

Shaping Access to Reproductive Health Care: Financing and Delivery Systems

A Two-Part Webinar Series

Part I: June 7, 2024 | 12:00-1:30pm ET

Part II: June 12, 2024 | 12:00-1:30pm ET

SPEAKER BIOSKETCHES

Event webpage: <https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/shaping-access-to-reproductive-health-care-financing-and-delivery-systems-a-two-part-webinar-series#sectionUpcomingEvents>



FABIOLA CARRIÓN, JD, is the Director of Reproductive and Sexual Health at the National Health Law Program's Los Angeles office, where she works on reproductive and sexual health access and services in California and across the country. Her portfolio focuses on abortion coverage at the state level, primarily in Medicaid and the marketplaces. Fabiola also coordinates NHeLP's groundbreaking work on telehealth by ensuring that Medicaid enrollees are centered in emerging telehealth policies. Before joining NHeLP, Fabiola was an Advocacy Program Officer at Planned Parenthood Global, where she designed, developed, and oversaw projects on sexual and reproductive rights in Latin America that have resulted in some of the most progressive policies in the region. She previously served as the Director of Government Relations at Planned Parenthood of New York City and as a Policy Advisor for a network of progressive state legislators and state-based advocates from across the United States. In these roles, she provided technical assistance in the form of legal analysis, legislative tracking, and policy trainings. Fabiola began her legal career as a law clerk for Judge Joseph Maltese in New York's Supreme Court and worked for various national and international human rights organizations before and during law school. After completing her undergraduate studies, she was selected as a Public Policy Fellow with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. Fabiola graduated with High Honors (*magna cum laude*) from U.C. Berkeley in Latin American Studies and Political Science and has law degrees from American University in Washington, D.C. and La Universidad Alfonso X in Madrid, Spain. Fabiola serves on various boards of reproductive freedom organizations, including Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity (URGE), the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice, the California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, and the California Abortion Alliance. She was also a 2008 Rockwood Institute Fellow for Leaders in Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice.



LORETTA CHRISTENSEN, MD, MBA, MSJ, FACS, an enrolled member of the Navajo Tribe, serves as the chief medical officer of the Indian Health Service. The IHS, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the principal federal health care provider for American Indians and Alaska Natives. As the chief medical officer, Dr. Christensen is IHS' lead expert on medical and public health topics, giving technical consultation and guidance to the IHS Office of the Director and IHS staff throughout the country on American Indian and Alaska Native health care policies and issues. She provides national leadership for clinical and community-based health programs of the agency, and serves as the primary liaison and advocate for IHS health professionals. Dr. Christensen began her career with the IHS as a general surgeon. She has recently served as

the chief medical officer of the Navajo Area Indian Health Service from 2017-2021, and as chief medical officer at the Gallup Service Unit from 2014-2017. She also served as acting IHS chief medical officer from May to June 2021. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she served as the co-lead for the COVID-19 Response Branch and the Medical Branch lead for the Navajo Nation's Unified Coordination Group. Dr. Christensen received her undergraduate degree in biological anthropology from Harvard University and her medical degree from Hahnemann University Medical School, now the Drexel University College of Medicine. She completed her general surgery residency at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey and a fellowship in trauma and critical care at Cooper University Hospital. Dr. Christensen also holds a master of business administration from Georgian Court University and a master of jurisprudence with a specialty in healthcare law from Seton Hall Law School. Before joining the Navajo Area, Dr. Christensen served for 17 years as the trauma clinical director and associate director of the surgical intensive care unit at Jersey Shore University Hospital. She was also the director of integrative medicine and non-invasive pain management services, as well as an assistant professor of surgery at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She has specialty training in medical acupuncture, palliative care, functional medicine, just culture, quality management and patient safety. Dr. Christensen is board certified in general surgery and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.



LORI FREEDMAN, PHD, is a medical sociologist and professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco. She is a Greenwall Faculty Scholar in bioethics and conducts research with Advancing New Standards In Reproductive Health (ANSIRH), a program of the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health at UCSF. Professor Freedman investigates the ways in which reproductive health care is shaped by our social structure and medical culture. Her book, *Willing and Unable: Doctors' Constraints in Abortion Care* (2010), is a qualitative study of the challenges to integrating abortion into physician practice. Unexpected findings from those physician interviews led her to research and write about the intersection of religion and health care,

especially in the case of Catholic hospitals, with an interest in how conscientious objection in medical

practice operates at the institutional level. Through qualitative interviews with Catholic hospital physicians and patients as well as national surveys of American women, her newest book, *Bishops and Bodies: Reproductive Care in American Catholic Hospitals* (2023), lends insight into how institutional policies for reproductive care can be hidden from view, malleable, and/or obstructive to patient autonomy and wellbeing.



