

## **SPEAKERS**



ANDREA ANDERSON, MD, M.Ed., FAAFP, is a Family Physician and an Associate Professor at the George Washington School of Medicine and Health Sciences. She is the Chair-Elect of the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM), a board member of the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), Vice-Chair of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Management Committee, a Senior Medical Education Consultant for the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), and a member of the National Advisory Council of the National Health Service Corps. At GW, she serves in several roles including as the Associate Chief of Family Medicine, the Chair of the clinical

curriculum sub-committee, Director of the Scholarly Concentration in Health Policy, and course director of the required Transitions to Residency internship readiness capstone course.

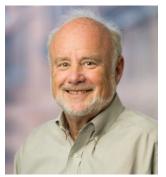
Throughout her career, Dr. Anderson has been active in DC health policy and medical regulation as well as teaching primary care, ethics, professionalism, and physician advocacy to medical students and residents. She is the Chair of the DC Board of Medicine, licensing and determining regulatory policy for approximately 15,000 DC physicians. She is a subject matter expert for national advisory committees of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), namely the Patient Characteristics Advisory Panel and the Legal/Ethical Task Force. She has served on multiple national advisory committees for the FSMB including the National Ethics and Professionalism Committee which creates model practice national guidelines for state medical licensing boards including the current medical misinformation guidelines for state medical boards.

She is a 2023 graduate of the International Leadership Excellence in Educating for Professionalism (LEEP) Faculty Scholars Program from the Academy for Professionalism in Health Care, a 2018 graduate of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Emerging Leaders Program, and a 2017 graduate of the GW Master Teacher Leadership Development Fellowship. Dr. Anderson is an alumna of the Program in Liberal Medical Education (PLME) at Brown University and Brown University School of Medicine. She completed her Family Medicine residency and Academic Medicine fellowship at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center where she served as the Chief Resident. Following this, she spent 15 years in clinical practice at the Upper Cardozo Health Center, a multi-lingual Federally Qualified Health Center in Washington, DC. Currently, Dr. Anderson serves as a committee member for the Standing Committee on Primary Care.



**DAWN ALLEY,** PhD, is Head of Scale at IMPaCT Care, a public benefit corporation scaling evidence-based community health worker programs to improve health equity and drive health care value. She has a 20-year career of leadership in population health research, health policy, and health care delivery. She previously served as Chief Strategy Officer at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation and as Senior Advisor to the U.S. Surgeon General. She has held executive roles as President of Decision Support at CareBridge Health, a Medicaid value-based provider, and Head of Healthcare Innovation at Morgan Health, JPMorgan Chase's business unit focused on innovation in employer-sponsored insurance. Dr. Alley received her PhD from the University of Southern

California and was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania. She has published more than 50 peer-reviewed publications and is currently affiliate faculty at the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health.



ROBERT A. BERENSON, MD, is an institute fellow at the Urban Institute. He is an expert in health care policy, particularly Medicare, provider payment, and provider market consolidation, having authored or coauthored nearly 100 publications on these and related topics. He has experience practicing medicine, serving in senior positions in two administrations, and helping organize and manage a successful preferred provider organization.

From 1998 to 2000, he was in charge of Medicare payment policy and managed care contracting in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

Services. In the Carter Administration, he served as an assistant director of the Domestic Policy Staff at the White House. He served a term on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) from 2009-2012, the last two years as vice chair. Dr. Berenson was an initial member of the Physician-Focused Payment Model Technical Advisory Committee, created by the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA). He has authored or coauthored more than 100 published articles and has testified frequently in Congress.

Dr. Berenson is a board-certified internist who practiced for 12 years in a Washington, D.C., group practice and is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. He helped found and was co-medical director of National Capital PPO, a PPO that served 150,000 lives in the Washington DC metropolitan area. He was coauthor, with Walter Zelman, of The Managed Care Blues & How to Cure Them, published in 1998 and coauthor, with Rick Mayes, of Medicare Prospective Payment and the Shaping of U.S. Health Care in 2008. He is an adjunct professor at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Catalyst for Payment Reform.



