

Sunday, February 23, 2025 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

# Panelists

#### Lisa Breckenridge, Moderator



Lisa Breckenridge is a television newscaster with nearly 40 years of experience. Since 1999 she's been in the Los Angeles television market working first for Fox and now on a daily lifestyle show for NBC that highlights the best of California. In 2017 she pivoted and started working more on her online presence, from her website Happily Lisa to her other social channels. Lisa now focuses on the happier side of life after a lifetime of covering hard news which more often than not focused on the worst or the worst. Lisa is mother to 19-year-old twins and lives in Los Angeles with her two yorkies. She volunteers as much as she can and is adjusting to the new normal of being an empty-nester.

# Nancy Davis, CAN Founder and President



Nancy Davis is an extremely dedicated philanthropist, jewelry, and clothing designer, and author. Most importantly, she is a full-time mother who is devoted to her children. Nancy was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at the age of 33 in 1991. She was determined to devote her time, relationships, and resources to finding a cure and founded Race to Erase MS in 1993 to fund MS research. Nancy's hope, courage, and strength continue to inspire her to maintain a vibrant quality of life despite this chronic disease, but most of all, she remains positive, continues to live her life to the fullest, and is tireless in her efforts to find the cure for MS. In 2018 Nancy founded Cure Addiction Now with her son Jason Davis who had struggled with substance use disorder. Jason tragically passed away in February of 2020. His brother Brandon Davis and sisters, Isabella and Mariella Rickel, have joined Nancy in the foundation's commitment to fund ground-breaking research to find therapies to help stop the vicious cycle of substance use disorder (SUD) and help

people not only detox but stay in permanent recovery. This was Jason's passion and as a family, it has become our personal mission.

# Kelly E. Dunn, Ph.D. MBA, Kahlert Institute for Addiction Medicine Director, University of Maryland, Baltimore



Kelly E. Dunn, Ph.D., MBA is a Professor in Psychiatry and Neurobiology at the University of Maryland and the Director of the Kahlert Institute for Addiction Medicine. Dr. Dunn received her M.S. in Applied Biopsychology from the University of New Orleans (2005), her Ph.D. in Human Behavioral Pharmacology from the University of Vermont (2009), and her MBA from the Johns Hopkins Carey School of Business (2019). Dr. Dunn was a faculty in the Johns Hopkins Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit and helped found the Maryland Opioid Research program from 2009 - 2024 before moving to the University of Maryland to direct the Kahlert Institute for Addiction Medicine. Dr. Dunn's primary interest is in opioid use disorder and she has been continuously funded by the National Institute on

Drug Abuse for the past decade. She is the principal investigator on clinical trials ranging from the genetics of opioid use risk, opioid and cannabis interactions for pain treatment, examining and identifying methods for treating opioid withdrawal, and treatment of pain in persons with opioid use disorder. She also contributes to numerous other projects examining elements of opioid use disorder, including overdose risk and treatment. Dr. Dunn has served in leadership roles in organizations that support research on substance use disorder. She managed conferences for the College on the Problems of Drug Dependence and the American Psychological Association, served as President of the Division on Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse for the APA and the College on the Problems of Drug Dependence, served as Co-Editor of the Journal of Addiction Medicine and Editor for the journal "Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology". She also edited the Oxford Handbook on Opioids and Opioid Use Disorder, available early 2023.

# Andrew A Herring, MD, PI Bridge Center, Public Health Institute



Andrew is an Attending Emergency Physician and Associate Director of Research at Highland Hospital-Alameda Health System in Oakland, as well as Medical Director of the hospital's substance use disorder treatment program and Attending Physician at its interdisciplinary pain medicine program. His current research focuses on emergency department treatment of opioid use disorders and pain management. Andrew is an assistant clinical professor at the University of California, San Francisco. He conducted health policy research as a Fulbright Scholar in Central America. He is board-certified in emergency medicine, addiction medicine, and pain medicine. Andrew graduated from Harvard Medical School and completed residency in emergency medicine at Highland Hospital.

