**Sunday, November 8, 2026**
**Patient Panel Forum**

**Cameo Beverly Hills | Starlight Ballroom**
**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**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.

**Kathryn A. Cunningham, Ph.D., FASPET, University of Texas Medical Branch**



Kathryn A. Cunningham, Ph.D., has catalyzed translational research in substance use disorders (**SUDs**) with a particular emphasis on phenotyping in preclinical and human sciences, biological signaling networks for psychedelics, novel chemical molecules for future SUD therapeutics, and human laboratory and clinical trials. Dr. Cunningham has been continuously funded by NIH for 30 years and has made seminal observations and developed new technologies which are described in 180+ peer-reviewed publications, and 40+ research-related chapters, reviews and/or commentaries [h-index is 66 and i10-value is 177 (Google Scholar)]. Her 50+ mentees have published 100+ publications, captured 50+ grants and crafted successful careers in academia, government, and industry. She holds a Certificate in Business Administration and was selected into the 2024 I4SUD cohort at Johns Hopkins University to foster solutions to the biggest unmet needs in SUDs through innovation and entrepreneurial initiatives. Dr. Cunningham and her team translate this research into our service communities, including the first SUD clinic (Galveston Against the Fentanyl Crisis; **G-SAFE**) for our uninsured and unhoused patients. She founded and created the vision for the Center for Addiction Sciences and Therapeutics (**CAST**), implementing key strategies to expand research and mentoring activities in SUD sciences. Her commitment to community engagement spans over 30 years, and she has been recognized with the Angel Among Us Award for Long-Standing Community Support of Women in Recovery, and the Cruisin' to Recovery Community Award.

**Nancy Davis, CAN Founder and President**



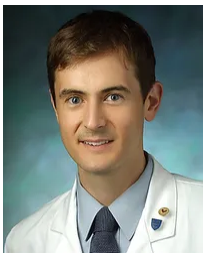
Nancy Davis is an extremely dedicated philanthropist, jewelry, and clothing designer, and author. Most importantly, she is a full-time mother who is devoted to her children. Nancy was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at the age of 33 in 1991. She was determined to devote her time, relationships, and 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.

**Will Garneau, MD, MPH, MHS, Johns Hopkins**



Dr. William Garneau is a native of Durham, North Carolina. He graduated from Yale University with a degree in English and served as a middle school teacher in the Peace Corps in Namibia. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Medicine and earned a Master of Public Health at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. He completed internal medicine residency training at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and is an assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Hospital Medicine.

In 2023 he received a KL2 mentored Career Development award from the National Institutes of Health. He is currently enrolled in the Graduate Training Program in Clinical Investigation at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Garneau's research uses observational data to study health outcomes including novel therapies and emerging illnesses. His prior research includes studies of mpox and COVID-19. He additionally serves as a lead informaticist with the Critical Path Institute's CURE ID project. His clinical responsibilities include providing direct care to hospitalized patients, serving as a medicine consultant to surgical services, and attending on resident teaching teams. In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Garneau is a Barker Firm Faculty member and teaches students in the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine as well as the Osler Medical Residency Training Program.

**W. Bryan Hubbard, CEO, Americans for Ibogaine**



W. Bryan Hubbard is a transformative leader and policy expert with a strong background in law, public service, and community engagement, focused on reforming human systems to drive social progress. His career spans leadership of complex government systems which address disability, substance dependency, generational poverty, healthcare, child support, mental health treatment, and broad-based governmental reform. Bryan worked alongside former Texas Governor Rick Perry to secure Texas' $50 million appropriation for ibogaine development and then partnered with Mr. Joe Rogan to seek, negotiate, and secure Presidential Executive Order 14401 which makes the medicalization of ibogaine and other psychedelics a national priority. He was raised in the Virginia coalfields and is the proud grandson of two grade school-educated U.M.W.A. coal miners on whose shoulders he stands.

**Adam Kaplin, MD, PhD, CEO and Co-Founder of Nousynapse Pharmaceuticals**



Adam Kaplin, MD, PhD, CEO and Co-Founder of Nousynapse Pharmaceuticals

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 worked for Miralogx Pharmaceuticals, a scientific investigation and drug development company, where he helped launch three companies: MyMD, Mira, and Telomir Pharmaceuticals. In 2025 Dr. Kaplin co-founded Nousynapse Pharmaceuticals (formerly Minerve), a startup company focused on developing novel treatments for the cognitive impairment component of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's Disease and Multiple Sclerosis.

**Sarah Kattakuzhy, MD, MPH, FACP, FASAM, University of Maryland School of Medicine Baltimore**



Sarah M. Kattakuzhy, MD, MPH is a Professor of Medicine and Psychiatry at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and Medical Director of the Kahlert Institute for Addiction Medicine. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine, and Co-Director of the Research Initiative in Infectious Disease and Substance Use (RIIS) within the Institute of Human Virology. Dr. Kattakuzhy received her M.D. from Eastern Virginia Medical School and M.P.H. in Epidemiology from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and completed Internal Medicine residency and Chief Residency at George Washington University.

