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July 24 · 9:30AM – 4:00PM ET

Roundtable on Obesity Solutions 10th Anniversary Symposium

Obesity Solutions: Looking Back, Moving Forward

Speaker, Moderator, and Planning Committee Biographies



Katie Adamson is the vice president of health partnerships and policy for YMCA of the USA, the national resource office for the nation's 2,700 YMCAs. Ms. Adamson provides guidance and consultation on healthy living policy, partnerships, and program strategies at the national level and for local Ys and the state alliances of YMCAs. She helps advance healthy living legislative and advocacy strategies at the state and federal level, including the drafting and implementation of legislative initiatives and accompanying policy documents; and, assisting with congressional, corporate and health partnerships. She works to build sustainable health payer and community development strategies for Ys that will help Ys to have their greatest reach and impact, including helping secure public and private payer contracts for Ys to address health and social determinants of health. She serves on several national boards and advisory committees and was a member of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine from 2017-2023. Prior to working at YMCA of the USA, Katie spent several years as a managing director of public law and policy strategies at law firms in DC. She represented 25 chronic disease and disability nonprofit organizations in their work with Congress and federal agencies. She drafted legislation, lobbied for, and secured tens of millions of dollars annually through the appropriations process for these nonprofits. She also spent four years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, where she developed and maintained Congressional and partner relations for the agency and served in the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion and the Financial Management Office. There she responded to Congressional inquiries on budgetary and programmatic issues for the agency, drafted Congressional testimony, supported Congressional requests for technical assistance in advancing national chronic disease programming, prepared and supported CDC leadership on Congressional visits and managed over 30 partner relationships for the Agency. In the earlier part of her career, she spent six years on Capitol Hill serving in several legislative roles in Congress, including as legislative director for Congressman Bernie Sanders (I-VT) who now serves as a U.S. Senator. She developed short and long-term strategic plans on appropriations and authorizing legislation and helped secure passage of amendments and public laws, including a bill to establish a national program of cancer registries at the CDC. She also interned for Rep. Patricia Schroeder (CO) and Barry Desmond (MP, Ireland). Ms. Adamson is a graduate of the University of Virginia with a B.A. in political and social thought.



John Cawley, Ph.D., is a professor in the Brooks School of Public Policy and the Department of Economics at Cornell University, where he is also director of Cornell in Washington. He is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and an honorary professor at the University of Galway, Ireland. Dr. Cawley's primary field of research is the economics of risky health behaviors, with a focus on the economics of obesity. He studies the economic causes of obesity, the economic consequences of obesity, and economic approaches to obesity treatment and prevention. Dr. Cawley serves on the Board of Directors of the International Health Economics Association and chairs the American Economic Association's Committee on the Job Market. He previously served as an editor of the *Journal of Health Economics* and on the Board of Directors of the American Society of Health Economists. Dr. Cawley was a Fulbright Specialist to Ireland and is the recipient of the Investigator Award in Health Policy Research from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship, and the John D. Thompson Prize for Young Investigators from the Association of University Programs in Health Administration.



William H. Dietz, M.D., Ph.D., is a consultant to the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, chair of the Sumner M. Redstone Global Center on Prevention and Wellness at the Milken Institute School of Public Health, and director of research and policy of the Global Food Institute at The George Washington University. He was director of the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity in the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from 1997-2012. Prior to his appointment to the CDC, he was a professor of pediatrics at the Tuft's University School of Medicine, and director of clinical nutrition at the Floating Hospital of New England Medical Center Hospitals. Dr.

