Speaker Biographies and Contact Information

Medicaid Health Policy Academy
June 17-19, 2015
Washington, DC

ROBIN RUDOWITZ, Kaiser Family Foundation
Associate Director, Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured

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Robin Rudowitz is an Associate Director for the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured (KCMU), where she 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 MCKILLOP, The Pew Charitable Trusts
Officer, State Health Care Spending

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Matt McKillop is a senior associate for Pew’s States’ Health Care Spending project, a joint initiative with The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, that analyzes health care spending across the 50 states over the past decade, delves into the factors driving up costs, and examines the effectiveness of cost-containment efforts. McKillop coordinates the project’s research on cost-containment strategies. Previously, he conducted research on other state fiscal issues, such as pension and retiree health care benefits and states’ budget balancing measures. He also helped lead a cross-cutting communications team within the Pew Center on the States. Prior to Pew, he led advocacy and community organizing campaigns for So Others Might Eat, a nonprofit organization that serves poor and homeless residents of the District of Columbia. McIllop holds his master’s degree in public policy from The George Washington University and a bachelor’s degree in political science from Kalamazoo College.

PAUL GIONFRIDDO, Mental Health America
President and CEO,

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Paul Gionfriddo, an experienced nonprofit leader and former state legislator and mayor, has been named the new President and CEO of Mental Health America by the organization’s board of directors. Gionfriddo was selected following an extensive national search. Gionfriddo has held key health and public health-related leadership positions during a career spanning more than 30 years. In addition to leading nonprofit organizations in three states, he ran his own consulting business, specializing in public health, children’s health, primary care and mental health. From 1978 through 1991, he served as a full-time elected official, with eleven years in the Connecticut State Legislature, and two years as Mayor of Middletown, Connecticut. In 2013, he was appointed by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to a four-year term on the 12-member National Advisory Council to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Center for Mental Health Services. Gionfriddo, who lives in Lake Worth, Florida, is currently a consultant, speaker, and writer, and author of Our Health Policy Matters, a popular weekly health policy blog. His essay, entitled “How I Helped Create a Flawed Mental Health System That’s Failed Millions — And My Son,” which was published in the September, 2012, issue of Health Affairs as a "narrative matters" essay, was the most widely-read journal article that month. It was also adapted as an opinion article in The Washington Post. At the national level, Gionfriddo has worked extensively with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality on health services research dissemination to state and local policy leaders, helping to develop workshops and programs on long term care, prevention and public health, child health, minority health, and urban health, and was a member of the faculty of the Applied Statistics Training Institute of the National Center for Health Statistics. He also worked on health policy projects with the National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health, the National Governors Association, and National Conference of State Legislatures. During the 1990s, Gionfriddo was a member of the adjunct faculties of both Wesleyan University and Trinity College, where he taught graduate-level courses on health care and public health policy. He received his undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University.
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SEEMA VERMA, *SVC Inc.*, President and Founder

Seema Verma is the President of SVC, Inc, a health consulting company serving multiple states and private clients. For over 16 years, Ms. Verma has worked extensively with state, local and federal government health agencies and private corporations on variety of policy and strategic projects involving Medicaid, insurance, and public health. Ms. Verma has worked with Governor’s offices, State Medicaid agencies, State Health Departments and Departments of Insurance. Private clients include hospitals and technology vendors that serve State Medicaid programs. Ms. Verma served as a health policy advisor to the former Governor Mitch Daniels of Indiana, and is the architect of his Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), the nation’s first consumer directed Medicaid program. Ms. Verma led efforts to implement the program, including developing the operational and system design, negotiating managed care contracts, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid waivers. Prior to consulting, Ms. Verma served as Vice President of Planning for the Health & Hospital Corporation of Marion County and as a Director with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) in Washington D.C. Ms. Verma received her Masters in Public Health, with concentration in policy and management from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and her Bachelors in Life Sciences, from the University of Maryland, College Park.