SARAH G. CANDLER, MD, MPH, FACP, is an Internal Medicine Physician, specializing in primary care for high-risk, older adults. She has dedicated both her practice and policy work to improving access to high quality, equitable primary care. Her professional goal is to recenter the American healthcare system on the patient-physician relationship through payment reforms, public transparency, and team-based care. In addition to her work as a consultant and content-matter expert, Dr. Candler has served in multiple

national leadership roles at the American College of Physicians (ACP), most recently on their Medical Practice and Quality Committee, and as Delegate from ACP to the AMA. At the AMA, Dr. Candler is a member of the AMA's Governing Council of the Specialty and Service Society Caucus, assisting with consensus-building between specialties during their policy-making processes. She has contributed to ACP policy papers on team-based care, payment reform and value-based care, and was a primary author on their paper and toolkit "Beyond the Referral: Principles of Effective, Ongoing Primary and Specialty Care Collaboration." Dr. Candler graduated from Emory College of Medicine where she also attended Rollins School of Public Health, receiving a Masters in Public Health focused in health policy and management. After completing Internal Medicine residency at Tulane University in their Primary Care Track, Dr. Candler became Assistant Professor for Baylor College of Medicine at the Debakey VA's Center of Excellence in Primary Care in Houston, Texas. She then served as a Medical Director for Iora Health, opening and growing their Houston market before becoming acquired by One Medical, and later Amazon. Dr. Candler is currently a private strategic planning consultant for non-profit organizations while continuing her volunteer leadership roles at the American College of Physicians and American Medical Association. She and her family are recent transplants to the Washington, D.C. area.



ING-JYE CHENG (she/they), MPP, Acting Deputy Director, Center for Medicare at Centers for Medicare & Medicaid. Cheng is a federal executive with 20+ years of experience engaged in exciting efforts to advance health care. Cheng has a broad experience in hospital and health insurance industries, including association work, consulting, project management, and analytics. They led major federal initiatives to expand Medicare payment for testing, treatment, vaccination and new clinical modalities to ensure access to care during the COVID-19 pandemic while managing transition of entire

workforce to a virtual environment as well as supporting three children attending elementary, middle, and high school virtually and a physician administrator spouse in academic medicine seeing patients in and leading a hospital emergency department in downtown Baltimore.



YVONNE DAVIS is the Board Chair of Health Care Partners of South Carolina, a Federally Qualified Health Center serving Horry, Marion, and Florence Counties. Mrs. Davis is a native South Carolinian and a veteran of higher education. Mrs. Davis served in the James A. Rogers Library as the Acquisitions Coordinator and retired as Library Manager in 2015 after 34 years. Mrs. Davis was a founding member and a past president of the Francis Marion University African American Faculty and Staff Coalition. After retirement Mrs. Davis continued to be one of Community Health Centers biggest advocates, and took her voice to a higher level, and became the Consumer Board Representative on the National Association of Community Health Centers Executive Board. After

serving 8 years in that position, Mrs. Davis decided not to run for reelection, and moved her advocacy back to state and local level, which she refers to it as "Boots on the Ground." In February of 2018, the Yvonne G. Davis Community Service Scholarship was named in her honor on behalf of the University to be awarded to a student who strives to meet the health care needs of his or her community. Care.



KRISTEN DUBAY, MPP, Kristen monitors, evaluates, and reports on state and federal policy and regulatory changes and the implications for health centers and the patients they serve. She helps develop the Association's policy agenda and strategic direction in collaboration with other state partners. Kristen is responsible for developing policy briefs, analytics, concept papers, fact sheets, and summaries for health center administrators, state and federal legislators and staff, and media. Kristen develops grassroots advocacy strategies and facilitates advocacy training for health centers. She also oversees the Association's outreach and

enrollment work. Prior to joining NCCHCA, Kristen worked in a variety of policy and research settings including the Duke Center on Globalization, Governance & Competitiveness, the North Carolina Medical Journal, and the North Carolina Institute of Medicine. She holds a Master of Public Policy degree from Duke University and an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University.



**TED EPPERLY**, MD is the President and CEO of the Full Circle Health, a large Federally Qualified Teaching Health Center comprised of nine FQHC clinics, four ACGME family medicine residency programs, and five fellowships. He received an undergraduate degree in Biology and Anthropology from Utah State University in 1976. He Graduated from the University of Washington School of Medicine in 1980. Dr. Epperly completed his residency in Family Medicine at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Washington in 1983. He completed a faculty development fellowship at the University of North Carolina in 1986 and achieved an additional CAQ in Geriatrics. Dr.

Epperly retired July 2001 as Colonel after serving 21 years in the United States Army. Dr.