Dietz has been a counselor and past president of the American Society for Clinical Nutrition, and past president of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity. From 2001-2003 he served as a member of the Advisory Board to the Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism, and Diabetes of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research. In 2000, Dr. Dietz received the William G. Anderson Award from the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and was recognized for excellence in his work and advocacy by the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors. In 2002, he was made an honorary member of the American Dietetic Association and received the Holroyd-Sherry Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of children, adolescents, and the media. In 2005, Dr. Dietz received the George Bray Founders Award from the North American Association for the Study of Obesity. In 2006, he received the Nutrition Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics for outstanding research related to nutrition of infants and children. In 2008, Dr. Dietz received the Oded Bar-Or Award from The Obesity Society for excellence in pediatric obesity research. In 2012, he received a Special Recognition Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics Provisional Section on Obesity, and the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Dietz is the author of over 200 publications in the scientific literature, and the editor of five books, including *Clinical Obesity in Adults and Children*, and *Nutrition: What Every Parent Needs to Know*. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Dietz received his B.A. from Wesleyan University in 1966 and his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1970. After the completion of his residency at Upstate Medical Center, he received a Ph.D. in nutritional biochemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Christina D. Economos, Ph.D., is dean, professor, the New Balance chair in Childhood Nutrition, and chair of the Division of Nutrition Interventions, Communication, & Behavior Change at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy and Medical School at Tufts University. She leads a research team studying behavioral interventions, strategic communications, and promotion of physical activity using a systems approach to reduce childhood obesity. She has authored more than 200 scientific publications and is also the co-founder and former director of ChildObesity180, a unique organization that brings together leaders from diverse disciplines to generate urgency and find solutions to the childhood obesity epidemic. Dr. Economos is involved in national obesity and public health activities and

has served on four National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committees including the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions (currently as vice chair) and the Committee on an Evidence Framework for Obesity Prevention Decision-Making. She received a B.S. from Boston University, an M.S. in applied physiology and nutrition from Columbia University, and a doctorate in nutritional biochemistry from Tufts University.



Ihuoma Eneli, M.D., M.S., FAAP, is a board-certified general pediatrician and head of the Section of Nutrition at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Dr. Eneli's primary area of expertise is childhood obesity. She was previously the director of the Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition at Nationwide Children's Hospital/The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, a nationally recognized tertiary care pediatric obesity center with activities that include advocacy, prevention, medical weight management, bariatric surgery, and research. She is a co-author of the 2023 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Clinical Practice Guideline on Childhood Obesity. Her research emphasis is on interventions for pediatric obesity, for which she has received funding from several sources, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, industry, and foundations. Dr. Eneli is an associate director for the AAP Institute for Healthy Childhood Weight, vice chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, and has also served in leadership and advisory roles for a number of organizations including the Children's Hospital Association. In 2021, she was awarded the prestigious National Academic Pediatric Association Healthcare Delivery Award, which recognizes an innovative and effective program that embraces principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion within a teaching environment. Dr. Eneli received an M.S. from Michigan State University in epidemiology and her M.D. from University of Nigeria. She completed her pediatric residency at University of Michigan where she also earned an NIH-K30 institutional clinical research fellowship.



Jessica Fanzo, Ph.D., is a professor of climate and the director of the Food for Humanity Initiative at Columbia University's Climate School in New York City. She also serves as the interim director for the International Research Institute for Climate and Society, also known as IRI. Before coming to Columbia in 2023, Dr. Fanzo was the Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of Global Food Policy and Ethics at Johns Hopkins University. She has also held positions at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN), the UN World Food Programme, Bioversity International, the Earth Institute, the Millennium Development Goal Centre at the World Agroforestry Center in Kenya, and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. She has participated in various collective endeavors, including the Food

Systems Economic Commission, the Global Panel of Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition Foresight 2.0 report, the Lancet Commission on Anaemia, and the EAT-Lancet Commissions 1 and now 2. She was also the co-chair of the Global Nutrition Report and Team Leader for the UN High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Systems and Nutrition. She currently leads the development of the Food Systems Dashboard and the Food Systems Countdown to 2030 Initiative in collaboration with the Global Alliance of Improved Nutrition.

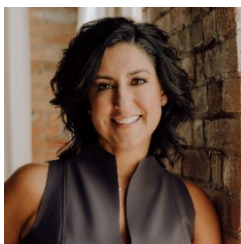


Jennifer E. Fassbender, M.S., CEP-ACSM, is the program director for social determinants of health in the Capacity Building and Capital Access Programs Department at Reinvestment Fund - a national community development financial institution committed to making communities work for all people by bringing financial and analytical tools to partnerships to help communities thrive with affordable housing, nutritious foods, quality education and healthcare, and employment. Ms. Fassbender is currently responsible for numerous national and regional programs, including the national Invest Health and the Building Healthier, More Equitable Communities initiatives that support multi-sector teams in small to mid-sized cities working at the intersection of community development and health to