KAREN BOWLING, *State of West Virginia*

Karen L. Bowling was appointed Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources on July 1, 2013. Prior to taking the helm of one of the state’s largest agencies, Bowling held a variety of direct care and leadership positions in the health care and education arena. Bowling began her career as an emergency room nurse in a small rural hospital in Wyoming County. She continued to work in acute care and hospital supervision until 1983, when she joined the Wyoming County Board of Education to develop the School Health Program. Bowling served in a number of capacities in both the hospital setting and higher education until 1990 when she began working in hospital administration. In 2001, Bowling became the CEO of Raleigh General Hospital in Beckley, WV. She has served in various leadership roles at the West Virginia Hospital Association, including being the Chairperson. Bowling is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Organizations and a certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She received her Associate Degree in Nursing in 1977 from Bluefield State College, Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1983 and Master of Science in Primary Healthcare/Nursing in 1990 from West Virginia University.

CHRISTINA COUSART, *National Academy for State Health Policy*

Christina Cousart is a policy associate for NASHP. The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is dedicated to excellence in state health policy and practice. Since its inception in 1987, NASHP has provided state health policy leaders with access to timely, unbiased information on pressing health care issues. Because NASHP recognizes that responsibility for health care does not reside in a single state agency, department, or branch of government, it strives to foster productive interchange across all lines of authority. Each year, NASHP conducts policy analysis, provides training and technological assistance to states, and - through its publications, annual state health policy conference, media briefings, and website - disseminates information designed to assist states in the development of practical, innovative solutions to complex health policy issues. NASHP has two locations - one in Portland, Maine, and the other in Washington, DC.
MATT SALO, National Association of Medicaid Directors

Executive Director

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Matt Salo was named Executive Director of the National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMD) in February 2011. The newly formed 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. Matt formerly spent 12 years at the National Governors Association, where he worked on the Governors’ health care and human services reform agendas, and spent the 5 years prior to that as a health policy analyst working for the state Medicaid Directors as part of the American Public Human Services Association. Matt also spent two years as a substitute teacher in the public school system in Alexandria, VA, and holds a BA in Eastern Religious Studies from the University of Virginia.

SUSAN C. REINHARD, AARP

Senior Vice President and Director of Public Policy Institute

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Susan C. Reinhard is a Senior Vice President at AARP, directing its Public Policy Institute, the focal point for public policy research and analysis at the state, federal and international levels. She also serves as the Chief Strategist for the Center to Champion Nursing in America, a national resource center created to ensure America has the nurses it needs to provide care in the future. Reinhard is a nationally recognized expert in health and long-term care policy, with extensive experience in conducting, directing and translating research to promote policy change. Previously, she served as Professor and Co-Director of Rutgers Center for State Health Policy, directing several national initiatives with states to help people with disabilities of all ages live in their communities. As Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, she led the development of policies and nationally recognized programs for family caregiving, consumer choice and community-based care options. She is a former faculty member at the Rutgers College of Nursing, an American Academy of Nursing fellow and a National Academy of Social Insurance member. She holds many governance positions, including Vice-Chair of the Center for Health Policy Development, which includes the National Academy for State Health Policy. She holds a master’s degree in nursing from the University of Cincinnati and a Ph.D. in Sociology from Rutgers University.

ELAINE RYAN, AARP - Government Affairs Group

Vice President of State Advocacy and Strategy Integration

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Elaine M. Ryan is the Vice President of State Advocacy and Strategy Integration (SASI) in the Government Affairs Department of AARP. Elaine leads a team of legislative staff who work with our 53 AARP state offices to advance AARP’s state advocacy agenda with Governors and state legislators throughout the nation to enable individuals age 50+ and their families attain and maintain their long-term financial security and health. Elaine has been involved in the enactment and implementation of a number of landmark laws, such as the Affordable Care Act, the creation of the Children’s Health Insurance Program, Welfare Reform, the Medicare Modernization Act, the Ticket to Work Act for persons with disabilities, the McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth and the creation of the first federal office of Women’s Health Research. Prior to joining AARP in 2007, Elaine served as Deputy Executive Director of the American Public Human Services Association—a bi-partisan membership organization representing the 50 state Governor’s cabinet officers of health and human services agencies and the National Association of State Medicaid Directors. Elaine also served as Chief of Staff and House Budget Staff Associate for U.S. Representative Louise Slaughter and she served on the senior staff of New York State Governor Mario Cuomo for nine years. Elaine earned her Master of Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and her undergraduate degree in Economics from Fordham University.
BARRA Selter, MAXIMUS

Vice President, Business Development and Health Services

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Barbara Selter brings more than 30 years of experience in the design, development and implementation of health programs for a variety of state and federal agencies. She has focused on the use of technology and process re-design to optimize health and human service program delivery. Ms. Selter helps lead the Company’s solutions for Long Term Services and Supports, using technology and business process management tools to gain efficiencies in the administration of Medicaid waiver programs, Medicare-Medicaid Dual Eligibles Demonstrations, and Home and Community-Based Services. She performs research on the use of tele-care and telemedicine to enable senior populations in underserved rural areas to “age-in-place” safely and achieve better health outcomes. Ms. Selter holds a master’s degree in technology management from American University.