Epperly served as the past President and Board Chair of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). He is a past member of the ACGME Board of Directors that has responsibility of all residency and fellowship training for over 125,000 residents and fellows of all specialties in the United States and currently is the vice-chair of the ACGME Policy Committee. He currently serves as the Co-Chairman of the Board for the Healthcare Transformation Council of Idaho that is in charge of helping transform healthcare for the State of Idaho. Dr. Epperly is the Graduate Medical Education Coordinator for the State of Idaho and the author of the State of Idaho's Ten Year GME Plan to build a vibrant and robust GME system for Idaho.

Dr. Epperly is a member of multiple other Boards of Directors and the President of several non-profit organizations. He has published over 50 articles and book chapters and he is a staunch supporter of Family Medicine education, research, and both rural and underserved health care. His award-winning book Fractured: America's Broken Health Care System and What Must Be Done to Heal It provides excellent insight to the U.S healthcare system and can be found on Amazon.com.



LAURA FOX, MPH, is the Director of Payment Innovation for Blue Shield of California. In her role on the Provider Performance, Quality, and Affordability team Laura leads a team to design, build, test, and scale innovative ways to appropriately reward and incentivize providers to deliver care that is "worthy of our family and friends and is sustainably affordable." The Payment Innovation team has designed and launched over 18 value-based payment models for primary care and specialty care services that are scaling throughout the state of California.

Laura is coming up on her 8-year anniversary with Blue Shield of California. Prior to her current role at Blue Shield as the Director of Chronic Disease Prevention for the Baltimore City Health Department leading programs aimed at improving health outcomes for Baltimore City residents.

Laura holds a master's in public health From Johns Hopkins University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Brandeis University.



**SEIJI HAYASHI**, MD, MPH, FAAFP, is lead medical director for government programs at CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield that serves 3.6 million individuals and groups in Maryland and the Washington metropolitan area. Dr. Hayashi is a board-certified family physician and an experienced leader in primary care, quality improvement, and health policy at the local and national levels. Prior to CareFirst, he spearheaded health services integration and transformation at two area federally qualified health centers. Hayashi's national health policy experience comes from his role as Chief Medical Officer for the federal Health Center Program at the Health Resources and Services Administration. He started his career at Georgetown University and at George Washington

University teaching public health and conducting health policy research. Hayashi has received a number of awards and honors, including the Samuel U. Rodgers, MD Achievement Award from the National Association of Community Health Centers. Dr. Hayashi graduated with honors in Studio Art from Vassar College, received his M.D. with Alpha Omega Alpha distinction from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed his family medicine residency training at the University of California San Francisco. He received his M.P.H. from the Harvard School of Public Health while a fellow with the Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy.



LINDA THOMAS-HEMAK, MD, FACP, FAAP, is president and chief executive officer of The Wright Centers for Community Health and Graduate Medical Education in Northeast Pennsylvania. A Michael DeBakey Scholar from Baylor College of Medicine, she completed Harvard Massachusetts General Hospital's combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics Residency. She returned to her hometown, Jermyn, Pennsylvania, to deliver primary care and was recruited and joined The Wright Center in 2001. Dr. Thomas-Hemak was named president of The Wright Center Medical Group as program director of The Wright Center for Graduate Medical

Education's Internal Medicine Residency. She accepted her current leadership role in 2012. Quintuple board-certified in internal medicine, pediatrics, addiction, obesity medicine, and nutrition, Dr. Thomas-Hemak delivers whole-person primary health services and teaches these disciplines at The Wright Center's Mid Valley Teaching Health Center, where she treats multiple generations of families, neighbors, and friends. A founding board member of the Beyond Flexner Scranton-based Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, Dr. Thomas-Hemak devotes her leadership to health care and medical education organizations, nonprofit boards, and cross-sector committees and workgroups.

In April 2023, Dr. Thomas-Hemak began serving her four-year term as governor for the eastern region of the American College of Physicians' Pennsylvania Chapter. She also serves as a member of the Advisory Council on Graduate Medical Education of the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration and the Pennsylvania Patient-Centered Medical Home Advisory Council. Dr. Thomas-Hemak has provided instrumental leadership in growing the Graduate Medical Education Safety-Net Consortium model, one of the nation's largest HRSA-funded Teaching Health Center Sponsoring Institutions. It addresses the national primary care physician workforce shortage and misdistribution and related health and health care disparities by force-multiplying the impact of nondiscriminatory primary care health services delivery, workforce development, and public health by optimizing public and private clinical revenues.

