

Empire State Opioid Epidemic Innovation Challenge

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Columbia University Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science



Charles Neighbors, Ph. D., MBA is Director of Health Services Research at Center on Addiction. He and his team work collaboratively with state and local governments on system reform efforts that address care for individuals impacted by substance use disorders. He received his PhD (1999) in clinical psychology from Rutgers University and an MBA (1986) from Indiana University. Prior to becoming a psychologist, he worked for seven years as a financial analyst in a Fortune 50 company. In 2007, he completed a career

development award (K07) from the National Cancer Institute that allowed him an opportunity to train in epidemiological methods for assessing risk at population levels, econometric methods for analyzing cost data, and decision analytical modeling. His work draws from methods across diverse fields to study, develop tools, and provide guidance on strategies for system change. His most recent work focuses on Medicaid-led healthcare reform efforts in New York. He leads a Managed Care Technical Assistance Center to provide guidance on Medicaid reform to providers of addictions treatment. He is also applying econometric methods to study Medicaid claims and other administrative data to document the impact of program change on quality of care and costs.