improve the social determinants of health. With over 20 years of collective leadership experience in healthcare, research, and non-profit sectors, she has dedicated her career to data-driven approaches for improving the health and wellbeing of people and communities through partnerships and strategic investments. Previously, at the American Diabetes Association, Ms. Fassbender provided subject matter expertise, guiding new programs and building strategic partnerships. As program director for The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Healthy Weight Program, she oversaw a large-scale hospital departmental expansion of clinical, research, training, and community activities. Ms. Fassbender also spent over a decade at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics managing a health disparities research group and her early training as a clinical exercise physiologist began her work in healthcare as a clinician in acute and outpatient cardiology and pulmonology rehabilitation. She also currently serves on the board of directors for the Council on Black Health and is a member of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. She has co-authored numerous peer-reviewed scientific publications and presents at national conferences. Ms. Fassbender's undergraduate studies were at the Pennsylvania State University, and she did her graduate work in exercise physiology at the University of South Carolina's Arnold School of Public Health.



Monica N. Feit, Ph.D., M.P.H., is the executive director of the Health and Medicine Division at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. She has been with the National Academies in various roles for almost fifteen years, including as a senior program officer who staffed reports on LGBT health and integrating primary care and public health. She led an initiative on innovation and launched the Societal Experts Action Network which brought together social science experts to respond to urgent questions related to COVID-19. In addition, Dr. Feit was a member of the Senior Executive Service in the Department of Health and Human Services, where she held leadership positions at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. She served as an American Public Health Association Fellow on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and worked in international health for many years including in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Niger, and South Africa. She received her B.A. from Smith College, M.P.H. from Columbia University, and Ph.D. from London South Bank University.



Sherry Frey is vice president, total wellness at NielsenIQ, a leading global market intelligence company with data focusing on consumer and retail trends across more than 90 countries. Ms. Frey is a featured speaker at 50-75 national and international events annually and she is often sought as a media and analyst resource on topics related to consumer health, wellness, and sustainability. She has spent her entire career in the food, wellness, and agriculture sectors at companies including the Perishables Group, Nielsen, and Fleishman-Hillard. Ms. Frey's view of health and wellness spans beyond personal health and wellness, encompassing how we collectively think about the health of the planet. In 2023, she partnered with McKinsey & Co to co-author the research: The Business Case

for Sustainability, the first research taking a comprehensive view of the impact of sustainability in the consumer packaged goods space. Ms. Frey is a regular guest lecturer at Lake Forest College and holds a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness/Agricultural Journalism from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. She also completed the United Fresh Produce Executive Development Program at Cornell University.



Allison Gertel-Rosenberg, M.S., is vice president, chief policy and prevention officer at Nemours Children's Health. She has spent her career addressing some of the most important and challenging issues in population health. In her role, she is responsible for leading Nemours Children's National Office of Policy and Prevention leveraging federal policy and advocacy efforts and innovative prevention and population health strategies to improve health and well-being outcomes for children. These efforts have included the highly successful Moving Health Care Upstream, Let's Move! Child Care, Healthy Kids, Healthy Future, and the National Early Care and Education Learning Collaborative initiative with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ms. Gertel-Rosenberg is widely

recognized as an expert on public health and population health and has presented at numerous national conferences on the value of investment in childhood health, patterns of drug abuse, assessments of the efficacy of prevention programs, youth smoking cessation, and the development of statewide anti-tobacco media campaigns. In addition, she has published several articles on children's health issues. She is a member of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Ms. Gertel-Rosenberg received her B.S. in public health from Rutgers College and M.S. in health policy and management from the Harvard School of Public Health.



Kristal Hartman currently serves as the Chairwoman of the Obesity Action Coalition's National Board of Directors. Ms. Hartman is responsible for supporting the mission of the Obesity Action Coalition through its efforts to provide education, advocacy, and support for the more than 90,000 OAC community members. As a person living with the chronic disease of obesity, Ms. Hartman is passionate about advocating for others living with this disease. Ms. Hartman's advocacy efforts include access to affordable and compassionate obesity medical and mental health care, working toward the elimination of weight stigma and weight bias, and local and national efforts around obesity policy, including Medicaid coverage of obesity medications in her home state of Oregon and

Medicare coverage of obesity medications and medical care through the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act in Congress.