KIMBERLY HEREK, MHA, BS, RT(R), CPHIMS is the Director of Clinical Quality



Improvement. She holds a bachelor's degree in medical Imaging and a master's degree in healthcare administration. Ms. Herek previously worked in the field of radiology and healthcare IT and began her career at RMHP in 2013 as a Quality Improvement Advisor. In her current role she directs her team to work in collaboration with multiple departments and stakeholders to drive performance improvement activities impacting HEDIS, STARS, NCQA Accreditation, Key Performance Indicators, Alternative Payment Models and Provider/Practice Transformation programs.



**RYAN HOWE,** PhD, is the Director of the Hospital and Ambulatory Policy Group in the CMS Center for Medicare. He has previously served in several leadership positions within the Center for Medicare with a primary focus on payment for professional and other ambulatory services, hospital services, and Part B drugs. He holds degrees from the University of Pittsburgh, Washington University in St. Louis, and Boston College.



YALDA JABBARPOUR, MD, is a family physician and Director of the Robert Graham Center for Policy Studies in Primary Care. In this role, she oversees a team of researchers who create and curate the evidence to support primary care. She conducts research on the primary care workforce, payment and investment in primary care, scope of practice for family physicians, factors contributing to primary care burnout and the integration of public health and primary care. Dr. Jabbarpour first came to the Robert Graham Center as a Robert L. Phillips Health Policy fellow in 2015 and served as the

Medical Director of the center from 2018-2022. She sees patients clinically at the MedStar Family Medicine Center in Spring Valley.

Dr. Jabbarpour received her undergraduate degree at the University of California, Los Angeles. She attended medical school at the Georgetown University School of Medicine and completed her residency in Family Medicine at the Georgetown University/Providence Hospital family medicine residency. Dr. Jabbarpour and her team at the Robert Graham Center, with support from the Milbank Memorial Fund, were responsible for authoring the first primary care scorecard and creating the first national dashboard on primary care based on the National Academies report *Implementing High Quality Primary Care: Rebuilding the Foundation of Health Care*.



CRAIG KENNEDY, MPH, joined MHPA in December of 2019 after more than two decades in non-profit association management and in leadership positions on Capitol Hill. He has management responsibility for all aspects of the Association and reports to the MHPA Board of Directors. MHPA represents the interests of the Medicaid managed care industry through advocacy and research to support innovative policy solutions that enhance the delivery of comprehensive, cost-effective, and quality health care for Medicaid enrollees.

Prior to joining MHPA, Craig was the Executive Director for the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU). He led ACU to record growth over his six-year tenure and helped secure new federal grant funding for the organization. He also helped establish their advocacy infrastructure, which grew to include thousands of active participants across the country. Craig previously served as the top lobbyist for the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) for more than a decade, which included negotiating the 2008 reauthorization of the Health Centers and National Health Service Corps programs, the 2009 Stimulus package, and the 2010 Affordable Care Act. He began his tenure at NACHC working to double the Health Centers program (the REACH Initiative) and subsequently drafted the ACCESS for All America plan for the organization. During his thirteen-year tenure at NACHC, the Health Centers program grew from \$875 million in annual funding to over \$5 billion.

Craig has also worked on Capitol Hill and in the Oregon State Legislature. His work on Capitol Hill included a stint in the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over all health, tax and trade issues. He also served as the Senior Legislative Assistant for a member of the House Appropriations Committee, and later as the Legislative Director for a member of the House Rules Committee.

He received his Masters in Public Health from the George Washington University School of Public Health in Washington, DC, and has a Bachelor's of Science from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. He lives with his wife Linda and three daughters in northern Virginia.



ALEX KRIST, MD, MPH, is a professor of family medicine and population health at Virginia Commonwealth University and an active clinician and teacher at the Fairfax Family Practice Residency. He is the director of the Virginia Ambulatory Care Outcomes Research Network, director of community-engaged research at the Center for Clinical and Translational Research and is past chairperson for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Dr. Krist's areas of interest include implementation of preventive recommendations, patient-centered care, shared decision making, cancer screening, and

health information technology. He is the primary author of numerous peer-reviewed publications and has presented to a wide range of audiences at national and international conferences. Dr. Krist completed his doctor of medicine at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. Dr. Krist was elected to the NAM in 2018, was a member of the committee that produced *Implementing High-Quality Primary Care: Rebuilding the Foundation of Health Care*, co-chair

of the committee that produced *Achieving Whole Health: A New Approach for Veterans and the Nation*, and current Committee Member for the Standing Committee on Primary Care.



