

HERE. IS. BETTER. Screening and Panel Q&A
Saturday, September 13th 2025 11am-3pm
Doors Open, Lunch Provided at 11:00am
Movie Begins at 11:30pm
Panel Q&A at 1:00pm
Pacific University

Panel and Moderator Bios:



Professor Alyson Burns-Glover (Ph.D. Psychology, University of California Davis, Social and Personality; M.A., Social and Personality Psychology, University of California, Davis; B.A. Psychology, CSU) conducts research and community work in the areas of social identity, culture, gender, and intergroup relations. Her focus has been on the lives of Native Hawaiians, local Hawaiians, and Hispanics of the USA.

Her research with Native Hawaiian and Hawaii local students has addressed cultural adjustment, parenting beliefs, and collectivist models of academic achievement.

doctorboo@pacificu.edu



Ashley Taylor is a Community Engagement and Partnerships Coordinator with Portland VA's Suicide Prevention Team. She implements community-based interventions for suicide prevention in rural, tribal, and metropolitan areas. Before joining VA in 2023, Ashley worked in the non-profit sector for ten years specifically focusing on increasing access to mental health services for Veterans and their families. She has a passion for training community partners on facts surrounding Veteran services as well as Veteran suicide and suicide prevention. Ashley holds a Master of Science degree in General Studies in Human Behavior and a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Sciences with a minor in Criminal Justice. She is a certified instructor for peer support and suicide prevention trainings. Ashley is an Army Veteran with two Iraq deployments and lived experience accessing mental health care through VA after transitioning out of the military. Ashley is an active member with the VFW and the American Legion. She currently resides in Columbia County, Oregon with her husband who is an Army Veteran and their son. Ashley.taylor18@va.gov

Travis Gardner is a dedicated Veteran and advocate with a deep commitment to serving those who have served. He spent five years as a Fleet Marine Force Navy Corpsman, deploying with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines to Japan and South Korea. Following his military service, Travis pursued higher education and earned a bachelor's degree in theology and biblical studies. With more than 11 years of federal service, Travis now works as a Transition Patient Advocate at the VA Portland Health Care System. In this role, he helps Post-9/11 Veterans navigate the transition from military to civilian life, connecting them with critical resources and support through the M2VA Program. Beyond his



professional life, Travis finds joy in spending time with his wife of seven years and their two English Cream Retrievers. He enjoys shooting sports, video games, and the simple moments of quality time with family. His journey reflects his ongoing dedication to service, faith, and community. travis.gardner@va.gov



Jennifer Keeling is the Director of Recruiting and Retention at Returning Veterans Project (RVP). Jennifer joined RVP in January of 2023 after 20 years of supporting military families, first as a military spouse and then as a military survivor. Before joining the RVP team she spent nine years dedicating her career to serving and supporting military families who'd lost a loved one, specifically to suicide. Jennifer's professional background includes a passion and a desire to reduce military suicide. She is accredited as a Psychology Autopsy Investigator, holds several suicide prevention program certificates and has extensive training in peer grief and trauma support. jennifer@returningveterans.org

Shannon Marble, B.S. has worked in the mental health field in Oregon for over 8 years. Throughout their career, Shannon has served in positions ranging from providing direct crisis intervention and peer support, coordinating a volunteer program for a national suicide crisis line, to managing a federally funded, statewide grant project for transition-age youth with serious mental health conditions. Shannon is honored to serve as Washington County's Suicide Prevention Coordinator and Postvention Response Lead. In this role, she oversees the county's suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention efforts, including program coordination, system-level intervention, and community response. Her work focuses on the development, implementation, and evaluation of policies, programs, and systems that strengthen suicide prevention infrastructure throughout Washington County. Outside of work, she enjoys collecting new hobbies and spending time with friends and family. Shannon_Marble@washingtoncountyor.gov



Amy Almond-Schmid (Moderator) RVP Executive Director joined the RVP team in the fall of 2022 with 23+ years of service in the US Air Force, Air Force Reserves and Air National Guard. Her career has been dedicated to serving the needs of military personnel and their families. She's currently assigned as the Senior Enlisted Leader at the 142d Medical Group, in Portland, Oregon. Amy has a passion for wellness and holds several certifications relating to the betterment of the human domain. In 2023 Amy earned her Nonprofit Management Certificate through OSU. amy@returningveterans.org