Shiriki K. Kumanyika, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S., is emeritus professor of epidemiology at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, and research professor in the Department of Community Health & Prevention at the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University. Dr. Kumanyika has a unique interdisciplinary background that integrates epidemiology, nutrition, social work, and public health methods and perspectives. The main themes in her research concern prevention and control of obesity and other diet-related risk factors and chronic diseases, with a particular focus on reducing health burdens in Black communities. Dr. Kumanyika is the founding chair of the Council on Black Health (formerly the African American Collaborative Obesity Research Network) that seeks to develop and promote solutions that achieve healthy Black communities. She is a past president of the American Public Health Association and has served in numerous advisory roles related to public health research and policy in the U.S. and abroad. Dr. Kumanyika chaired the Institute of Medicine's Standing Committee on Childhood Obesity from 2009 until its retirement in 2013. She currently chairs the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Food and Nutrition Board and is a liaison to the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions. Dr. Kumanyika received her M.S. in social work from Columbia University, M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University, and Ph.D. in human nutrition from Cornell University. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.



Theodore Kyle, R.Ph., M.B.A., founded ConscienHealth in 2009. Mr. Kyle is a pharmacist and healthcare innovation professional who works with health and obesity experts for sound policy and innovation to address obesity. He serves on the board of directors for the Obesity Action Coalition, advises The Obesity Society on advocacy, and consults with organizations addressing the needs of people living with obesity. His widely read daily commentary, published at ConscienHealth.org, reaches an audience of more than 10,000 thought leaders in health and obesity. His peer-reviewed publications focus on weight bias and policy related to health and obesity. Mr. Kyle is also a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Obesity Solutions.



Nikki Massie, M.A., is a person living with obesity, bariatric patient, and a member of the national board of directors for the Obesity Action Coalition. Ms. Massie lives and works in Baltimore, Maryland where she leads digital marketing and fundraising for an international aid organization.



Marcia McNutt, Ph.D., is a geophysicist and the 22nd president of the National Academy of Sciences. From 2013 to 2016, she was editor-in-chief of *Science* journals. Dr. McNutt was director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) from 2009 to 2013, during which time USGS responded to a number of major disasters, including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. For her work to help contain that spill, she was awarded the U.S. Coast Guard's Meritorious Service Medal. She is a fellow of the American Geophysical Union (AGU), Geological Society of America, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the International Association of Geodesy. Dr. McNutt is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Foreign Member of the Royal Society, U.K., the Russian Academy of Sciences, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and a Foreign Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy. In 1998, Dr. McNutt was awarded the AGU's Macelwane Medal for research accomplishments by a young scientist, and she received the Maurice Ewing Medal in 2007 for her contributions to deep-sea exploration. She holds a B.A. in physics from Colorado College and Ph.D. in earth sciences from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.



Joseph Nadglowski is president and CEO of the Obesity Action Coalition (OAC)—a non-profit organization formed in 2005 dedicated to elevating and empowering those affected by obesity through education, advocacy, and support. A frequent speaker and author, Mr. Nadglowski is especially passionate about access to obesity treatments and tackling weight bias as well as sharing his own experiences with obesity. He has more than 25 years of experience working in patient advocacy, public policy, and education and is a graduate of the University of Florida. Mr. Nadglowski is also a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Obesity Solutions.



Patricia Nece, J.D., is vice chair of the National Board of Directors of the Obesity Action Coalition (OAC) and chairs OAC's Weight Bias Task Force. She has also served as a Commissioner on the Lancet Commission on Obesity and a member of the American Psychological Association's Guideline Development Panel for Childhood Obesity. She has worked on projects with the STOP Obesity Alliance and testified before the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. She is also a member of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Ms. Nece advocates for the eradication of weight bias, sound obesity treatments, and insurance coverage for those treatments. She encourages change by sharing her personal experiences with life-long severe obesity. A noted advocate, Ms. Nece has been invited to speak at numerous venues, including Rethink Obesity Forums at the 2016 Democratic and Republican Presidential Conventions, the Obesity Medicine Association, the George Washington University School of Medicine, the Partnership for a Healthier America, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Society for Behavioral Medicine, and Obesity Week 2018 and 2019. Ms. Nece earned her J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Megan Nechanicky, M.S., R.D., joined General Mills in 2014 and is currently the nutrition manager at the Bell Institute of Health and Nutrition. In her role, her team provides strategic direction for business and R&D partners related to health and wellness. She also leads a team focused on unlocking opportunities for business growth through nutrition science. Previously, Ms. Nechanicky oversaw nutrition communications and reporting where she worked on elevating key messages with stakeholders on the company's nutrition commitments and advancing work externally with government, trade associations, and academic institutions to positively position General Mills for future growth. In 2017, Ms. Nechanicky completed a 6-month international assignment in the General Mills Nyon, Switzerland office, where she

