

JIMI

2026 JOY IN MEDICINE INITIATIVE SYMPOSIUM

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

FORGING NEW PATHS

Leadership, Connection & Innovation to Sustain Joy in Medicine

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026

Thompson Houston | 1717 Allen Parkway, Houston, TX 77019

7:30–8:30 a.m. Check-in | 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Symposium

3:30–4:30 p.m. JIMI Saloon Networking Celebration

Speaker Directory

A quick guide to symposium speakers and facilitators.

Michael J. Allen, MD	•
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Marc Boom, MD, MBA, FACHE	•
Elizabeth Coleman, MD	•
Kayla Gutierrez, NP	•
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Shlomit Schaal, MD, PhD, MHCM	•
Brooke Schweitzer, DMSc, MSPA, PA-C	•
J. Bryan Sexton, PhD	•
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Albert Wu, MD, MPH	•



Michael J. Allen, MD

Family Medicine Physician and Physician Leader

Houston Methodist Primary Care Group

Michael J. Allen, MD, is a board-certified family medicine physician with Houston Methodist Primary Care Group in League City, Texas. He previously worked in academic family medicine, serving as Director of Quality Improvement and Director of the Family Medicine Inpatient Service. His interests include primary care innovation, physician leadership, quality improvement, and designing systems that better support patients and clinicians. His clinical philosophy centers on listening, understanding what matters to the person in front of him, and helping patients make informed decisions about their health. Outside of medicine, Dr. Allen is a husband and father of two, musician and songwriter, home cook, and enthusiastic project starter. He believes physicians are whole people, and that sustaining joy in medicine means protecting the purpose and connection found both within the work and beyond it.



Stacy Auld, D.Min

Vice President, Spiritual Care and Values Integration

Houston Methodist

Rev. Dr. Stacy L. Auld is the vice president of Spiritual Care and Values Integration for Houston Methodist. She has served in numerous chaplaincy and administrative roles for 17 years and now supports spiritual care initiatives for all nine hospitals. Stacy is a board-certified chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains, where she currently serves as an executive member of the board and the Chair of the Commission on Certification. Stacy is also an ordained elder in the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church and serves on the Clergy Leadership Team. Stacy earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and Management from Texas A&M University in 1997, a Master of Divinity from Duke University in 2007, and a Doctor of Ministry at Southern Methodist University in May 2026.



Marc Boom, MD, MBA, FACHE

President and Chief Executive Officer

Houston Methodist

Marc L. Boom, MD, MBA, FACHE is President and CEO of Houston Methodist, a nationally recognized health system with more than 2,850 beds, over 35,000 employees, a world-renowned research institute, seven community hospitals, a continuing care hospital, a large physician organization, and more than 50 graduate medical education programs.

Since becoming president and CEO in 2012, Dr. Boom has led Houston Methodist through significant growth and national recognition, including Houston Methodist Hospital being named a U.S. News & World Report Honor Roll hospital 10 times and the No. 1 hospital in Texas for 15 consecutive years. He earned his bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Austin, his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine, and an MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He completed residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and fellowship training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

A nationally recognized physician executive, Dr. Boom currently serves as Chair of the American Hospital Association. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he became a leading public voice for vaccine advocacy and public health. His contributions have earned numerous honors, including Rice University's 2024 Stephen L. Klineberg Award, Baylor College of Medicine's Distinguished Alumnus Award, and multiple leadership and public service recognitions.

Dr. Julie Boom is a pediatrician at Texas Children's Hospital. Her special interests are in vaccine advocacy and research. Married for more than 30 years, the Booms have three children, Kathryn (30), John (26), and Janie (20). Dr. Boom enjoys traveling, soccer, gardening, and gourmet cooking.



Elizabeth Coleman, MD

Chief Quality Officer

Houston Methodist Physician Organization

As Chief Quality Officer for the Houston Methodist Physician Organization, Dr. Elizabeth Coleman spearheads the system's vision for clinical excellence, patient safety, and high-reliability care through strong physician engagement. She brings over 15 years of clinical experience as a practicing forensic psychiatrist, having recently served as Medical Director of the Forensic Program and Executive Medical Director of Quality at Ontario Shores. She has served as a Board Member of the Canadian Academy of Psychiatry and the Law for the past four years. A recognized physician leader and expert in leveraging electronic health records and real-time data to drive quality improvement, Dr. Coleman has led local, provincial and national implementation of Quality Standards in Mental Health care. She also holds an academic appointment at the University of Toronto. Her leadership seamlessly integrates her deep clinical background with a proven track record of using technology and evidence-based standards to optimize patient outcomes.