CHRISTIANE LABONTE, MS, is a Senior Advisor to the Director of the Center for Medicare at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Her portfolio includes Medicare Parts A&B with an emphasis on driving value-based care, advancing health equity, and improving access to behavioral health, along with running day-to-day operations of the Director's front office. In prior roles, she led a broad range of policies for the \$90 billion annual Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, and was one of the early hires of the CMS Innovation Center, where she led primary care and accountable care organization

models. She has served at CMS since 2011.



DIANE MARRIOTT, DrPH, MHSA directs Michigan Multipayer Initiatives (MMI), a group that catalyzes healthcare payer and plan alignment on common, evidence-based policy to improve health equity, quality of care, patient experience, affordability of care, and the health of the populations we serve. Based at the University of Michigan and hosted by the Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation, MMI also works with providers, practices, physician organizations, social care organizations, national groups and patients to ensure that community voice is incorporated. Diane has served as Statewide Convener for several large-scale CMMI primary care practice demonstrations to

improve value, quality and patient/provider experience outcomes including Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+), Michigan Primary Care Transformation (MiPCT), and the Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Initiatives of Michigan's State Innovation Model (SIM).

She is a member of the Milbank Fund's Multipayer Primary Care Network Advisory Group and has served on committees for the National Quality Forum, U.S. Preventive Task Force, National Business Group on Health, and E-Health Initiative. Prior to assuming her position at the University of Michigan, Diane led corporate health policy and strategy efforts at Ford Motor Company. She earned her Doctor of Health Policy and Master of Health Services Administration degrees from the University of Michigan and teaches in the graduate Health Management and Policy department at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.



KAMERON MATTHEWS, MD, JD, FAAFP, is the Chief Health Officer of Cityblock Health, a transformative, value-based healthcare provider integrating medical, behavioral, and social services for Medicaid and dually eligible and low-income Medicare beneficiaries. A board-certified Family Physician, Dr. Matthews has focused her career on marginalized communities, having held multiple leadership roles in correctional medicine, federally qualified health centers, and managed care. Most recently at the Veterans Health Administration, she led transformational efforts

focused on integrated, Veteran-centered models of care including the implementation of the MISSION Act of 2018 and the EHR modernization effort. She is a member of the sixth class of the Aspen Institute's Health Innovators Fellowship. As a passion outside of work, she founded and co-directs the Tour for Diversity in Medicine, an initiative seeking to bring premedical enrichment activities to underrepresented minority high school and undergraduate students across the country. Dr. Matthews completed her Doctor of Medicine from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and her juris doctorate from University of Chicago Law School. Dr. Matthews is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine.



M. SHAWN MCFARLAND, PHARM.D., FCCP, BCACP, is a national program manager for the Veterans Health Administration Pharmacy Benefits Management Clinical Pharmacy Practice Office. Dr. McFarland is responsible for helping guide the direction of clinical pharmacy services within the VA with a focus on integration of the VA clinical pharmacist practitioner providing comprehensive medication management. His interests include teaching and translational research with pharmacist involvement in the patient-centered medical home providing comprehensive medication management. In addition, he has more than 40 professional publications and is a reviewer for multiple journals. Dr. McFarland is a fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.



PURVA RAWAL, PhD, is the Chief Strategy Officer at the CMS Innovation Center at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. As part of the Senior Leadership team, she provides guidance and leadership on the execution of the Innovation Center's strategy. Most recently, she was a principal at CapView Strategies, where she developed evidence-based public policy and business strategies and conducted policy research on health system transformation and sustainability issues. She was also an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University. In 2016, she published a book, The Affordable Care Act: Examining the Facts and has published book chapter, blogs,

and papers on value-based care. Previously, Dr. Rawal served as professional staff on the Senate Budget Committee during the passage of the Affordable Care Act and as the health and social policy advisor to Sen. Joseph Lieberman (I-CT). She was also a director in the Health Insurance and Reform Practice at Avalere Health. She began her health policy career as a Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Fellow at the National Academy of Sciences and as a Congressional Fellow for the Society for Research on Child Development and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Rawal received her B.A. and Ph.D. from Northwestern University.



