

Elizabeth Barnert, MD, MPH, MS is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Barnert's clinical work is in general pediatrics. A Cuban-American raised in Los Angeles, she is passionate about improving health outcomes of vulnerable youth, especially Latino children and adolescents. Dr. Barnert's research focuses on youth involved in the juvenile justice system, commercially sexually exploited youth, and youth undergoing family separation and reunification.

Funded through an NIH Career Development Award, Dr. Barnert is partnering with Los Angeles County to develop and test an intervention to link youth to mental health and substance use treatment services after juvenile detention.

Dr. Barnert serves as an advisor to the California state legislature and to US Congress on juvenile justice policy. Her research contributed to the passage of California SB 1322, which decriminalized child victims of commercial sexual exploitation; to AB 2992, which requires police officer training on commercial sexual exploitation of youth; and SB 439, which excludes children 11 and under from the juvenile justice system.

Dr. Barnert's work is guided by the principle that all children should receive the support they need to be healthy and thrive.