

## Speaker Biographies

### Sarah Ketchen-Lipson



Sarah Ketchen Lipson (*she/her*) is an associate professor in the Department of Health Law Policy and Management at the Boston University School of Public Health. Her research, originally inspired by her years working in residence life, focuses on understanding and addressing mental health and inequalities therein within higher education.

Lipson is Principal Investigator of the Healthy Minds Network; this includes the Network's national Healthy Minds Study, an annual mental health survey conducted at hundreds of colleges and universities each year.

### Grace Moore



Grace Moore is a senior at Brown University, studying Education and Sociology. She is passionate about improving access to and success in higher education. She's from Indianapolis, Indiana and is a former NEBHE Policy and Research Intern.

### Charles Morse



Charlie Morse is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor who has worked in the Counseling Center at Worcester Polytechnic Institute for 32 years, and was its former director for 16 years. His current position at WPI is Dean of Student Wellness, overseeing Directors of Health, Counseling, and Well-Being, and focusing on the integration of overall healthcare to reflect a holistic emphasis on well-being and to develop and support campuswide approaches to elevating health and well-being within the campus community.

Morse's areas of interest include campus community mental health education and suicide prevention, Acceptance & Commitment Theory based clinical and community development approaches, and team cohesiveness and development strategies. He has served in leadership positions in national and regional organizations focusing on college mental health and has published several peer reviewed articles and book chapters pertaining to various aspects of college student mental health.

## Zainab Okolo



Zainab Okolo is a seasoned expert in higher education policy and mental health, dedicating her career to breaking down barriers for students, enabling them to thrive academically and lead fulfilling lives.

Currently serving as the Senior Vice President of Policy, Advocacy, and Government Relations at The Jed Foundation, Okolo leverages her extensive experience to strengthen the organization's national and state-level presence. She collaborates with external networks to advocate for increased federal, state, and local support for a comprehensive approach to mental health and suicide prevention.

As a trauma-informed, licensed mental health clinician, Okolo has provided crucial support to individuals, families, and institutions, emphasizing strategies to overcome stress and anxiety. With over a decade of professional experience in higher education research and student services, she remains a staunch advocate for increased and equitable access to high-quality mental health services for all youth.

She holds a doctorate in education from The George Washington University, a master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Syracuse University, and a bachelor's degree in Family Science from the University of Maryland, College Park. A native of Washington, D.C., her work continues to contribute to advancing inclusive and accessible mental health policy and practices.