KYU RHEE, MD, MPP is President and CEO of the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), Dr. Rhee supports delivery of high-quality, affordable, patient-governed primary care, promoting health equity for communities across our nation. With over 300,000 employees serving 30 million people in over 15,000 locations, federally qualified health centers provide values-based care to patients in every US state and territory, regardless of their ability to pay. Prior to joining NACHC, Dr. Rhee was senior vice president & Aetna chief medical officer at CVS Health, where his team delivered evidence-based clinical and population health solutions to improve health for up to 65 million people. Dr. Rhee worked as a primary care physician for

the National Health Service Corps and chief medical officer in community health settings in Washington, DC, and Baltimore. During that time, he taught at the George Washington University School of Public Health, where he received a Best Teacher award for his classes in community health leadership and health disparities. He remains committed to mentoring the next generation of health leaders and has active appointments and teaching responsibilities at Stanford School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Boston University Ouestrom School of Business.

Dr. Rhee completed his medical residency training in both internal medicine and pediatrics at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. He earned his medical degree from the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. Dr. Rhee also holds a master's degree in health care policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He acquired his Bachelor of Science degree in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale University.



**EUGENE RICH**, MD, Dr. Gene Rich is a Senior Fellow in the DC office of Mathematica. A general-internist health policy researcher, he has a career long focus on the influence of the policy, payment, and practice environment on health professionals' decision making, including policies relevant to improving primary medical care. In addition to his expertise in health services and health policy research, he has deep experience with academic and private practice leadership, including medicine department chair (Creighton University) and hospital as well as PHO medical director. Since joining Mathematica

in 2010, Gene has led numerous relevant projects, including directing development and updates to AHRQ's Compendium of US Health Systems which identifies, characterizes, and studies US integrated delivery systems. For the Alternative Payment Model (APM) Program Analysis Contract with CMS he reviews various proposals to reform Medicare payments to clinicians. He has been integrally involved in a variety of policy research efforts to guide the transformation of primary care practice. For example, in the Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) and Primary Care First (PCF) Medicare APM evaluations he has overseen work using administrative data to describe primary care practice features and their relation to variations in low value care and overall spending. He currently leads foundation-funded projects investigating the influence of diverse Medicare APMs on PCP access, continuity, comprehensiveness, and coordination. He is also studying how APMs and health systems contribute to variations in care of Medicare

beneficiaries residing in disadvantaged neighborhoods. The author of more than 170 peer-reviewed publications, past recognition of his work includes past President of SGIM, and 2006-07 Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow working with the House Committee on Ways and Means.



SARA ROSENBAUM, J.D., is the Emerita Professor of Health Law and Policy and Founding Chair of the Department of Health Policy at George Washington University's Milken Institute School of Public Health. She has devoted her career to health justice for medically underserved populations. Professor Rosenbaum is a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, served on CDC's Director's Advisory Committee and the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP), and was a founding Commissioner of Congress's Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC), which she chaired from January 2016 through April 2017. She is the recipient of many honors and awards including the National

Academy of Medicine's Adam Yarmolinsky Medal, awarded for distinguished service to a member from a discipline outside the health and medical sciences, the American Public Health Association Executive Director Award for Service, and the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health Welch-Rose Award for Lifetime Contributions to the Health of the Public. She is a recipient of GW's Trachtenberg Prize for Research



**NICOLE SEAGRIFF,** DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, is Vice President of the Community Health Center Inc.'s Western Region, which includes mobile, school based and fixes sites in Stamford, Norwalk, Danbury, Meriden, Bristol and Waterbury.

She attended Boston College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2007. Upon graduation, she began work as a Registered Nurse in the Medical Intensive Care Unit at Yale New Haven Hospital while completing her Master of Science in Nursing degree at Yale University in 2011 to become a Family Nurse Practitioner. In 2016, she graduated with her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Duke University with a focus

on genetic testing for breast cancer mutations in underserved populations.

While at Yale, she recognized the need for access to primary care services for underserved patients and chose to complete an additional year of training through the nation's first nurse practitioner residency program at the Community Health Center, Inc. (CHCI) based in Middletown, CT. After completion of the NP residency program, she worked as a primary care provider at CHCI for nearly 12 years where she also served as the On-Site Medical Director of the Norwalk and Stamford locations. In addition to this, and with an ever present appreciation for post graduate training, she was Clinical Program Director of the National Nurse Practitioner Residency Program from 2018-2023.

