



TCI's Extraordinary Women's Advancing Healthcare 2020 Awardee Bios



Raolat M. Abdulai

Physician, Clinical Research Director
Sanofi

Raolat Abdulai, MD, MMSc is a Clinical Research Director at Sanofi. In her role, she serves as the clinical strategic lead on projects with a focus of bringing transformational medicines to patients with severe immune-driven diseases. In addition to her role in drug development, she works to advance the Sanofi digital health initiatives. This includes advancing technology in R&D that transforms the product life cycle for faster and more efficient clinical trials: integrating real world data to identify the right patient population, using analytics to drive new indications, and incorporating wearables and digital tools into clinical trials. In 2019, she was a featured paneled at the first ever MassBio Digital Health Impact conference. Her particular area of interest is building a platform for digital health equity to ensure that the technological evolution of clinical trials leads to improved diversity in research and better health outcomes.

Dr. Abdulai immigrated to the United States at the age of five and grew up in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC. She attended medical school at nearby Howard University College of Medicine. She decided to pursue a career in medicine due to her own experience of growing up uninsured and watching loved ones suffer from untreated medical conditions. She was so impacted by these experiences that, while in medical school, Dr. Abdulai co-founded a free clinic to provide holistic quality care to the uninsured and underinsured local population. In 2009, Dr. Abdulai was featured in O! Oprah Magazine as one of 80

inspirational women entrepreneurs from around the country for the O! Oprah Magazine-White House Project Leadership Conference. She has been invited to the White House for President Obama's Innovative Programs Summit which highlighted impactful social entrepreneurship programs across the country. The New Freedman's Clinic continues to serve patients until today. After medical school, she completed internal medicine training at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN and her Pulmonary and Critical Care fellowship training at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. During her fellowship she earned a Masters of Medical Science in Biomedical Informatics from Harvard Medical School. She is triple board certified and continues to practice by volunteering at a Boston-based community health center where she treats patients with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Dr. Abdulai is a member of the HBA and Women in Bio; and has served on the American Thoracic Society Healthy Equality & Diversity committee. Her passions including increasing access to clinical trials for women and people of color. Her personal project focusing on this area, TrialUp!, was chosen for the Harvard iLab Venture Incubation Program in 2016-17. In her free time, Dr. Abdulai enjoys mentoring young scientists, traveling, cooking for friends, and yoga.



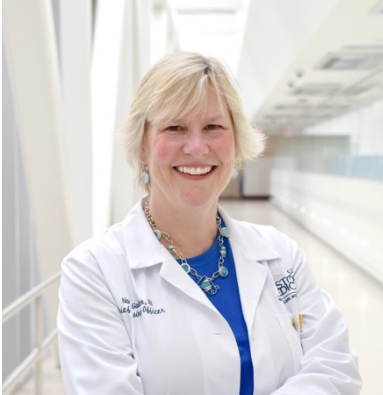
Denise De Las Nueces MD, MPH

Medical Director

Boston Healthcare for the Homeless

Denise De Las Nueces, MD, MPH, is a board-certified internal medicine physician and addiction medicine specialist with a focus on vulnerable populations. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University and subsequently studied at Harvard Medical School, where she received an MD in 2008. She trained at the Brigham and Women's Hospital Internal Medicine Residency Program from 2008 to 2011. Upon completion of residency training, Dr. De Las Nueces was granted a Commonwealth Fund Mongan Fellowship in Minority Health Policy, completing a Master of Public Health degree in Health Policy from the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health in 2012. She joined the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program (BHCHP) in 2012. Dr. De Las Nueces was recognized in 2014 as one of Boston's Top 40 under

40 Leaders by the Boston Business Journal and received a 40 Under 40 Leaders in Health Award in 2018 from the National Minority Quality Forum. She now serves as Medical Director of BHCHP and is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine.



Nancy W. Gaden DNP, RN
Chief Nursing Officer
Boston Medical Center

Nancy Gaden is the Senior Vice President and the Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) at Boston Medical Center (BMC). BMC is a 514-bed academic medical center, which is the largest and busiest provider of trauma and emergency services in New England. BMC is also the largest safety net hospital in New England, and attracts staff, physicians, and leaders who are committed to caring and advocating for the most vulnerable in our communities. Since joining BMC in 2014, Nancy has led planning and execution of the merger of two campuses and subsequent integration of the staff, and has developed creative workforce solutions with the three unions representing her staff.

