



**Melissa Ford, M.P.H.**

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Melissa Ford has worked for organizations that do not prioritize a psychologically safe environment and experienced the negative impacts of toxic work cultures. Thankfully, as a workforce health consultant for Kaiser Permanente, she is part of a team and organization that promotes a speak-up culture, and one that encourages innovation through seeking diverse perspectives. As a result of these contrasting environments, she has developed a passion for working with organizations to help them foster supportive, curious cultures. She was honored to present an Ignite Talk on psychological safety at the Colorado School of Public Health's 10th Anniversary celebration. As a workforce health consultant, she consults with employers on supporting a well-being strategy that impacts their population health. In addition, she is the regional workforce health mental health lead. In this role, she consults with internal and external partners about mental health capabilities and presents on topics such as burnout and psychological safety. Ford has been in the health and well-being field for over 15 years. Prior to working at Kaiser Permanente, she managed a corporate wellness program. Her past experiences and education influenced who she is today, and she is intentionally working on challenging her own assumptions. Ford has a master of public health degree with an emphasis in community health education from the Colorado School of Public Health (CSPH).