Steven Shoptaw, PhD is a licensed psychologist and Director of the Center for Behavioral and Addiction Medicine at UCLA. He is Professor in the UCLA Departments of Family Medicine and Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences and Vice Chair of Research in Family Medicine. Dr. Shoptaw has a portfolio of work that focuses on the treatment of addiction and HIV prevention in the context of addiction in the Western U.S. where stimulant use is the single strongest predictor of HIV transmission. For over 20 years, he has conducted Phase Iib and IIa randomized clinical trials of medications and behavioral interventions for stimulant dependent individuals. Recently he completed a Phase Iib interaction safety study of ibudilast at relevant doses of methamphetamine and is Co-Investigator on a Phase IIa randomized controlled trial of ibudilast as an outpatient treatment for methamphetamine dependence, 50% of whom are HIV-positive. Dr. Shoptaw is a member of the DAIDS-funded, HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) Executive Committee, and site Principal Investigator for HPTN-073, a feasibility study of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (Truvada) in Black men who have sex with men, a group with 7% incidence in Los Angeles and high rates of stimulant and alcohol use. In late 2013, Dr. Shoptaw was awarded a 5-year cooperative agreement (U01 DA036267) to establish a cohort of minority men who have sex with men to investigate interactions between non-injection use of methamphetamine, cocaine, opiates and binge drinking and transmission and progression of HIV.

Mario J. Pérez, MPH is the Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health. He is responsible for managing the annual investment of more than $100 million in local, state and federal resources that support a comprehensive local HIV and STD service delivery system. Mr. Pérez is a leader on state, local, and national HIV policy issues, serving on the Board of Directors of the National Minority AIDS Council and the Los Angeles County Commission on HIV. Mr. Pérez began providing HIV/AIDS services in 1990. Over the last 20 years, he has testified before Congress, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and the Los Angeles City Council to address a range of HIV/AIDS issues, including the need for scientifically-proven interventions and adequate resources. Mr. Pérez has received recognition for his leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS by then Assemblyman Villaraigosa, State Senator Hilda Solis, the Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, and numerous local organizations. In February 2010, Mario was appointed to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA), and remains passionately committed to ensuring that our Nation has a more responsive HIV/AIDS strategy.

Anish Mahajan, MD is Director of System Planning, Improvement, and Data Analytics for the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (DHS), where he helps lead organizational transformation under the Affordable Care Act and oversees multiple system-wide units including the Office of Planning & Data Analytics, Enterprise Health Information Management Division, and Section 1115 Medicaid Waiver performance improvement initiatives. He is also currently serving as Interim Associate Medical Director for Outpatient Services at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, one of the DHS hospitals. With an annual budget of over $3.5 Billion, Los Angeles County DHS is the country’s 2nd largest public health care system and provides services to over 600,000 individuals each year within its directly operated hospitals and ambulatory care centers. Since October 2013, he has also served as Chair of the
Board of the Los Angeles Network for Enhanced Services (LANES), a 501(c)(3) organization that is establishing a Health Information Exchange for Los Angeles. Anish is a practicing internist and Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research at UCLA. In 2009 and 2010, he served as a White House Fellow in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where he was a special advisor to Director Peter Orszag. At OMB, he worked on health reform, rule development for the HITECH Act, and other health policy strategy and regulation.

Clayton Chau, MD, PhD joined LA Care Health Plan as the Medical Director for Behavioral Health and Care Management Services in October 2013. He is also a Lecturer for the UCLA School of Public Health and an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UC Irvine School of Medicine. Previously he worked for the Orange County Health Care Agency Behavioral Health Services for 13 years providing care to people living with severe persistent mental illness and integrated care for the county’s Public Health HIV clinic. He was also the Director of the Center of Excellence in Education, Training, Research and Advocacy for Reducing Health Disparities. Dr. Chau has conducted training in the areas of health care integration, health care reform, cultural competency, veteran’s health, homelessness and mental health policy. He is featured in the 2013 documentary “A New State of Mind: Ending the Stigma of Mental Illness” narrated by Glenn Close, produced by PBS, the 2013 Emmy Awards winner 60 Seconds PSA and the 2012 Emmy Awards winner Informational/Public Affairs Series “Profiles of Hope” produced by the LA Department of Mental Health. Dr. Chau was named the 2012 Visionary Leader by the National Council for Behavioral Health. In that same year he was also awarded the prestigious Warren Williams, MD Award from the American Psychiatric Association “for his extraordinary contributions to the profession of psychiatry and the care of those with mental illness.”

Martha Tadesse, RN, MSN, MPH, MPA, CCHP is a Critical care Registered Nurse who worked for Kaiser Permanente from 1984 and retired November 30, 2014. While still working at Kaiser, Martha joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s department in 1997 and has worked there full time ever since. Martha received her BSN from California State University, Dominguez Hills in 1996, an MPA from National University in 2005, and her MSN/ MPH from California State University, Long Beach in 2015. To increase communication between community and correctional healthcare providers and increase the coordination of care, the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and the HIV and STD Control Program created a new nursing position: the HIV medical liaison. Martha is currently the HIV Medical Liaison for LASD and DHSP. Her primary duties are to provide medical case management services to HIV-positive clientele, linkages to care between community HIV clinics and LASD Jail Medical Services. These tasks ensure continuity of HIV care as inmates’ cycle between the community and the Los Angeles County Jail. Martha was President of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care California Chapter (ANAC) in 2014 and is the current Vice President of ANAC.