gained experience living and working within the Europe and Australian Region to build and advance nutrition science, research, and communications. When Ms. Nechanicky first joined General Mills in 2014, she led health influencer communications for some of General Mills' largest brands including Cheerios, Fiber One, and Nature Valley. In this role, she delivered cutting-edge science, consumer trends, and new product development and marketing to health influencers such as dietitians, physicians, nurses, and fitness professionals. Prior to General Mills, Ms. Nechanicky was the first dietitian to work at the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition. In her role, she led nutrition and physical activity-related initiatives and events. She was also responsible for the Department of Health and Human Services coordination of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative to end childhood obesity within a generation. Ms. Nechanicky served on the Federal steering committee to develop the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Physical Activity Guidelines Midcourse Report and coordinated the communications strategy and report launch in 2013. She is also a member of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Ms. Nechanicky is a registered dietitian and holds a bachelor's degree in food marketing from Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a dual master's degree in exercise physiology and nutrition from San Diego State University.



Angela Odoms-Young, Ph.D., is The Nancy Schlegel Meinig Associate Professor of Maternal and Child Nutrition, director of the Food and Nutrition Education in Communities Program and New York State Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. Her research centers on understanding the social and structural determinants of dietary behaviors in low-income populations and Black, Indigenous, and people of color and identifying culturally appropriate programs and policies that promote health equity, food justice, and community resilience. Dr. Odoms-Young has over 20 years' experience partnering with communities to improve nutrition and health and she has served on numerous advisory committees and boards including the

Institute of Medicine committees to revise the food packages provided for Women, Infants, and Children, and the Council on Black Health. Dr. Odoms-Young also currently serves as the inaugural Equity Visiting Scholar at Feeding America.



Anand K. Parekh, M.D., M.P.H., is chief medical advisor at the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) where he provides clinical and public health expertise across the organization. Since 2015, he has led specific efforts tackling a variety of policy issues including the COVID-19 pandemic, future of public health, opioid crisis, obesity epidemic and nutrition, health and housing, domestic and global HIV/AIDS, business and public health collaboration, emergency preparedness, social isolation, rural health, and prescription drug costs. Prior to joining BPC, he completed a decade of service at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). As an HHS deputy assistant secretary for health in the Senior Executive Service from 2008 to 2015, he played instrumental roles in the implementation of the Recovery Act's Prevention

and Wellness Fund, the Affordable Care Act's prevention initiatives, and HHS' Multiple Chronic Conditions Initiative. He received the Surgeon General's Outstanding Service Award for his efforts. Dr. Parekh is a board-certified internal medicine physician, a fellow of the American College of Physicians, an adjunct professor of health management and policy at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, and an adjunct assistant professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University. He provided volunteer clinical services for many years at the Holy Cross Hospital Health Center, a clinic for the uninsured in Silver Spring, Maryland. Dr. Parekh currently serves on the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions and Board of Population Health and Public Health Practice at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Dean's Advisory Board of the University of Michigan School of Public Health, board of directors of the Presidential Scholars Foundation, board of directors of WaterAid America, and the Founders Council at the United States of Care. Dr. Parekh has spoken widely and written extensively on a variety of health topics such as chronic care management, population health, value in health care, and the need for health and human services integration. His book *Prevention First: Policymaking for a Healthier America* was released in December 2019 and argues that prevention must be our nation's top health policy priority. He is also a Forbes healthcare contributor focused on the coronavirus. A native of Michigan, Dr. Parekh received a B.A. in political science, an M.D., and an M.P.H. in health management and policy from the University of Michigan. He was selected as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in 1994.



Russell R. Pate, Ph.D., is a professor in the Department of Exercise Science in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Pate is an exercise physiologist with interests in physical activity and physical fitness in children and the health implications of physical activity. He has published more than 450 scholarly papers and has authored or edited ten books. His research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and several non-profit organizations, private foundations, and corporations. He has served on the U.S. Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (2003-2004), the U.S. Physical Activity Guidelines Advisory Committee (2007-2008 and 2017-2018), and several panels at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

He served as vice chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies from 2013-2019. He served in a leadership role with the U.S. National Physical Activity Plan from 2007 to 2022.