Nancy joined Boston Medical Center in 2014 after serving as CNO of Hallmark Health system where under her leadership, they received Magnet Designation from the American Nursing Credentialing Center. Prior to her tenure at Hallmark, Nancy held Chief Nursing Officer roles at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, South Shore Hospital and Milton Hospital.

In 2016, Nancy was named to the Becker's "Women Hospital and Health Leaders to Know", was the 2018 recipient of the American Nurses Association's Massachusetts President's Award, and received the 2019 Excellence in Leadership Award from the New England Organization of Nurse Leaders. Nancy has been recognized for her efforts, in partnership with the Massachusetts Hospital Association, to defeat the 2018 state ballot initiative that would have imposed mandated nurse staffing ratios at Massachusetts hospitals.

Nancy teaches finance in the graduate program at Emmanuel College, and received their Clara Barton Service to Humanity Community Nurse Leader Award in 2018. She serves as a board member of the New England

Organization of Nurse Leaders and is a frequent speaker at national nursing and healthcare forums including America's Essential Hospitals, the Becker's National CEO Conference, and the American Organization of Nurse Leaders.

Nancy earned her BS in nursing from the University of Rochester and her MS from Boston College, and received her Doctorate in Nursing Practice from Regis College.



Kathleen Greer
Founder and Chairman
KGA, Inc.

Kathleen Greer is Founder and Chairman of KGA, Inc., an EAP (Employee Assistance and Work Life Program) human resource company that she founded in 1982. EAP programs help employees and family members navigate the healthcare system and make it easier for organizations to create and sustain a healthy, engaged and productive workforce.

Today KGA serves over 200,000 employees from more than 200 organizations of all sizes and from all industries. Her company has become a critical support system for employees dealing with traumatic events such as mass shootings, opioid misuse, and rising suicide rates. KGA also assists with childcare, eldercare, financial and legal challenges that can undermine employees' health and productivity.

Kathy has made it her personal mission and a KGA imperative to put a spotlight on mental illness and its wide-ranging impact on overall health. Mental illness does not discriminate and although it has become more visible than in the past, the stigma remains high. KGA is also committed to reducing the impact of the opioid epidemic. Kathy and her team have taken the lead in helping managers recognize behavioral problems and intervene early. An early referral to the EAP may prevent issues from festering or may even save a life.

While many organizations are re-imagining mental health care and counseling primarily through the use of technology, KGA has found a way to integrate proven counseling techniques with modern-day technology, never forgetting that the pivotal "moment of outreach" is the first

step in someone's recovery. Kathy holds firm to the belief that technology can help, but emotional wellbeing still requires a personal touch.

To gain a leadership foothold she realized early on the importance of getting the word out and creating visibility for the mental health issues. She became active in industry associations and on human resource committees and continues to speak on corporate panels that addressed stress, anxiety and depression. She is quoted widely in the media, writes op eds and has become a popular panelist on topics such as cannabis/opioid abuse, mindfulness, harassment, eldercare in the workplace and suicide prevention. She created one of the first blogs in the nation focused on training managers on how to identify and address these mental health concerns and later published a book on the topic.

Kathy earned her B.S. in Management from Babson College, and a M.Ed. in Counseling from Northeastern University. She led the original "Babson Women in Business" and was recently honored at Babson's Centennial Celebration as one of Babson's 100 "Pioneering Women." She mentors undergraduate women scholars and was awarded the Cruickshank Award, one of Babson highest volunteer honors.

She served two terms on Babson's Board of Trustees and is holds a board position for the National Behavioral Consortium. She is a Managing Director of Goldseeds, an angel investing group that focuses on supporting female founders. She also volunteers at the Framingham women's prison where she mentors inmates who are working on their college education.



Hiyam M. Nadel MBA, RN, CCG

*Director, Center of Innovations in Care Delivery
Massachusetts General Hospital*

Hiyam M. Nadel MBA, RN is the Director of the Center for Innovations in Care Delivery at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). In this role, she is both a mentor and "incubator" of ideas for front-line care-givers conceiving an idea, to prototyping and beyond. She is currently an inaugural Johnson and Johnson Innovation Fellow.

