

# MORNING

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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## **Maria W. O'Rourke, RN, PhD, FAAN**

**Chief Executive Officer & President**

**Maria W. O'Rourke & Associates, LLC.**

Dr. Maria O'Rourke is CEO/ President of Maria W. O'Rourke & Associates, LLC, a consultancy focused on professional role clarity and its impact on practice excellence, professional practice model development using her Professional Role Driven Practice Model™ and advocating for professional nursing as a vital to quality health care. She is cofounder of the O'Rourke Institute for Advancing Professional Practice.



Dr O'Rourke is renowned for her pioneering, seminal work on professional role clarity. This effort began in the mid 1960's when defining the work of nursing as a professional practice discipline and clarifying the role of the RN as a key decision maker on the interdisciplinary team were critical to advancing nursing as a profession. She carried this effort into the legislative arena where she was instrumental in rewriting the California Nursing Practice Act in 1974. Dr. O'Rourke then published the first paper on its implementation which served to guide the profession, regionally and nationally, in the appropriate use of the RN as a professional.

Over the past four decades, her body of work in the field on professional role identity formation theory has culminated in a theoretically grounded practice model called Role Driven Practice™ that serves as a foundation for professional role clarity and role competence, aligning appropriate role relationships among professional, technical, and assistive roles and improving performance and practice outcomes.

AFTERNOON

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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## **Kristen Choi, PhD, PMHNP-BC, FAAN**

Assistant Professor, UCLA School of Nursing & Fielding School of Public Health  
Associate Program Director, UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program



Dr. Kristen Choi is an Assistant Professor of Nursing and Public Health at UCLA. Her research aims to improve access to and delivery of mental health care for children, adolescents, and other underserved populations. As a health services researcher, Dr. Choi studies healthcare systems, health policy, and healthcare delivery mechanisms that could be modified to improve population mental well-being. Her work also includes a substantial focus on equity in mental health care and how mental health disparities can be eliminated.

Dr. Choi is currently researching adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), trauma-informed care, access to mental healthcare among LGBTQ youth, and interventions to address social determinants of health. She practices as a psychiatric nurse practitioner at a safety net hospital in Los Angeles and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She is also an Associate Program Director for the UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program.