



National Pediatric Cardiology *Quality Improvement Collaborative*

NPC-QIC Health Equity Network Wide Improvement Project Leaders

Nelangi Pinto

Seattle Children's Hospital, Cardiologist

Nelangi Pinto has been interested in addressing disparities to healthcare access throughout her career and has specifically looked at racial and geographic disparities in diagnosis and outcomes. While at the University of Utah she worked with her team her team to adapt a Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment model to identify social vulnerabilities currently used by Intermountain in primary pediatric clinics for the fetal and the pediatric cardiology setting. Now in Seattle she is starting to work with their Heart Center EDI group on efforts to increase access to pediatric cardiac outpatient services and to study how embedded SDOH screening has been implemented specifically with regard to awareness and utilization by providers.

Benton Ng

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, Cardiologist

Benton Ng, has led All Children's cardiology center through constant 90 day goals with the aim of improving their overall program. In terms of health disparities, he has reviewed All Children's Interstage outcomes based on race and is in the process of evaluating their STS data based on race. All Children's has also initiated a new screening and intervention for families as an initial attempt to address health disparities.

Laura Watson

Assistant Nurse Manager, St. Louis Children's Hospital

Laura Watson has served on the Heart Center Nursing Leadership team since 2009, first as the Clinical Educator and most recently as an Assistant Nurse Manager. During this time, she has participated in multiple quality improvement projects as part of education and additionally as part of a number of Unit-Based Joint Practice Teams, including the Quality & Safety team. Laura is also trained as a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion facilitator.

Katie Bales

Parent

Katie Bales is a parent of a child with a complex CHD. She has ten years of experience in science research including publications in scientific journals and conferences, grant writing, and conducting research on multidisciplinary teams. Her professional experience includes leading improvement efforts within a non-profit program focused on increasing minority representation in STEM higher education as well as research on educational inequality.