Prior to accepting this position, Hiyam played an essential role in re-opening the MGH Obstetrics Department after a 40-year hiatus. Along with the re-opening of the Obstetrics division, came the opportunity to implement a different nurse-care model and a Medical Home for Obstetrics. In addition, she has been instrumental in designing IT programs such as the “Ambulatory Patient Tracking System” and co-authored the design of the OB EMR, an electronic medical record, subsequently sold to Hewitt Packard.

She is a dedicated leader with a passion for mentoring students and nurses in developing their healthcare ideas. Her extensive knowledge and expertise have also led to seats as both a Mentor and Judge on the MassChallenge panel created by the Governor of Massachusetts. She remains fully committed to her belief that Hackathon’s provide innovative grounds for new ideas with involvement in the Northeastern University Nursing Hackathons, IBM Watson Healthcare Hacks and Ruderman Foundation Disability Hackathons.

Most recently, Hiyam has been asked by Johnson and Johnson to judge for their Johnson & Johnson Nurses Innovate QuickFire Challenge. In this role, Hiyam provides feedback to nurses around their ideas with the goal of improving care and changing human health. She was selected as Innovation Learning Network Changemaker, a distinction recognizing leaders who are trying to bring impactful change to their organization and an inaugural nurse advisory board member to the World Healthcare Congress.

She earned a nursing degree from Northeastern University, clinical genetics certificate from Brandeis University and an MBA from Babson College with a focus on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. She is a founding member of Society of Nurse Scientists, Innovators, Entrepreneurs and Leaders (SONSIE).



Christina Roth
CEO & Founder
The College Diabetes Network

Christina is the Chief Executive Officer and Founder of CDN. Diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age 14, Christina became an active patient advocate while in college where she started CDN as a campus group in 2009. Due to the overwhelming response to the initial group, Christina expanded CDN into a national non-profit organization serving young adults with diabetes. After graduation, Christina worked at the Joslin Diabetes Center and consulted for the T1D Exchange. As CEO of CDN, Christina frequently speaks on topics such as CDN's programs, research on the young adult population and how to meet their unique needs, non-profit management, women in business, innovation, and start-up organizations. She also serves on the board of directors at the Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition (DPAC).



Liang Schweizer
President and CEO
HiFiBio Therapeutics

Liang Schweizer is the co-founder, President and CEO of HiFiBio Therapeutics, an emerging multinational biotherapeutics company. Previously, she co-founded Harbour Biomed and served as its CSO, successfully transforming a technology platform company to an antibody drug discovery enterprise. Before launching her entrepreneurial career, Liang served as Head of Asian Cancer Research at Sanofi, advancing Sanofi's Asia-Pacific oncology pipeline as well as contributing to global oncology programs from preclinical to clinical efforts. Prior to Sanofi, Liang Schweizer was a director at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, heading a group of scientists at Leads Discovery and Optimization (LDO), overseeing 60+ in vitro pharmacology projects across different therapeutic areas. Under her leadership, the team made significant contributions to 4 marketed drugs and impacted over 20 clinical candidates. She is also a co-inventor of multiple Immunoncology (IO) clinical candidates. Before joining LDO, Liang was a senior research investigator in oncology drug discovery at BMS, leading several cancer drug discovery programs, as well as contributing to multiple exploratory and full-phase oncology programs.

Liang Schweizer graduated from the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) majoring in Biology. She received her Master's degree in Microbial Engineering at the University of Minnesota with minor in Chemical Engineering. Liang earned her Ph.D in Molecular Biology from the University in Zurich, Switzerland. Her postdoctoral training was with Dr. Harold Varmus, a Nobel Laureate, at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), New York.



Azita Sharif

Chief Executive Officer

DSI- Precision Medicine Biobanking

Azita Sharif is a Biotechnology entrepreneur with strong cross-functional: engineering and medicine, for profit and non-profit, start up and public company experience. She summarizes her goal as: To positively impact human and public health using engineering with focus on analytical preventive medicine.

She is the Founder and CEO of DSI, the Precision Medicine technology firm, and BINDS, a technology platform for discovery science, both headquartered in Cambridge, MA. She is also the Founder of Count Me In!, a non-profit organization which democratizes clinical trials access.

