Speaker Biographies

Terry Cothran, D.Ph., director of Pharmacy Management Consultants, The University of Oklahoma

Cothran has been affiliated with The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center for more than six years. He directs operational, consultant and educational services provided to the Oklahoma Health Care Authority through a professional services contract. The services primarily support the administration of Medicaid pharmacy benefits in the state. He has previous experience as a manager with a private pharmacy benefits management company and as a pharmacist.

Paul Demko, reporter, Politico

For more than three years, Demko has covered health care for Politico. Before that, he was Washington bureau chief for Modern Healthcare. He has written for publications in Minnesota and Florida, and he served as assistant editor for The Chronicle of Philanthropy.

Blake Fulenwider, deputy commissioner and Medicaid chief, Georgia Department of Community Health

Fulenwider was appointed as Georgia Medicaid chief about one year ago. Prior to this appointment, he was partner and Georgia director of Total Spectrum, a policy consulting practice on federal and state-level legislative health care reform. His previous roles in state government include Health Care Reform Administrator with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget and deputy commissioner in the Department of Community Health. He also served with then-Congressman Nathan Deal as staff to the Health Subcommittee of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Jeremy Greenfield, regional director for state affairs, Molina Healthcare

Greenfield leads legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts for Molina in New York, South Carolina, Florida and Mississippi. He works with Molina health plans to operationalize new regulatory requirements related to Medicaid and state health care programs. His other work experience includes more than six years as advocacy director for the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, deputy chief of staff to the Virginia lieutenant governor for two years, and legislative aide and campaign manager for a state legislator.
Michael Hales, senior director, government healthcare programs, University of Utah Health

After 10 years as Utah Medicaid director (2005-2015), Hales moved to the private sector. He worked for Intermountain Healthcare, a non-profit in Utah and Idaho, with 22 hospitals, myriad clinics and health insurance plans, including a Medicaid MCO as a planning consultant and as population health director of government programs. He now works at the University of Utah.

Carter Harrison, director of policy, Virginia Chapters of the Alzheimer’s Association

Harrison spearheads the state legislative agenda for the association, which represents 140,000 Virginians, their families and caregivers living with Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia. He has served as the president of the Virginia Coalition for the Aging and as the chair of the Governor’s Olmstead Oversight Advisory Committee. He is currently a member of the Virginia Commonwealth Council on Aging and the Medicaid Commonwealth Coordinated Care Advisory Workgroup. He has worked for the Association since 2002.

Matt Hudson, vice president, Hope HealthCare

Hudson has spent 30 years in health care policy and business operations. He is a former member of the Florida House of Representatives having served as Speaker Pro Tempore and chair of the Health Care Appropriations Committee. He is currently vice president of special projects and strategy at Hope Health Care, which provides hospice, palliative and specialized care to seniors in the five Florida counties. He is also executive director of the Florida PACE Association, the trade association for the state’s PACE programs, which assist seniors to stay at home while engaging in community activities and receiving patient-centered health care services.

Calder Lynch, senior counselor to the Administrator for Medicaid, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Lynch assumed his federal position in June 2017 after serving for more than two years as director of Nebraska’s Medicaid program, where he worked to modernize the state’s Medicaid program. As Nebraska’s Medicaid director, he served on the board of the National Association of Medicaid Directors. He also worked for the state of Louisiana for six and one-half years in several policy positions in the health care and Medicaid arenas, including serving as the chief of staff for the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.
Mairead McInerney, program manager, Corporate Community Care Management Team, Amerihealth Caritas

McInerney supports the design and scaling of community-based teams serving the most complex Medicaid members across six states by informing strategic planning, program development, and program evaluation to achieve better outcomes at lower costs. In 2017, she co-led the company’s initiative to standardize the approach to social determinants of health across 10 health plans. She also serves on the corporate committee to promote safety and compliance; policies and procedures; and training and development for community-facing associates.

Stacey Mazer, senior staff associate, National Association of State Budget Officers

Mazer is responsible for monitoring and analyzing the impact of federal health and Medicaid decisions on states as well as tracking human and social service developments within states. Mazer also produces a weekly Health Care Issues Update that is distributed to NASBO members and she serves as the staff lead for the association budget and grants. Prior to joining NASBO, she worked for the Congressional Budget Office and the Finance Department for the City of Baltimore.