Nicolaas P. Pronk, Ph.D., M.A., FACSM, FAWHP, is president of the HealthPartners Institute and chief science officer at HealthPartners, Inc. and holds an academic appointment as affiliate full professor of health policy and management at the University of Minnesota, School of Public Health in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He continues to serve as a co-investigator on research studies in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Pronk's work is focused on connecting scientific evidence of effectiveness with practical applications of programs and practices, policies, and systems that measurably improve population health and well-being. His work applies to the workplace, the health system setting, and the community and involves

development of new models to improve health and well-being at the research, practice, and policy levels. He was confirmed by the White House to serve as co-chair of the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services' Advisory Committee on National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for the year 2030 (aka "Healthy People 2030"). Dr. Pronk is chair for the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. He serves on various health-related committees and boards including the board of directors for the Health Enhancement Research Organization, and is the founding and past president of the International Association for Worksite Health Promotion. He is widely published in both the scientific and practice literatures and is an international speaker on population health and well-being. Dr. Pronk received his doctorate degree in exercise physiology at Texas A&M University and completed his post-doctoral studies in behavioral medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



William P. Purcell, J.D., chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions from 2013-2019, has spent more than 40 years in law, public service, and higher education. Prior to serving two terms as Mayor of Nashville (1999-2007), he served ten years in the Tennessee House of Representatives, his last three terms as Majority Leader. He was founding dean of the College of Public Service at Tennessee State University, and then served as the director of the Institute of Politics, and lecturer, at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is currently an adjunct professor of public policy studies at Vanderbilt University, Counsel to the law firm of Frost Brown Todd, and chair of the Board of the Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency in Nashville. He earned his bachelor's degree at Hamilton College and his law

degree at Vanderbilt University School of Law, where he was honored as the 2004 Distinguished Alumnus.



Thomas N. Robinson, M.D., M.P.H., is the Irving Schulman, MD Endowed Professor in Child Health and professor of pediatrics, of medicine, and, by courtesy, of epidemiology and population health at Stanford University. He directs the Stanford Solutions Science Lab and the Center for Healthy Weight and co-directs the Stanford Screenomics Lab and the Human Screenome Project. Dr. Robinson designs solutions to help children and families improve their health and reduce disparities. He originated the solution-oriented research paradigm, to advance study designs and methods to rapidly inform medical and public health practice and policy. He is known for his pioneering obesity prevention and treatment research, including the theory of stealth

interventions. Dr. Robinson's solution-oriented research is primarily experimental in design, conducting clinic-, family-, school-, and community-based randomized controlled trials to test the efficacy and effectiveness of theory-driven behavioral, social, environmental, and technology-driven interventions to prevent and reduce obesity, improve nutrition, increase physical activity and decrease inactivity, reduce children's screen time, improve mental health and well-being, prevent tobacco and alcohol use, reduce aggressive behavior, and promote energy efficiency and environmental sustainability. He co-founded the new field of Screenomics, studying health and life through our digital screens. Dr. Robinson received his B.S. and M.D. from Stanford, M.P.H. in maternal and child health from University of California, Berkeley, pediatrics training at Children's Hospital, Boston and Harvard Medical School, and post-doctoral training as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at Stanford.



Stephanie A. Navarro Silvera, Ph.D., M.S., C.P.H., is professor of public health at Montclair State University (MSU). After completing her master's degrees, she worked as a nutrition educator at the Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Food Program at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Paterson, New Jersey. She then went on to work as an epidemiologist at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Department of Epidemiology and Population Health before joining the faculty at MSU. During her professorship her work has focused on racial/ethnic disparities in health outcomes, and she was awarded the prestigious National Cancer Institute's K01 Career Development Award in 2009 to pursue this work. She has also served on the boards of the American Public Health

Association Cancer Caucus, on the American Society for Preventive Oncology Junior Member and Membership Committees and is a current member of the New Jersey Society for Public Health Education Academic Advisory Board. Dr. Silvera is also a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Obesity Solutions. She has, more recently, been called upon by the New York/New Jersey media to serve as an expert to interpret and explain the epidemiology of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Silvera holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Rutgers University, an M.S. in nutritional sciences from Rutgers University, and a doctorate in epidemiology from the Yale School of Medicine.



