



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
POLICE AT HOUSTON

# Community Partnership Council

## Membership Directory

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**Last modified: July 2024**

# Community Partnership Council



Through the council, we hope to better engage with those we are tasked with protecting. We believe that transparency and partnerships built on trust and shared purpose will be the byproduct of this collaboration.

The University of Texas Police at Houston started the Values Based Policing Initiative as part of UT Police's commitment to continually improve who we are and how we serve the community. The initiative kicked off in the summer of 2020 with a procedural review of existing policies and practices related to the department's hiring, training, and supervision. Since then, several changes and new initiatives have developed. The Community Partnership Council is one such initiative.

**Our goal** is to strengthen the bond between UT Police and the community we serve. This joining of forces provides a space where the community can engage directly with police leadership and give input on ways to improve our services, increase community engagement, and enhance community trust.



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Diana Anderson has over 20 years of work experience. For the past 16 years Anderson has worked at MD Anderson in various roles in employee development, cultural competency, organizational development, and she currently specializes in conflict coaching, mediation, and conflict resolution training. She is an International Ombudsman Association Certified Organizational Ombudsman Practitioner, an International Coaching Federation Certified Coach, and an experienced mediator.



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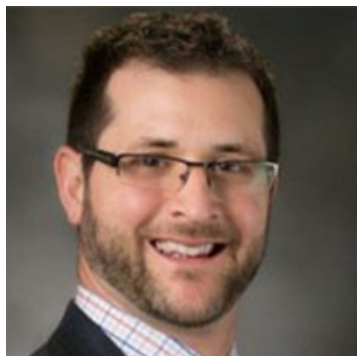
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Bret Belfer has spent his career promoting accessibility to programs aimed at supporting the health and wellbeing of various communities, from health care systems, to corporations, to underserved populations. In 2016, Belfer joined MD Anderson as the director of Wellness and Recognition, where he serves on a team committed to caring for our world-class workforce with regards to professional fulfillment and wellbeing, as well as work-life harmony.



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Ellie Biaghoshi joined UTHealth Houston in 2022 as Risk Mitigation Specialist in the Office of Enterprise Risk Management. Her goal is data collection, analyzing data, and support and manage the risks within the University



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Melissa D. Ethington, PhD, RN, joined Cizik School of Nursing (CSON) in January 2011 as an assistant professor of Nursing – Clinical. In 2018, Ethington served as interim executive director of the Student Affairs Office, before being permanently appointed as executive director of Student Affairs. Ethington continues as an assistant professor in the Department of Undergraduate Studies and as the assistant dean of Admissions and Student Affairs, and Quality Assurance for the nursing school.



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Maureen Lucarelli has been with MD Anderson since 2012. Lucarelli is currently the project director of clinical integration for Ambulatory Operations and works on enterprise-wide change management to improve operational efficiency and patient experience. Prior to coming to MD Anderson, Lucarelli worked for McKesson Corporation as a project manager implementing medication and supply chain solutions.



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Gordon Shen is a faculty member of its Management, Policy, and Community Health Department and an affiliate of the George McMillan Fleming Center of Healthcare Management. Prior to joining the UTHealth School of Public Health in 2019, Dr. Shen was on the faculty at the City University of New York (Brooklyn College, 2015-2016; Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy, 2016-2018). Dr. Shen's research agenda is focused on managerial innovations. This entails a deep understanding of customization, culture, and context. He used mixed methods to examine Muslim health clinics, attacks on humanitarian organizations, deinstitutionalization of mental health care globally, hospital management in China, and kaizen adoption in Ethiopia. He developed organization theory from these empirical studies. Dr. Shen's scholarship has appeared in public health and management journals. Dr. Shen brings industry insights to my research, with experiences gained from previous work for the World Health Organization, World Bank, and the United States Agency for International Development. He holds a PhD in health services and policy analysis (2013, University of California, Berkeley); a SM in epidemiology (2007, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health); and a BS in psychobiology and public health (2005, University of California, Los Angeles). Dr. Shen was a postdoctoral fellow at the Yale School of Public Health in 2014.



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Nicola "Nikki" Smith-Kea considers herself a change agent, with a deep passion for gender equity and equality. Smith-Kea has extensive national experience working with a diverse cross-section of law enforcement agencies helping jurisdictions improve their responses to people in crises. Smith-Kea is a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Montgomery County, Maryland. As a CASA, she is a trained volunteer appointed by the Juvenile Court to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children.



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### *A few notes*

Contact UT Police Community Outreach at (713) 563-7794 or [UTPHOutreach@mdanderson.org](mailto:UTPHOutreach@mdanderson.org) for questions or to submit updates to contact information listed in this directory.

