

Mohamed Chaouki, Field Return to Work Coordinator, Capital Workforce Partners



Mohamed Chaouki is a New Business Account Lead for Capital Workforce Partners, the workforce development board in the North Central Region. He has been a program specialist and business services consultant in the workforce development field for more than 10 years. In this time he has worked with hundreds of Connecticut businesses to help them find qualified and motivated talent, resolve workforce training challenges, and connect to public and private resources that help businesses grow and thrive. Mohamed's role in RETAIN CT is working in partnership with the Disability Resource Coordinator to form the RETAIN Field RTW Coordinator Team to assist workers and employers, providing more intensive employer outreach and return-to-work planning efforts. mchaouki@capitalworkforce.org

Michael Erdil, Medical Advisor and Advisor, UConn Health



Michael Erdil, MD, FACOEM, is a board certified occupational medicine physician and Assistant Clinical Professor at UConn Health who has provided patient care and consulting services in Connecticut for more than 30 years. Dr. Erdil has developed safety programs (including co-authoring the Health Effects Section of the Preamble to the Proposed OSHA Ergonomics Rule in the late 1990s), low back pain and other musculoskeletal evidence based treatment guidelines (AHCPR, ACOEM, ODG, UpToDate, DynaMed Plus), State-wide surveillance and quality assurance projects in occupational health. He has lectured widely (including ACOEM / AOHC, NEOEM, Harvard School of Public Health OM Grand Rounds and Ergonomics and Human Factors Conferences, UConn Health, CT Dept. of Public Health Opioid Crisis and Connecticut Workforce Symposium) about the importance of evidence based conservative care and reassurance including improving work ability in the early management of acute work-related and non-work low back pain and musculoskeletal disorders. Dr. Erdil has special interests in patient education and shared decision-making (including co-presentations with the Choosing Wisely Campaign) and the need to engage patients about individual and workplace factors that may be key in early management and RTW (including contribution to the AMA Physician's Guide to Return to Work, 1st ed). Dr. Erdil received the 2016 Harriett Hardy Award from the New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine for his contributions to the field of occupational medicine. He is involved in all phases of training development and implementation including serving as physician educator and medical advisor to RETAIN-CT providers who request additional support and direction during the study. erdil@uchc.edu

Brittany Gaines, Project Training Manager, UConn Health



Brittany Gaines is a PhD candidate in gerontology from the University of Massachusetts Boston and a member of the research team at UConn Health in the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. Her primary research interests include the occupational and health safety needs of the aging US workforce, especially as it relates to returning and/or staying at work. She is also interested in the role of geography and work culture on individual work and disability outcomes. Her previous work focused on age-related determinants of work and disability, geographic variance in length of disability, and the impact of disability and pain on work-related outcomes. Brittany serves as the Project Training Manager on the RETAIN CT project and assists in the development and delivery of educational materials and presentations. bgaines@uchc.edu

Alicia J. Heine, Telephonic Return-to-Work Coordinator, The Hartford



Alicia J. Heine is a nationally Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), Certified Case Manager (CCM), Certified Disability Management Specialist (CDMS), and a Certified Ergonomic Assessment Specialist (CEAS). In her current role, she works directly with employers in identifying opportunities to manage lost time costs. She then helps to develop and implement specific programs to assist including Return to Work Programs, ergonomic interventions, recommendations surrounding the aging workforce, stretching programs and stay at work interventions. She also consults with employers to assist them with their responsibilities under the Americans with

Disabilities Act including review of policies, training, assistance with identifying workplace accommodations, undue hardship, direct threat and facilitating the interactive process with the employee. Alicia has an extensive background in Vocational Rehabilitation working in the disability and workers compensation area in roles such as National Director of Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Alicia serves as one of RETAIN CT's telephonic return-to-work coordinators. alicia.heine@thehartford.com

Jill Larmett, Field Return to Work Coordinator, Capital Workforce Partners



Jill Larmett has been Connecticut's North Central Region Disability Resource Coordinator (DRC) since 2009. Jill is a Certified Workforce Development Professional, holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Services and is a Certified Work Incentive Practitioner. She serves as a guide to Capital Workforce Partners (Workforce Development Board), American Job Center (AJC), and Partner staff in helping them navigate the system of services that assist individuals with disabilities. She's an effective liaison within the disability community and has created a disability-friendly infrastructure in the North Central AJC's. Jill has acquired the knowledge of resources needed to address barriers to work and how best to leverage them. She works diligently in promoting real and lasting systems change and has been real force in

building linkages with CT's Human Service and Employment Agencies. Jill serves as one of RETAIN's field RTW Coordinators. jlarmett@capitalworkforce.org

Kathy Marioni, Executive Director, Connecticut Department of Labor



Kathy Marioni is the Executive Director of the Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Workforce Competitiveness (OWC) with over 25 years of professional experience in workforce development and along with the Labor Commissioner, advises the Governor on workforce development policy. Ms. Marioni and the OWC team serve as staff to the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (the State Workforce Development Board), and works to coordinate and align resources, employment and training programs, and curricula to meet projected industry and job growth needs. In addition, OWC leads the state's efforts to implement the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) on behalf of the Governor. Ms. Marioni leads the Executive Leadership Team in the implementation of the RETAIN CT project. kathleen.marioni@ct.gov

