Prior to this role, Nancy managed the You First cancer screening program at the State of Vermont Department of Public Health.



**Kerry Goulette, PA-C, MHP** serves as the Director of Quality, Risk & Compliance at the [Community Health Centers](https://www.vtchc.org) (CHC). She graduated from College of Holy Cross and received her Physician Assistant certificate and Master of Health Professions from Northeastern University. Before arrival at CHC in 2006, she worked for Lynn Community Health Center and Boston Medical Center in Massachusetts. Her professional interests include adult medicine and preventive health. She is currently focusing on patients experiencing homelessness.



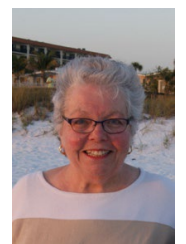
**kell arbor (they/them)** is the director of Health & Wellness Programs at the Pride Center of Vermont. Kell is part of a team that provides wellness referrals through affinity outreach in the 2STQIALGB+ communities. Part of the Pride Center work is training health care providers in best practices and Kell loves checking out intake forms and dialoguing about harm reduction through service interactions. In their spare time, Kell DJs, rides bicycles, reads and is a kitchen top. They can be reached at [kell@pridecentervt.org](mailto:kell@pridecentervt.org)

**Suzanne Kelley, MSW** has worked in the Physical Activity and Nutrition Program at the Vermont Department of Health for over 20 years. She currently manages Vermont's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-E), Healthy Community Design, and Arthritis Programs. Suzanne is dedicated to promoting physical activity, food access, and supporting vibrant, livable communities through programs, policies and systems changes where all people regardless of race, gender, economic status, or ability, can thrive.



**Rebecca Hewson-Steller, BA, RN, CN** is the nurse navigator at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC) Cancer Center in Bennington, VT. Her role includes supporting cancer prevention and screening outreach, education and engagement. Rebecca is a co-chair of VTAAC's colorectal cancer screening task force. Rebecca and co-collaborators from SVMC, the Vermont Department of Health, Dartmouth Health, VTAAC and ACS recently completed a multi-year Colorectal Cancer Screening project which included the purchase of an inflatable colon display for colorectal cancer education. She dreams of sharing that display across VT and maybe even creating a social media account to follow the traveling colon.

**Polly Macpherson, MS** has 40+ years experience in the not-for-profit sector in direct service programming and program administration, most recently specializing in health education and fund raising. After earning a Masters in Education from the University of New York at Oswego, she worked in diverse settings including rural community based mental health clinics in Montana, coordinating expansion of federally sponsored child protective programs in New England, and later working at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine as the Associate Chancellor for Institutional Advancement. After moving to western Mass, her retirement proved to be short-lived as she then took a position at REACH, the North Adams Regional Hospital's Community Health Education Health Promotion Initiative and served as the part time Breast Health Navigator. Serving in various capacities at NARH for more than 7 years in this temporary "post-retirement" second career, at the time of the Hospital's abrupt closure in 2014, Macpherson was Department Manager of REACH, and simultaneously as NARH's Interim Director of Development.





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**Exhibitor List**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>Website</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
802 Quits, VT Department of Health	Dana Bourne	802quits.org	dana.bourne@vermont.gov
American Cancer Society	Amy Deavitt	cancer.org	amy.deavitt@cancer.org
Cancer Patient Support Foundation	Liz Philip-Buttery	cpsfvt.org	lbuttery@cpsfvt.org
Dartmouth Cancer Center	Lisa Purvis	cancer.dartmouth.edu	lisa.a.purvis@dartmouth.edu
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	Melissa Darbandi	lls.org	melissa.darbandi@lls.org
Mahana Magic Foundation	Monica Marshall	mahanamagic.org	monica@mahanamagic.org
Pride Center of Vermont	Kell Arbor	pridecentervt.org	kell@pridecentervt.org
Radon Program, VT Department of Health	Michelle Thompson	healthvermont.gov/environment/ home/radon	michelle.e.thompson@vermont.gov
Sail Beyond Cancer VT	Suzanne Snyder Johnson	sailbeyondcancer.org	info@sailbeyondcancer.org
STORMSTRONG Foundation	Julieta Rushford	stormstrongfoundation.org	holistic.julieta@gmail.com
UVM Cancer Center	Kate Webster	vermontcancer.org	kate.webster@med.uvm.edu
You First, VT Department of Health	Justin Pentenrieder	healthvermont.gov/ wellnes/you-first	justin.pentenrieder@vermont.gov