Kayla Gutierrez, NP

Director of Advanced Practice

Houston Methodist Physician Organization

Kayla Gutierrez serves as Director of Advanced Practice for the Houston Methodist Physician Organization. In this role, she leads enterprise-wide strategy for the growth, optimization, and professional development of Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Physician Assistants, collectively known as Advanced Practice Providers (APPs). She collaborates closely with APP, physician, executive, and operational leaders to improve access, quality, and performance across multiple specialties and care settings. Kayla holds a Master of Science in Nursing from Duke University and is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration. She holds dual board certifications as an Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Executive Advanced.



Kelly D. Holder, PhD

Clinical Psychologist and Clinician Well-Being Leader

Cancer Network of West Michigan

Kelly D. Holder, PhD, is a clinical health psychologist and Director of Oncology Mental Health and Wellness for the Cancer Network of West Michigan. A speaker and author, her work sits at the intersection of mental health, faith, and joy. She has built well-being programs at leading academic medical institutions, including serving as the inaugural Chief Well-Being Officer for the Division of Biology & Medicine at Brown University and pioneering the Office for Professional Mental Health at Penn State College of Medicine and Hershey Medical Center. Across these roles, she has championed the belief that well-being is shaped not only by individual effort, but by the systems, cultures, and communities we belong to. Dr. Holder is a sought-after speaker on burnout, stress, and well-being for healthcare providers, educators, and faith communities. She is the author of the devotional Playdate With God and hosts the Held with Joy podcast, exploring the psychological, emotional, and spiritual dimensions of joy. She lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan, with her husband and three teenagers.



Tesha Montgomery, MHA, RN, FACHE

Senior Vice President, System Patient Access

Houston Methodist

Tesha Montgomery, RN, MHA, FACHE is Senior Vice President at Houston Methodist, where she leads system patient access across more than 300 hospital and clinic locations and supports a network of over 5,000 affiliated physicians. She oversees access and scheduling operations, referrals, capacity management, analytics, workforce management, quality assurance, and system optimization. As a member of the Houston Methodist Center for Innovation, she advances digital solutions that enhance operational efficiency and the patient experience. Previously, Tesha served as Vice President of the Houston Methodist Physician Organization, overseeing operations for approximately 1,800 clinicians. Prior to Houston Methodist, she was Vice President and Chief Operations Officer for the Memorial Hermann Physician Network and ACO. She began her healthcare leadership career at Mayo Clinic, serving in progressive leadership roles over 11 years. Tesha earned her nursing and health administration degrees from The Ohio State University and is passionate about leadership development, mentoring, and public speaking. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling with her family.



Shlomit Schaal, MD, PhD, MHCM

Executive Vice President and Chief Physician Executive

Houston Methodist

Shlomit Schaal, MD, PhD, MHCM, is a nationally recognized, board-certified physician executive serving as Executive Vice President and Chief Physician Executive of Houston Methodist and President and Chief Executive Officer of the Houston Methodist Physician Organization. She leads physician strategy, alignment, quality, safety, and professional well-being across a nationally ranked academic health system and physician organization. She also holds the Lenny C. Katz Endowed Chair in Health Outcomes and Quality in honor of Stuart M. Dobbs, M.D.

A world-renowned vitreoretinal surgeon-scientist, Dr. Schaal is Professor of Ophthalmology at the Houston Methodist Academic Institute and Weill Cornell Medicine. She has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed publications, holds multiple patents in retinal imaging and artificial intelligence-based diagnostics, and has secured major federal, foundation, and industry funding to advance innovation in patient care. Her honors include the American Academy of Ophthalmology Achievement Award, American Society of Retina Specialists Senior Honor Award, American Medical Association Inspirational Physician Award, and Press Ganey Physician of the Year Award.

Dr. Schaal is widely recognized for advancing safe, high-quality care and developing physician leaders. She leads structured leadership programs, serves on national quality and academic medicine task forces, and teaches at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She also hosts the “Quality Time with Dr. Schaal” podcast and “Women in Surgery” webcast, fostering national conversations on quality, leadership, physician well-being, innovation, and the future of healthcare.



