

Charles Hawthorne works with the Harm Reduction Coalition as a Capacity Building Coordinator. His role includes providing training, technical assistance, and educational materials to organizations in San Francisco and throughout the Bay Area that provide services for people who use drugs, people living with HIV/AIDS, people experiencing homelessness, and LGBTQ+ communities. Prior to joining the Harm Reduction Coalition, Charles worked at HIPS in Washington D.C. as a policy and direct service intern. Charles is a graduate of Purdue University, where he majored in biochemistry and worked to deliver public health and diversity training to students, staff, and faculty.



Frances Fu joined Harm Reduction Coalition in 2019 as the DOPE Project Training and Data Coordinator. In her role, she trains service providers in San Francisco who serve people who use drugs on overdose prevention and education. Prior to joining the DOPE Project, she worked in San Francisco Chinatown at a movement building organization that organizes, educates, and empowers working-class Chinese immigrant families for economic and social justice. She is a co-founder of the Asian American Drug War Healing Circle, along with Rhana Hashemi, which heals drug war trauma in Asian communities through storytelling, leadership development, and political education. She is the founder and alumni of the Northwestern University chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, as well as a former board member and staff member with Students for Sensible Drug Policy, where she coached 45 chapter leaders on policy change, training and education, and chapter building. She received a BS in Social Policy from Northwestern University, and is currently studying to be a Nutrition Coach at Bauman College and will graduate in June 2020.



Tanagra M. Melgarejo has over 20 years of experience in the fields of organizational and program development, evaluation, technical assistance, community organizing, and direct service with vulnerable communities, particularly communities of color. Currently, she holds the Capacity Building Manager West position at Harm Reduction Coalition.



Her commitment and passion for harm reduction started out in Holyoke, Massachusetts in the 1990's while she worked as Popular Education Coordinator for a local HIV prevention program. Before moving to Oakland, she was working in Puerto Rico with women who are survivors of gender based violence, focusing her work and activism around economic/human rights of women and LGBTQI persons. Tanagra holds an MSW from the University of Puerto Rico and was a lecturer for social work students at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras campus and the University of Turabo in Gurabo.

Andy Gonzalez, is a transgender non-conforming Latinx, member of the Harm Reduction Coalition team. Andy supports on expanding the Harm Reduction Coalition work in Southern California as the Community mobilization Coordinator. Andy supports syringe service programs, advocacy, capacity building, training services, and community development. Andy was born in Santa Cruz county, raised in South Central and Mexico by their mother.



She migrated from Guadalajara. Through lived experience, Andy grew up lacking resources in their community. This affected the safety and mental health of Andy's family, friends and themselves. So, Andy developed a passion to fight against the oppression that impacts their community. Andy also began organizing around wellness and prevention work. Andy has been doing community organizing for 13 years with different collectives and organizations. their experience of organizing has been fighting against the criminalization and mass incarceration of the LGBTQ community, undocumented community, the youth of color and people of color. Andy worked in building relationships with mental health providers. This attracted resources to underserved communities in Los Angeles. Andy supported the work on mobilizing resources for queer/trans folks who were arriving in Tijuana in their migration journey to the US. Andy also supported the healing of communities of color and system impacted folks. Through the principles of transformative justice work. This meant also providing trauma-informed training to different organizations and community members in Southern California. Andy is also an artist, videographer and photographer.