***VTAAC provides a forum for collaboration, engagement and sharing of resources for individuals and organizations concerned about cancer in Vermont.***



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**Attendee List**

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Kell	Arbor	Pride Center of Vermont	kell@pridecentervt.org
Kristen	Avery	NH-VT Palliative Services, Hand to Heart Project	kristen@handtoheartproject.org
Jessica	Beckstrand	American Childhood Cancer Organization	jbeckstrand@acco.org
Jane	Bensimhon	University of Vermont	jane.bensimhon@uvmhealth.org
Stephanie	Bergen	Vermont Department of Health	stephanie.bergen@vermont.gov
Dana	Bourne	Vermont Department of Health	Dana.Bourne@vermont.gov
Laura	Bowe	Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman	laura@hickokandboardman.com
Amy	Brewer	Northwestern Medical Center	abrewer@nmcinc.org
Adriane	Burke	NH Division of Public Health	adriane.burke@dhhs.nh.gov
Jessica	Coleman	UVMHC/UVM Osher Center	jessica.coleman@uvmhealth.org
Brenna	Corrigan	Veterans Medical Center	brenna.corrigan@va.gov
Melissa	Darbandi	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	melissa.darbandi@lls.org
Ernie	Davis	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	Ernie.Davis@lls.org
Amy	Deavitt	American Cancer Society	amy.deavitt@cancer.org
Gwen	Delgadillo	VDH - You First Program	Gwen.Delgadillo@vermont.gov
Melissa	Doane	Vermont Department of Health/You First	melissa.doane@vermont.gov
Ali	Dubois	Vermont Department of Health	alisa.dubois@vermont.gov
Kara	Dudman	Central Vermont Medical Center	Kara.Dudman@cvmc.org
Matthew	Dugan	UVM Larner College of Medicine	matthew.j.dugan@med.uvm.edu
Eliza	Eager	Vermont Department of Health	eliza.eager@vermont.org
Beverly	Everest	Vermont Dept of Health You First Program	beverly.everest@vermont.gov
Shyla	Foss	Brattleboro Office - VDH	shyla.foss@vermont.gov
Stephanie	Fraser	UVM Cancer Center	stephanie.fraser@uvmhealth.org
Seth	Frietze	University of Vermont	seth.frietze@med.uvm.edu
Rose	Gargano	Enosburg Area SASH	gargano@cathedralsquare.org
Karen	Garrand	Vermont Department of Health	karen.garrand@vermont.gov
Richard	Golden	Advocate	golden516@myfairpoint.net
Kerry	Goulette	Community Health Centers	kgoulette@chcb.org
Pamela	Gratton	Cathedral Square	Pamgratton.pg@gmail.com
Emily	Groebner	Professional Data Analysts (PDA)	egroebner@pdastats.com
Kristie	Grover	Osher Center for Integrative Health at UVM	kristie.grover@uvmhealth.org
Nicole	Hamlet	Vermont Department of Health	Nicole.hamlet@vermont.gov
Alia	Hayes	NH DHHS, DPHS	alia.v.hayes@dhhs.nh.gov
Rebecca	Hewson-Steller	Southwestern Vermont Medical Center	rebecca.hewsonsteller@svhealthcare.org
Lucinda	Hogarty	CT Cancer Partnership	hogartylhccp@gmail.com
Randall	Holcombe	University of Vermont	randall.holcombe@med.uvm.edu
Jennifer	Kachajian	Vermont Cancer Registry	jennifer.kachajian@vermont.gov
Nikhil	Kacker	Genentech	Kacker.nikhil@gene.com
Sue	Kamp	Vermont Department of Health	susan.kamp@vermont.gov
Nancy	Kaplan	University of Vermont	nancy.kaplan@med.uvm.edu
Angelica	Katz	Susan G. Komen	akatz@komen.org
Candy	Kavanagh	Advocate	candy@westondesignvt.com
Tim	Kavanagh	Comedian/Actor and Advocate	Tkavanagh417@gmail.com
Suzanne	Kelley	Vermont Department of Health	suzanne.kelley@vermont.gov