### Megan Holiday, KROQ On Air Personality and Co-Founder of Life Of The Party 501c3



Megan Holiday co-founded her nonprofit organization Life Of The Party with her friend Jed Rhein in 2023. Having experienced f irst-hand loss of loved ones due to overdose, Megan is extremely passionate about the importance of harm reduction education. Megan has been sober since 2016 and wants to do anything possible to help combat the fentanyl crisis. She is an avid music lover and on-air personality at the World Famous KROQ in Los Angeles, Live 105 in San Francisco and Alt947 in Sacramento. Life Of The Party combines both passions by providing naloxone and harm reduction education at live music events and other large social gatherings. Megan believes that overdose is preventable, recovery is possible and there is a judgement free way to help.

#### Adam Kaplin, M.D, Ph.D., Miralogx CSO and CIO, Adjunct Faculty Johns Hopkins



Dr. Adam Kaplin completed his undergraduate training at Yale University and his MD and PhD training at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. His research training experience includes having trained in the labs of two Nobel Laureates and completed his PhD and postdoctoral training in the Lab of Solomon Snyder, MD, who was the 2005 recipient of the National Medal of Science (the highest science honor in the United States). Dr. Kaplin, who maintains his Adjunct Faculty appointment at Johns Hopkins, was the Chief Psychiatric Consultant to the Johns Hopkins Multiple Sclerosis and Transverse Myelitis Centers. Dr. Kaplin investigated the biological basis of the effects of the immune system on mood regulation and cognition, and he provided neuropsychiatric care to patients afflicted with such

comorbidities. His research is focused on understanding the biological basis of depression and dementia and discovering new ways to diagnose prognosticate and treat these diseases. Dr. Kaplin has transitioned to working for Miralogx, a scientific investigation and drug development company that has helped launch three companies—MyMD, Mira, and Telomir Pharmaceuticals.

#### Isabella Rickel, Advocate and Co-Chair of CAN



Isabella Rickel is a student at Southern Methodist University with a passion for advancing healthcare initiatives. As the daughter of Nancy Davis and the granddaughter of Barbara Davis, Isabella carries forward a legacy of philanthropy. She is particularly dedicated to supporting Cure Addiction Now, as she lost her brother, Jason Davis, to this devastating disease in February of 2020. She continues to build upon the inspiring work of her mother while forging her own path in helping to find a cure for addiction.

#### Lisa Vidal, Actress and Advocate



Award winning actress Lisa Vidal is most recognizable for the multi-dimensional roles she's played on television and in film for the past forty years, portraying characters that have reflected the diversity of the Latino community while also building it up. She recently starred in ABC romantic comedy-drama "The Baker and the Beauty." Based on the highly successful Israeli scripted show, Vidal portrayed Mari Garcia, the hilarious and heartwarming matriarch of the family. She will next be seen in a wonderful arc on the hilarious and Emmy nominated series "Ms. Pat" on BET as well as the second season of the Gloria Calderón Kellett series "With Love" for Amazon.

Of Puerto Rican descent, the New York City native began acting in Repertory Theater at age 14. She was cast the following year in the PBS series "Oye Willie," jump-starting a long and varied acting career, which early on included

appearances on the popular television series "The Cosby Show" and "Miami Vice." She also starred in two "ABC After School Special" educational presentations - "Class Act: A Teacher's Story" and "In the Shadow of Love: A Teen AIDS Story." Vidal starred opposite Gabrielle Union on the critically acclaimed BET series "Being Mary Jane," which wrapped in 2019 after its fifth season. For her performance as Kara Lynch, Vidal received an Imagen Foundation Award for 'Best Supporting Actress.' She has also recurred on the Fox Series "Rosewood" and appeared on the Emmy-nominated Showtime series "Shameless," FX's "American Horror Story" and NBC's "Grimm." Her other notable television credits include "Boston Legal," CSI Miami," The Division," "ER," "Third Watch," "Southland," "The Event," "Chicago PD," "New York Undercover," "High Incident" and "The Brian Benben Show."

On the silver screen, Vidal has also starred in various feature films such as J.J. Abrams' acclaimed blockbuster "Star Trek" as well as the television movie "Odd Girl Out," for which she received an Imagen Foundation Award for 'Best Actress.' Her additional film credits include "Night and the City," "I Like It Like That," "Dark Mirror" and "Victor."

In addition to acting, Vidal has a passion for music and enjoys singing and dancing. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband and three kids. A breast cancer survivor, Vidal is a vocal proponent of early detection and has worked alongside the American Cancer Society to help raise awareness.