Brooke Schweitzer, DMSc, MSPA, PA-C

Physician Assistant and Health Care Leader

University of Chicago Medicine

Dr. Brooke Schweitzer is an accomplished healthcare leader with expertise in APP leadership and workforce innovation. As the inaugural Chief Advanced Practice Officer at UChicago Medicine, she oversees more than 600 APPs and leads the strategic workforce planning and operations for many teams in both the inpatient and ambulatory settings system wide. Previously, Brooke served as Network Director of Advanced Practice at Ascension Texas, where she led a team of more than 1,200 APPs across 14 hospitals and 200+ care sites. Earlier in her career, she became the first non-physician named Medical Director at MD Anderson Cancer Center, a distinction that reflects her credibility and influence in clinical leadership. She has also served as Interim CEO of a critical access hospital, guiding operations, patient care, and financial performance during a period of transition. Brooke has completed a doctorate and business residency in medicine and healthcare administration, a clinical fellowship in plastic and reconstructive surgery, and remains practicing for a portion of her time as a surgical PA.



J. Bryan Sexton, PhD

Director, Duke Center for Healthcare Safety and Quality

Duke University Health System

Bryan is the Chief Wellness Officer of Duke Health Integrated Practice and Director of the Duke Center for the Advancement of Well-being Science. After 30 years as a psychologist, psychometrician and well-being investigator, he now works with leaders to improve culture and workforce well-being. Bryan and his team have published large studies and randomized controlled trials that caused enduring improvements in well-being. He has authored over 100 peer reviewed publications, and his research instruments and well-being interventions have been translated and used in over 30 countries. A perpetually recovering father of four, he enjoys running, using hand tools on wood, pickleball with friends, and hearing particularly good explanations of extremely complicated topics.



Sapna Singh, MD

Physician Well-Being and Health Care Leader

Texas Children's

Sapna Singh, MD is the Chief Medical Officer and Medical Director for Physician Wellness at Texas Children's Pediatrics. She has worked as a Board Certified Pediatrician for over 20 years, the past 15 with Texas Children's Pediatrics in Sugar Land. She is a passionate advocate for reducing burnout amongst our healthcare teams and ensuring quality health care is available to children in every community. She is also the Past President of the Fort Bend Medical Society and a former Delegate of the Texas Medical Association and works to support legislation that would improve the lives of patients, families, and healthcare workers across the State of Texas. She has worked on Physician Wellness concerns since 2018, earning an award for her capstone project through Harvard Medical School on burnout in Pediatrics. In July of 2026 she also completed certification through Stanford WellMD as a Chief Wellness Officer. She recently assumed the role of Co-Chair of the Texas Children's Physician Organization Wellness Committee overseeing the work across the entire TCH system. Her work earned Texas Children's Pediatrics the Joy In Medicine Bronze Award recognition from the AMA in 2024.



Gregory Wallingford, MD, MBA

Physician and Health Care Leader

The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School

Greg Wallingford, M.D., MBA, serves as assistant dean for professional fulfillment and well-being at Dell Medical School, where he leads strategy and program development for the school's professional fulfillment and well-being initiatives. He also serves as an assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medicine. Wallingford has launched several institutional programs supporting clinician well-being, is a participant in internal and external grant-funded research projects on professional fulfillment and well-being, and he has been invited to present locally, regionally and nationally on these topics. He previously served as course director for multiple undergraduate medical education leadership courses from 2022-2026 and as associate program director for the palliative medicine fellowship at Dell Medical School from 2021-2024. Prior to joining Dell Medical School, Wallingford completed his MBA in health care management at The Wharton School at The University of Pennsylvania, served as a William P. Lauder Leadership Fellow, and worked as a management consultant at McKinsey & Company. He is a proud dad of two children.



Albert Wu, MD, MPH

Professor and Director, Center for Health Services and Outcomes Research

Johns Hopkins University

Albert W. Wu, MD, MPH is Fred and Juliet Soper Professor of Health Policy & Management and Medicine at Johns Hopkins. He directs the Center for Health Services & Outcomes Research; Strategic Collaborations for the Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality; and the online Master of Applied Science in Patient Safety & Healthcare Quality degree program. He is an expert on patient safety and outcomes research. He was Senior Adviser for Patient Safety to WHO in Geneva and is Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management. He has authored over 500 peer-reviewed publications. He coined the term “Second Victim” and is co-founder and co-director of the RISE (Resilience in Stressful Events) peer support program for healthcare workers. Dr. Wu received BA and MD degrees from Cornell University, completed Internal Medicine residency at the Mount Sinai Hospital and UC San Diego and an MPH from UC Berkeley. He maintains a clinical practice in general internal medicine.