Tracy J. Sims, M.A., is executive director of Corporate Affairs at Eli Lilly and Company. In his role, he leads health system analysis and modernization efforts for chronic diseases including obesity and diabetes. His role also includes responsibility as a real-world evidence research scientist focused on both obesity and diabetes care. Mr. Sims has extensive international and domestic health system analysis and function improvement experience with previous leadership efforts on five continents. Mr. Sims' research has focused in: type 2 diabetes patient activation measurement, benefits of continuous glucose monitoring, impact of internalized weight bias and type 2 diabetes stigma on diabetes care outcomes, patient, provider, and payer perspectives on obesity care,

health equity in obesity and diabetes care, and development of a comprehensive health system analysis framework for use by social scientists, public health professionals, and other disciplines seeking to improve health outcomes for chronic diseases such as obesity. He is a member of the American Sociological Association. He is also a member of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Mr. Sims holds a B.A. with double major in communications and history from Whitworth University and an M.A. in sociology from University of Alabama at Birmingham.



Mary Story Ph.D., R.D., is professor in global health, and family medicine and community health at Duke University, and director for academic programs at the Duke Global Health Institute. Prior to coming to Duke in January 2014, she was senior associate dean for academic and student affairs, and professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health in the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota. Since 2005, she has directed the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation national program *Healthy Eating Research* focused on policy, systems, and environmental solutions to improve child nutrition, food and nutrition security and prevent child obesity. She was elected to membership in the National Academy of

Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine) in 2010 and served as vice chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions from 2013-2019. She has over 500 scientific publications in child and adolescent nutrition and obesity. She served on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/U.S. Department of Agriculture 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines Scientific Advisory Committee. She has received numerous national awards for her research, including The Obesity Society, 2019 Friends of Albert (Mickey) Stunkard Lifetime Achievement Award.



Kristen Sullivan, M.S., M.P.H., is director of prevention and survivorship with the American Cancer Society (ACS). During her career with ACS, Ms. Sullivan has held positions within both the Patient Support and Corporate Communications Departments. In her current role as director of prevention and survivorship, her work focuses on reducing cancer risk and improving outcomes for cancer survivors through nutrition and physical activity. This includes working with health systems and other partners to create healthier environments. Prior to joining ACS, she served as a health communications fellow in the Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is also a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Obesity Solutions. Ms. Sullivan earned a bachelor's degree in molecular biology from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and master's degrees in nutrition and public health from Tufts University in Boston.



Laurie Whitsel, Ph.D., is the national vice president of policy research for the American Heart Association (AHA) where she helps to translate science into impactful public policy at a national level in the areas of cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention and health promotion. In addition to leading the association's policy research and translation efforts, she covers specific areas of policy development around prevention, including ending tobacco and nicotine addiction, health promotion, obesity, physical activity, and policy implementation and outcome evaluation. As the senior advisor to the Physical Activity Alliance, the nation's broadest coalition dedicated to promoting physical activity for health, Dr. Whitsel helps to lead national policy and systems change to integrate physical activity assessment, prescription, and referral into health care delivery and improve population health. She has served on the boards of several organizations including the American Council on Exercise, the Health Enhancement Research Organization (HERO), and other non-profit organizations, and on expert advisory groups with RAND; the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; the Bipartisan Policy Center; HERO; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dr. Whitsel is an influential researcher in public health, cardiovascular health, and health promotion and has published more than 100 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. Under her leadership, the AHA policy team has published more than 60 policy statements, and these influential statements have been cited more than 15,000 times in other peer-reviewed publications and major policy documents. She presents at national conferences on prevention issues and evidence-based policy making. She serves as an expert peer reviewer for several scientific journals and is a consultant on research grant teams. She is a regular lecturer at Columbia University. In 2023, Dr. Whitsel was recognized as one of "The Most Influential Women Leaders in Health Promotion" and was recently given the Mark Dundon Research Award by the Health Enhancement Research Organization. Dr. Whitsel received her Ph.D. from Syracuse University and is a fellow and member of the AHA's National Scientific Council on Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Health.