RANDI CHAPMAN, Alzheimer’s Association

Director of State Affairs

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Randi Chapman currently serves as Director of State Affairs for the Alzheimer’s Association, the leading, global voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care and support, and the largest private, non-profit funder of Alzheimer’s research. She is responsible for the organization’s state government relations programs and state policy development. Previously, she was the Southeast Advocacy Director with the American Diabetes Association based in Atlanta, Georgia, where she implemented the ADA’s state legislative and advocacy agenda throughout the southeastern region. She began her government relations career as a Legislative Attorney with the Tennessee General Assembly as counsel to the House Committees on Children and Youth, Health and Human Services and the Tennessee Legislative Black Caucus. She is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and received a Juris Doctor from Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis.

PAUL DIOGUARDI, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Director of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA)

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Paul Dioguardi serves as the Director of the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In this capacity he provides advice to Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell on working with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders across the country. This includes strategic planning and implementation on a range of high priority policies, programs, and initiatives. He manages a team of over 60 regional and Washington, DC based HHS officials. Paul is responsible for overseeing the Department’s engagement with state, local, territorial and tribal governments as well as private sector businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other external partners. He has been directly involved in the implementation of major Obama Administration priorities such as the Affordable Care Act, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and numerous other healthcare, public health, and human services programs. Paul has over twenty years of experience working in issue advocacy, political strategy, grassroots organizing, management, and government. He began his career working for the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy. Since then he has worked extensively with elected officials, non-profit leaders, and advocates across the country. This includes positions at the Democratic Governors Association as National Political Director, as the National Field Director for DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, Africa), and as Acting CEO and Executive Vice President of ONE, the advocacy organization founded by Bono focused on growing the U.S. commitment to fighting global poverty. Most recently he served as a Regional Director for President Obama’s 2008 election campaign and has worked numerous other national, state, and local political and issue based campaigns. Paul is originally from Bayville, NY. He received a B.A. in Political Science from Boston College and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. He lives with his wife Kate Shekels and their sons Teddy and Charlie in Chevy Chase, Maryland.
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ANNE DWYER, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
Professional Staff Member, Health Counsel

Anne Dwyer is a professional staff member for the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance where she provides counsel related to health policy issues. The U.S. Senate Committee on Finance is a standing committee of the United States Senate. The Committee concerns itself with matters relating to taxation and other revenue measures generally, and those relating to the insular possessions; bonded debt of the United States; customs, collection districts, and ports of entry and delivery; deposit of public moneys; general revenue sharing; health programs under the Social Security Act (notably Medicare and Medicaid) and health programs financed by a specific tax or trust fund; national social security; reciprocal trade agreements; tariff and import quotas, and related matters thereto; and the transportation of dutiable goods.

RACHEL PRYOR, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce
Senior Policy Advisor, Health Subcommittee

Rachel Pryor is the senior policy advisor for the special committee on Aging, housed under the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce. The House Committee on Energy and Commerce has developed what is arguably the broadest (non-tax-oriented) jurisdiction of any Congressional committee. Today, it maintains principal responsibility for legislative oversight relating to telecommunications, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health, air quality and environmental health, the supply and delivery of energy, and interstate and foreign commerce in general. This jurisdiction extends over five Cabinet-level departments and seven independent agencies—from the Department of Energy, Health and Human Services, the Transportation Department to the Federal Trade Commission, Food and Drug Administration, and Federal Communications Commission—and sundry quasi-governmental organizations.