Azita started her career as a Research & Development Engineer, and later as a Product Manager within Fortune 100. From Engineering, she made the transition to high technology and life science investment and was selected as a Kauffman Fellow, the flagship fellowship of venture capital industry. She served her fellowship at Advent International Global Private Equity in Boston. Since then, she has been involved with many startups and investment management programs in both the US and Argentina.

For ten annual rounds, she served as a judge in the Annual International Moot Corp Business Plan competition held at The University of Texas at Austin, MIT and Harvard Business School Business Plan Competitions. She has also served as a Director of the Executive Board of the Women's Leadership Initiative at the JFK School of Government at Harvard, and as a Director of External Advisory Board of the Biotechnology Department at The University of Texas. She is an elected member of Springboard Enterprises, an

organization dedicated to building high-growth technology-oriented companies led by women. She served on the PMD (People Make a Difference) non-profit board, and been a panelist and contributor in conferences often; some examples are: CanceRX (an MIT led cancer cure focused consortium and conference), the entrepreneurial panel in Morocco (on behalf of US State Department), Boston University entrepreneurial panel, Harvard Business School speed-mentoring program, Science and Bio- Tech Innovation at Harvard iLab. She is currently a mentor for the German Accelerator Life Sciences and a board member of DeltaQuest, a Healthcare Foundation. Azita has published many papers and abstracts, won international and national rankings for poster and speaking presentations, been a guest speaker and presenter at industry conferences. Azita is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin Graduate School of Engineering, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Harvard Business School, and Harvard Medical School Executive Program. She recently completed the clinical immersion and healthcare ecosystem program at Harvard Medical School. Azita Sharif is also a Cybersecurity Congressional European Parliamentary Initiative Fellow with the Bertelsmann Foundation. In 2019, The University of Texas Mechanical Engineering Department inducted Azita Sharif in The Academy of Distinguished Mechanical Engineering Alumni as a way of recognizing her distinguished professional achievement, and community service.



Lesley Solomon

SVP, Chief Innovation Officer
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Lesley Solomon became Dana-Farber’s senior vice president and chief innovation officer in 2017. She has served as the founding executive director of Brigham and Women’s Hospital’s Innovation Hub, and as director of strategy and innovation in the Brigham Research Institute.

Lesley leads a team focused on commercializing Dana-Farber’s science and technology and working with industry, academic and investment partners to accelerate the pace of getting that work to patients. She thrives on developing innovative models for partnerships to sustain the Institute’s research funding and is creating new ways to expand the reach of Dana-Farber’s clinical care.

Ms. Solomon has more than 25 years of experience as an executive working in business development, strategy, and marketing at startups, early-stage, and large companies such as the Food Network, Barnes & Noble.com, and Yoga Works. She received her MBA from Harvard Business School and has a BA in English from Cornell University. She is a co-founder of the Food Allergy Science Initiative at The Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, which brings together experts across disciplines to unlock the biology of food allergy and change the field to develop new treatments and more.



Dr. Pata Suyemoto

Co-chair

Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention Alliance for Equity

Dr. Pata Suyemoto is a feminist scholar, writer, educator, diversity trainer, mental health activist, jewelry designer, and avid bicyclist. She earned her PhD. from the University of Pennsylvania and did her research on anti-racist education and issues of race and racism. She is the co-chair for the Greater Boston Regional Suicide Prevention Coalition and the chair of the Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention (MCSP) Alliance for Equity's People of Color Caucus. Pata is one of the authors of *Widening the Lens: Exploring the Role of Social Justice in Suicide Prevention - A Racial Equity Toolkit*. She has spoken and written about her struggles with depression and is a co-founder of The Breaking Silences Project www.thebreakingsilencesproject.com, which is an artistic endeavor that educates about the high rates of depression and suicide among Asian American young women. She is also a long-time volunteer for Asian Women for Health and is a trainer and wellness coach for the Achieving Whole Health program. Pata is also member of a number of boards and committees including the MCSP, the Executive Committee, the planning committee for the annual Asian American Mental Health Forum, and the Department of Public Health's Suicide Prevention Community Advisory Board. Her claim to fame is that she rode her bicycle across the country in the summer of 2012.