Dr. Kattakuzhy is a physician-scientist with an extensive portfolio of federally funded clinical research focused on developing novel therapeutics and models of care for substance use disorders. She began her research career at the National Institutes of Health conducting clinical trials of direct-acting antiviral therapies for hepatitis C and subsequently established an independent research program at the intersection of addiction medicine, infectious diseases, and implementation science. Her current scientific program focuses increasingly on novel pharmacotherapies for stimulant use disorders, an area with no FDA-approved medications. She is Principal Investigator of STAC, a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial evaluating semaglutide in adults with cocaine use disorder with and without HIV—among the first randomized trials worldwide to evaluate a GLP-1 receptor agonist for stimulant use. She also leads a clinical study of long-acting stimulants for methamphetamine use disorder. Her broader NIH-funded portfolio includes trials of integrated addiction and infectious disease care, peer-delivered behavioral interventions, polysubstance use, and rural addiction treatment. She additionally serves as the University of Maryland site Principal Investigator for the NIDA Clinical Trials Network Appalachian Node.

**Paul J. Kenny, Ph.D., Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**



Dr. Kenny is the Ward-Coleman Professor and Chairman of The Nash Department of Neuroscience and an Interim Director of the Friedman Brain Institute at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Dr. Kennyis also co-founder of Eolas Therapeutics Inc., a company focused on developing novel medications for drug addiction. Dr. Kenny is Deputy Editor of Biological Psychiatry and was a Senior Editor for The Journal of Neuroscience. Dr. Kenny was member of the advisory council for the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Advisory Council on Drug A use. He is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin, where he earned a degree in Biochemistry. Dr. Kenny completed his Ph.D. in neuropharmacology at King's College London. He received postdoctoral training at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA. Prior joining the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Dr. Kenny was on the faculty of The Scripps Research Institute in Jupiter, Florida. Research in Dr. Kenny's laboratory is focused on understanding the molecular neurobiology of drug addiction, obesity and schizophrenia. Dr. Kenny has received numerous awards for his research, including the Daniel H. Efron Research Award from the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP), the Jacob P. Waletzky Memorial Award from the Society for Neuroscience (SfN), Distinguished Investigator Award from NARSAD, and the Tom Connor Distinguished Investigator Award from Neuroscience Ireland.

**Dean McDermott, Actor and Recovery Advocate**



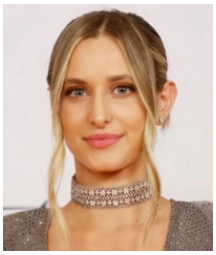
Dean McDermott is a Canadian-American actor, producer, and television personality known for his roles in *Due South*, *Open Range*, and *Chopped Canada*. Beyond his successful entertainment career, Dean has become a passionate advocate for addiction recovery, openly sharing his personal journey to sobriety to inspire others facing similar challenges. Celebrating three years of sobriety in 2026, he currently serves as Director of Operations at Golden State Rehab Treatment Center in Westwood, where he is dedicated to supporting individuals on their path to recovery. Through his professional work and personal advocacy, Dean strives to break the stigma surrounding addiction, encourage those struggling to seek help, and spread a powerful message of hope, healing, and lasting recovery.

**Kurt Rasmussen, Ph.D., Chair of CAN Scientific Advisory Board**



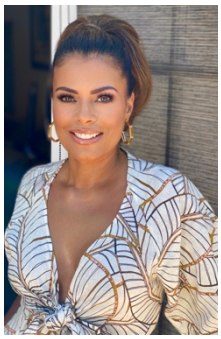
Kurt Rasmussen, Ph.D., is an internationally recognized neuroscientist with expertise in developing novel therapeutics for neuropsychiatric disorders, including substance use disorders. Dr. Rasmussen's career spans over 30 years of highly innovative scientific research in neuroscience pharmaceutical discovery, from hypothesis generation to clinical candidate evaluation. He has served as the Chief Scientific Officer of Delix Therapeutics, a biotech company focused on developing neuroplasticity-promoting therapeutics for multiple neuropsychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders. Previous to Delix, he was the Director of the Division of Therapeutics and Medical Consequences at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), leading their efforts to promote the development of safe and effective pharmacotherapies, behavioral therapies, and devices to treat substance use disorders. Previous to NIDA, he worked as a senior research scientist in the Neuroscience Division of Eli Lilly & Co., leading efforts to discover novel treatments for neuroscience disorders such as depression, schizophrenia, and opiate use disorder. He received his B.A. with honors and distinction from Cornell University, his Ph.D. in neuroscience and psychology from Princeton University, and was a postdoctoral associate in the Department of Psychiatry at the Yale University School of Medicine.

**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 no newcomer to the challenging, multi-layered roles she has so successfully portrayed throughout her career. Most recently, Lisa completed work on the feature film Shelter, starring opposite Jaina Lee Ortiz. Previously, she was a series regular on ABC's The Baker and the Beauty and starred opposite Gabrielle Union in BET's hit series Being Mary Jane. Lisa is also recognized for her roles in popular primetime series including Boston Legal, CSI: Miami, The Division, ER, Third Watch, Southland, and Rosewood. Following Being Mary Jane, she was cast in the lead role of Gloria Calderón Kellett's CBS pilot History of Them.

A New York City native of Puerto Rican descent, Lisa began acting in repertory theater at age 14 and landed her first television role the following year in the PBS series Oye Willie, launching a long and successful career. She went on to appear in Christmas Eve, The Cosby Show, Miami Vice, and New York Undercover, as well as Steven Spielberg's police drama High Incident. Committed to portraying roles that reflect the diversity and strength of the Latino community, Lisa has also appeared in numerous feature films, including Night and the City, I Like It Like That, Dark Mirror, and Victor. Her ability to bring depth, authenticity, and emotion to every role continues to distinguish her as a respected and versatile actress. Lisa currently resides with her family in Los Angeles, California.