JOSHUA B. (JOSH) TRENT, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce
Professional Staff Member

Josh Trent is a professional staff member handling health care policy for the Committee on Energy and Commerce in the U.S. House of Representatives. His primary portfolio on the Committee is entitlement reform, Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid, though he also works closely with colleagues on Medicare Part D, program integrity, oversight of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other issues. Mr. Trent came to the Committee after serving five years as the health care policy advisor for Sen. Coburn (R-OK). He previously served as the deputy director of the refugee resettlement office at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where he helped manage a team of 100 staff and a $580 million budget. In that role he focused on both operations and policy, such as updating new refugee health screening protocols, developing new staff training procedures, helping facilitate the historic repatriation of American citizens in the 2006 Lebanon crisis. Prior to that Mr. Trent served in the (George W. Bush) White House Office of Presidential Personnel for three years and worked for the Chief of Staff at the Labor Department under Secretary Elaine Chao.
Dr. JEFFREY BRENNER, Cooper University Healthcare, Urban Health Institute

Dr. Jeffrey Brenner, is a family physician that has worked in Camden, NJ for the past seventeen years. Dr. Brenner owned and operated a solo-practice, urban family medicine office that provided full-spectrum family health services to a largely Hispanic, Medicaid population including delivering babies, caring for children and adults, and doing home visits. Recognizing the need for a new way for hospitals, providers, and community residents to collaborate he founded and has served as the Executive Director of the Camden (N.J.) Coalition of Healthcare Providers since 2003. Through the Camden Coalition, local stakeholders are working to build an integrated, health delivery model to provide better care for Camden City residents. In 2013, he was named a MacArthur Fellow for his work on addressing the health care needs of the chronically ill in impoverished communities in the U.S. Dr. Brenner’s work was profiled by the writer and surgeon Dr. Atul Gawande in an article in The New Yorker entitled “The Hot Spotters” (1/24/11) and in an episode of PBS Frontline (7/27/11). The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have awarded funds to replicate Dr. Brenner’s model to improve the quality and cost of health care delivery for super-utilizers by providing care outside the emergency room. Currently Dr. Brenner is the medical director of the Urban Health Institute at the Cooper University Healthcare, a dedicated business unit built at the Cooper Health System focused on improving care of the underserved. Using modern business techniques they are redesigning long-standing clinical care models to deliver better care at lower cost. Dr. Jeffrey Brenner received a B.S. (1990) from Vassar College and an M.D. (1995) from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and he completed his residency in family medicine at the Swedish Health Center in Seattle, Washington (1995–1998).

ED CLERE, State of Indiana

State Representative Ed Clere is serving his fourth term in the Indiana House of Representatives. Representative Clere is the Chairman of the House Public Health Committee. He also serves on the House Education and Public Policy committees. In addition, he is a legislative appointee to the board of Indiana’s CHOICE program, a state-funded program that helps seniors and people with disabilities stay in their home and avoid institutional care. A 2010 graduate of the Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development, a program for newer legislators offered by the Midwestern office of the Council of State Governments, Representative Clere is now co-chair of the program’s steering committee. He also serves on Counsel of State Governments’ (CSG) Health Public Policy Committee; the Health and Human Services Committee of CSG’s Midwestern Legislative Conference; and the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Health Committee. Representative Clere earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology at Indiana University Southeast. He has worked as a Realtor since 2001. As a Realtor, he has earned the ABR, CRS and GRI designations and has served on the board of the Southern Indiana Realtors Association.

RON STOLLINGS, State of West Virginia

Senator Ron Stollings is board certified in internal medicine, and has been in private practice at Madison Medical Group and on the staff of Boone Memorial Hospital since 1985. He has been elected as a Fellow to the American Academy of Physicians, and is a professor of medicine for the West Virginia University School of Medicine. He serves on the Visiting Committees of the WVU School of Medicine and the WVU School of Public Health. Previously, he served as President of the West Virginia State Medical Association (WVMSA) and founding trustee of the West Virginia Medical Foundation. He has represented the 7th Senatorial District in the West Virginia State Senate since 2006 and has been re-elected several times. He serves as Chair of the Senate Health and Human Resources Committee. He also serves on the Finance; Education; Economic Development and the Energy, Industry & Mining committees. In addition, he co-chaired the Legislative Interim Oral Health Committee. Senator Ron Stollings earned both bachelor’s and master’s degrees from West Virginia University. He is a graduate of the Marshall University School of Medicine, and completed a residency in internal medicine at Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University.