Jennifer E. Moore, executive director, Institute for Medicaid Innovation

Moore is the founding executive director of the Institute for Medicaid Innovation. She is an experienced critical care and emergency department nurse and she maintains an active appointment as a research professor at the University of Michigan’s Medical School in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and volunteers as a nurse at a federally qualified health center in Washington, D.C. At the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, she was a research fellow and later led the Office of Women’s Health & Gender Research where she worked on numerous national women’s and maternal child health initiatives. She has served on national research committees and expert panels.

Megan Moreton, project manager for the Center for Telehealth, University of Mississippi Medical Center

Moreton is responsible for implementing telehealth projects and serves as the project manager for Remote Patient Monitoring and Pediatrics. Prior to UMMC, Moreton served as a project manager and research specialist at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She has experience planning and implementing NIH funded clinical research grants in the field of preventive medicine.
MaryBeth Musumeci, associate director, Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured

Musumeci’s research is concentrated on Medicaid for people with disabilities, including issues related to people dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid and long-term services and supports. Prior to joining Kaiser, she held a Reuschlein Clinical Teaching Fellowship at Villanova University School of Law and spent eight years as a civil legal aid in Wilmington, Delaware, where her practice focused on Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, other public benefits programs, and civil rights and accessibility issues.

Kate Pfirman, deputy commissioner, Georgia Department of Community Health

Pfirman has worked for Georgia state government more than 20 years and is now a deputy commissioner of DCH, the administering agency for Medicaid. She has served as the chief financial officer for the Department of Public Health and has held a variety of roles, including division director at the Governor’s Office of Planning, and deputy commissioner at the Department of Human Resources.

Jason Rachel, acting director, Division of Integrated Care, Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

Rachel is responsible for providing executive leadership in the management and implementation of both current and new integrated care programs. Rachel directs and oversees all operations, policies, contract compliance and quality monitoring activities within the division to provide high-quality, person-centered coordinated care services. His former roles include serving as a senior research leader at Truven Health Analytics providing technical assistance to state Medicaid home and community-based programs and as Virginia’s Money Follows the Person project director.

Dave Richard, deputy secretary, Medical Assistance, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Richard leads North Carolina’s $14 billion Medicaid and NC Health Choice programs. Prior to leading Medicaid, Richard was the deputy secretary for DHHS Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Services and the State Operated Healthcare Facilities divisions. He joined DHHS in May 2013 as the director of the Division of Mental Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services. Richard previously led The Arc of North Carolina, an advocacy and service organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, serving as executive director for 24 years.
Robin Rudowitz, associate director, Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured

Rudowitz focuses on state and federal Medicaid financing issues and Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act. Prior to joining KCMU in 2004, Rudowitz was a senior manager at The Lewin Group, a health policy and management consulting firm. Rudowitz has worked on budget and health policy issues in different government agencies, including the Office of Legislation at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia, the Congressional Budget Office and the Ways and Means Committee for the New York State Assembly.

Matt Salo, executive director, National Association of Medicaid Directors

Salo was named executive director of the National Association of Medicaid Directors, or NAMD, in February 2011. The association represents all 56 of the nation’s state and territorial Medicaid directors, and provides them with a strong unified voice in national discussions, as well as a locus for technical assistance and best practices. Salo spent 12 years at the National Governors Association, where he worked on the governors’ health care and human services reform agendas. He also served for 5 years as a health policy analyst working for the state Medicaid directors as part of the American Public Human Services Association.

Kristal Vardaman, principal analyst, Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC), Washington, D.C.

Vardaman focuses on supporting the commission’s work on long-term services and supports, or LTSS, and on high-cost, high-need populations. Her recent work for the commission has focused on examining states’ adoption of managed LTSS and on describing patterns of spending by users of home and community-based services. Previously, she was a senior analyst at the U.S. Government Accountability Office and a consultant at Avalere Health.

Rodney Whitlock, vice president for health policy, ML Strategies, Washington, D.C.

Prior to his work as a health policy consultant, Whitlock was a 20-year veteran health care policy professional working with the U.S. Congress. He served five years as health policy advisor to Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa and six years as health policy advisor for the Senate Finance Committee. He also served on the staff of former U.S. Representative Charlie Norwood of Georgia. He has served as an adjunct professor at George Washington University for 18 years.