George W. Moore, Medical Educator and Advisor, UConn Health



George W. Moore, MD, MSc, FACOEM, is the Clinical Director of the UConn Health Occupational Health Clinic; Dr. Moore completed residency training in General Preventive Medicine at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. He is board certified in Occupational Medicine and has extensive clinical and administrative experience related to work injuries, health care administration, Workers' Compensation, and work-related musculoskeletal disorders. Dr. Moore oversees the clinician training and advising services through the RETAIN CT Training and Consultation Center at UConn Health. gemoore@uchc.edu

Sara Namazi, Project Data Manager, UConn Health



Sara Namazi is a PhD candidate in public health and a graduate assistant at UConn Health in the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. She also has a graduate certificate in occupational health psychology. Her primary research interests include occupational health psychology and using community-based participatory research techniques to address occupational health disparities. Additionally, she is interested in the adverse effects of work-family conflict, extended and irregular work hours, and trauma exposure at work on workers' mental and physical health. Her previous work focused on the development, implementation, and evaluation of an indoor air quality intervention for correctional employees, as well as a healthy sleep intervention program for correctional supervisors in Connecticut Department of Correction. She also serves as a co-facilitator of a Design Team of correctional supervisor union members in Connecticut, whose goal is to improve the health and working conditions of the correctional supervisor population in Connecticut through community-based participatory action research techniques. Sara serves as the Data Manager on the RETAIN CT project and assists in data management, collection and program evaluation. namazi@uchc.edu

Karen Quesnel, Project Manager, CT Department of Labor



Karen Quesnel is an Operations Coordinator in the Office of Workforce Competitiveness at the CT Department of Labor. She has substantial experience in federal and state grant management, program development, businesses services, and workforce development systems and programs. As the State Lead for two Disability Employment Initiative projects, she has coordinated and implemented systems change efforts at state and local levels to increase employment opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities in the public workforce system and serves on several boards and committees including the state's Assistive Technology Advisory Council. As the Project Manager, Karen is responsible for overall grant management including coordination for the Project Management Team, administering sub-recipient and vendor contracts, Memorandum of Agreements, reporting, coordination of leadership infrastructure, and provides oversight of return to work coordination and services delivered in the American Job Centers. karen.quesnel@ct.gov

Adam Seidner, Chief Medical Officer, The Hartford



Adam Seidner, M.D., MPH, is the Chief Medical Officer responsible for leading The Hartford's medical strategy and policy across all lines of business with a particular focus on workers' compensation and disability management. Dr. Seidner serves on the Executive Leadership Team and oversees the implementation of RETAIN CT for The Hartford including coordination with many of the organization's business lines to design and implement RTW coordination, billing, provider reimbursements, and data collection and reporting for the project. adam.seidner@thehartford.com

William Shaw, Project Research Director, UConn Health



William Shaw is Associate Professor at the University of Connecticut Health Center and Chief of its Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. His training background is in engineering and clinical psychology, and his primary research interests have focused on issues of workplace disability and return-to-work, especially psychosocial and organizational factors affecting worker outcomes for acute musculoskeletal injuries or chronic health conditions. His research has contributed to current knowledge of effective employer policies, supervisor training, job accommodation, disability management, psychosocial screening, and return-to-work coordination to improve outcomes for ill or injured workers. He has more than 120 published scientific journal articles in the fields of occupational medicine, pain, and health psychology. Dr. Shaw serves as Research Director and Project Lead on the RETAIN CT project and supervises all project elements related to training implementation, data collection, and program evaluation. wshaw@uchc.edu

Sandy Stevens, Project Coordinator, The Hartford



Sandy Stevens is an optimization consultant with The Hartford Insurance Company (HIG). She has had her project management certification (PMP) since 2004 and has worked in the insurance industry for more than 30 years. In her role as the Project Coordinator with RETAIN CT, she represents the Workers Compensation business area and manages all aspects of the HIG project including; planning, risk management, resource management, communication, change management, and implementation. Sandra.Zerio@thehartford.com

Maggi Walsh, Telephonic Return-to-Work Coordinator, The Hartford



Maggi Walsh is currently a Return to Work Consultant for The Hartford Insurance Company, and holds the following certifications: Certified Rehabilitation Consultant (CRC), Certified Disability Management Specialist (CDMS) and Certified Case Manager (CCM). Maggi started her career at The Hartford as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and has held a variety of positions during her 29 year tenure, often focused on developing programs and services to help disabled workers and their employers build effective and sustainable approaches to disability prevention, mitigation or work resumption after a disability event. Maggi's current role on The Hartford's Product Management team includes oversight of The Hartford's Americans with Disabilities (ADA) administration services for customers, which supports employers in navigating the complexities of ADA accommodation. Maggi serves as one of RETAIN CT's telephonic return-to-work coordinators. maggi.walsh@thehartford.com