First Name	Last Name	Organization	Email Address
Scott	Langevin	University of Vermont Cancer Center	scott.langevin@med.uvm.edu
Kate	LaVelle	Professional Data Analysts (PDA)	klavelle@pdastats.com
Sarah	Lemnah	American Red Cross	sarah.lemnah@redcross.org
Victoria	Licalzi	Exact Sciences	vlicalzi@exactsciences.com
Nicole	Locke	Vermont Department of Health	nicole.locke@vermont.gov
Polly	Macpherson	Advocate	pollymacpherson@yahoo.com
Katie	Mahuron	Vermont Department of Health	katie.mahuron@vermont.gov
Sharon	Mallory	Vermont Department of Health	Sharon.Mallory@Vermont.gov
Monica	Marshall	Mahana Magic	monica@mahanamagic.org
Jennifer	McGarry	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	Jennifer.mcgarry@lls.org
Robin	Miller	VT Department of Health	robin.n.miller@vermont.gov
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Sarah	Nowak	University of Vermont	sarah.nowak@med.uvm.edu
Stephanie	Papas	Dartmouth Cancer Center	stephanie.papas@dartmouth.edu
Justin	Pentenrieder	VDH - You First Program	justin.pentenrieder@vermont.gov
Liz	Philip-Buttery	Cancer Patient Support Foundation	lbuttery@cpsfvt.org
Lisa	Purvis	Dartmouth Cancer Center	Lisa.A.Purvis@dartmouth.edu
Maija	Reblin	University of Vermont	Maija.reblin@med.uvm.edu
Judy	Rees	Dartmouth Cancer Center	judith.r.rees@dartmouth.edu
Amanda	Reid	Saint Albans Health Center	areid@notchvt.org
Lauren	Ressue	Vermont Department of Health	lauren.ressue@vermont.gov
Sue	Rose	Merck Vaccines	sue.rose@merck.com
Julieta	Rushford	STORMSTRONG Foundation	holistic.julietta@gmail.com
Leigh	Sampson	American Cancer Society	leigh.sampson@cancer.org
Gillian	Shapiro	State of Vermont	gillian.shapiro@vermont.gov
Megan	Simpson	VDH - You First Program	megan.simpson@vermont.gov
Seline	Skoug	Southwestern VT Medical Center/Dartmouth	selineskoug@me.com
Meagan	Snide	State of Vermont - Department of Health	meagan.snide@vermont.gov
Hanna	Snyder	UVM Cancer Center	hanna.snyder@med.uvm.edu
Suzanne	Snyder Johnson	Sail Beyond Cancer VT	suzanne@sailbeyondcancervt.org
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Stacey	Streeter	UVM Medical Center	Stacey.Streeter@uvmhealth.org
Kate	Strotmeyer	UVM Cancer Center	katherine.strotmeyer@med.uvm.edu
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Michelle	Thompson	Vermont Department of Health	michelle.e.thompson@vermont.gov
Terrell	Titus	Sail Beyond Cancer VT	terrelltitus@gmail.com
Carol	Vallett	Komen	carolvallett@gmail.com
Richard	Vitagliano	Relay For Life of Rutland County	vitaglianorichard@gmail.com
Nicole	Waweru	Vermont Department of Health	Nicole.Waweru@vermont.gov
Tonya	Welch	Rutland Regional Medical Center	tlwelch@rrmc.org
Bethany	Yon	VT Dept Health	bethany.yon@vermont.gov
Rachel	Zwynenburg	UVM Cancer Center	Rachel.Zwynenburg@med.uvm.edu