In addition to work, she is President of The Pink Agenda, a 501(c)(3) dedicated to raising money and awareness among young professionals for breast cancer research and care. Since its

inception less than a decade ago, The Pink Agenda has raised nearly \$8 million for life saving research. She is also a former Alumni Board member for her high school alma mater, Sacred Heart Greenwich, where she was the graduation commencement speaker in 2020. In 2022, she was named the Yale School of Nursing Decade Award winner.



LAURYN WALKER, PhD., MPH, is the Chief Strategy Officer for the Virginia Center for Health Innovation (VCHI), a non-profit, public-private partnership that aims to improve value in healthcare and leads the Virginia Task Force on Primary Care. Prior to joining VCHI, Lauryn served as the Interim Chief of Population Health and Senior Advisor to the Chief Actuary and Chief Strategy Officer for North Carolina Medicaid, where she supported reforms to integrate behavioral health and physical health. Lauryn also served as the Senior Advisor for the Chief Deputy and Chief Health Economist at Virginia Medicaid, supporting the development of the Office of Value-Based Purchasing (VBP), the Office

of Quality and Population Health, and the Office of Data Analytics. Lauryn is on the advisory board for the Center for Professionalism and Value in Health Care and the board of Richmond Aging and Engaging, a community-based organization. Lauryn is a registered nurse and member of the Virginia Medical Reserve Corps. She earned her nursing degree and MPH from Johns Hopkins University and her PhD from Virginia Commonwealth University.



**THOMAS WEIDA**, MD, is Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs for the College and Chief Medical Officer for University Medical Center, which the College operates. He is also Professor of Family, Internal, and Rural Medicine.

Weida earned his undergraduate and medical degrees from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital in Philadelphia. He completed his Family Medicine residency at Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, and holds a Certificate of Added Qualification in Geriatric Medicine.

After 14 years in private practice in rural Pennsylvania, Weida joined the faculty at the Penn State Hershey College of Medicine in Hershey, Pennsylvania, obtaining the rank of Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. While there, he served as Medical Director of the Penn State Hershey Medical Group and as Medical Director for Information Technology for the Department of Family Medicine at Hershey Medical Center.

Weida is active in professional organizations. He has served on the American Academy of Family Physicians board of directors and as the AAFP representative to the American Medical Association's Relative Value Update Committee.

ELLEN-MARIE WHELAN, NP, PhD, FAAN is the Chief Population Health Officer at CMS for the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) and a Senior Advisor at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). She leads state delivery system reform and value-based transformation activities, supporting staff and states to design, implement, and test innovative care delivery and alternative payment models, including addressing social determinants of health and equity. As a chief clinical officer she coordinates the maternal child health portfolio.

Previously, Dr. Whelan was the Associate Director of Health Policy at the Center for American Progress during the development and passage of the Affordable Care Act. She started her policy career in the U.S. Senate as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow and then served as Staff Director on the Aging subcommittee to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP).

Before coming to Capitol Hill, Dr. Whelan was a health services researcher and faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania and Johns Hopkins University and practiced as nurse practitioner for over a decade. She has worked in a variety of primary care settings and started an adolescent primary care clinic in West Philadelphia. Through this process she became one of the first nurse practitioners in Pennsylvania to obtain an independent Medicaid provider number and for starting the nursing center she received the Secretary's Award for Innovations in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, presented by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Donna Shalala.

Dr. Whelan holds a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, a master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and The Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in primary care policy at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.



EBONI WINFORD, PhD, MPH, is the Director of Research and Health Equity and a licensed psychologist at Cherokee Health Systems in Knoxville, Tennessee. She provides direct clinical care to patients, contributes to workforce development in community health centers, and oversees research initiatives including those funded by the HRSA, the TN Department of Health, and NIH. She is the Clinical Director for CHS's National Consultation and Training Program, which provides individualized on-site training to other health organizations as they seek to integrate their practices. She is on the board of directors for the Collaborative Family Healthcare Association, is the Chair-Elect of APA's

Ad Hoc Health Equity Committee, is secretary of APHA's Community Health Planning and Policy Development section and serves as the 2nd Vice Chair of NACHC Committee on Service Integration for Behavioral Health and HIV.

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