BRITTNEI FREDERIKSEN, PHD, MPH, is an associate director for Women's Health Policy at KFF, where she focuses on Title X, contraceptive access, and a range of other sexual and reproductive health topics. She works on several survey projects, as well as various private insurance and Medicaid claims analyses. Frederiksen is a reproductive epidemiologist who previously worked at the Office of Population Affairs in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She was also a Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists Fellow at the Iowa Department of Public Health. Frederiksen holds a master's in public health degree in maternal and child health epidemiology from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and a Ph.D. in epidemiology from the Colorado School of Public Health.



AMANDA JOHNSON, MD, FACOG is the Director of Reproductive Health within the Office of Women's Health in the Veterans Health Administration. The Office of Women's Health reports directly to the Under Secretary of Health. In this role, Dr. Johnson oversees the delivery and quality of reproductive health care for Veterans across the lifespan throughout VA systems. Dr. Johnson is a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist with a focus on underserved and vulnerable patient populations. She earned her medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. During this time, she provided care at an urban community health clinic, organized domestic violence awareness training, and served patients experiencing homelessness. Before joining the VA, she served as an associate professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology at Columbia University. Subsequently, she also served on the faculty of the University of Washington School of Medicine's WWAMI Regional Medical Education Program, a community-based medical education program to address a medical desert in historically underserved rural areas in the northwest United States. Dr. Johnson joined the Cheyenne VA Medical Center in 2010 as a gynecologist and the Women's Health Medical Director. She is passionate about caring for women Veterans and advocating for their reproductive health needs. In January of 2020, Dr. Johnson joined VA Central Office. Under her leadership, VA nimbly responded to the COVID-19 pandemic response in developing guidance and policy for health care of pregnant, postpartum, and lactating Veterans. Throughout her tenure, Dr. Johnson has received multiple honors, including being inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society and receiving awards including the Sloane Hospital for Women Excellence in Teaching Award, the 2003 University of Washington School of Medicine Merck Manual Award, and the 2007 Howard C. Taylor Award. She sits on numerous committees and boards, including the White House Maternal Health

Interagency Policy Committee, the Transgender Care Coordination Integrated Project Team, the Breast and Gynecologic Oncology System of Excellence Advisory Board, VA Gender Strategy Committee, the VA Market Area Health System Optimization Women's Health National Planning Strategy Committee, Women Veterans' Reproductive Health Research Work Group, the VA Electronic Health Record Modernization Gynecology Work Group, and the National Surgery Office's Gynecology Surgical Advisory Board. She has successfully worked across VHA to expand initiatives for women and gender-diverse Veterans. Under her leadership, VA has enhanced care across the reproductive health lifespan in contraceptive access, fertility and infertility treatment, lactation support for Veterans, emergency care for women, pelvic floor physical therapy, inclusion of transgender and other gender-diverse Veterans, menopause, and prenatal/perinatal/postpartum care. Dr. Johnson has spearheaded initiatives to research disparities and social determinants of health in pregnancy-associated mortality. She is also overseeing an expansion of the maternity care coordination program so care is seamlessly coordinated between VA facilities and maternity care in the community from the time of a positive pregnancy test through 12 months following the end of pregnancy, at a time when Veterans are at increased risk of morbidity and mortality. In addition, Dr. Johnson has led the effort to successfully establish VA's first Advanced Fellowship Program in Minimally Invasive Gynecology, which improves access to minimally invasive gynecology surgery as well as care for gynecologic conditions common in Veterans across the health care system.



AMAL KHOURY, PHD, MPH, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Services Management and Policy and Director of the Center for Applied Research and Evaluation in Women's Health at East Tennessee State University College of Public Health. Dr. Khoury is a public health educator and researcher dedicated to improving women's health and health care while preparing the next generation of public health practitioners and health policy researchers. Throughout her academic career, Khoury has investigated how financing structures, organizational policies and practices, and community contexts influence health care access, use and outcomes for diverse population groups. As principal investigator of the evaluation of the South Carolina *Choose Well* initiative,

she currently leads efforts to advance the evidence around the impact of statewide contraceptive access initiatives on reproductive health care delivery and outcomes, while identifying lessons learned to inform future interventions. The evaluation findings have been leveraged to secure state-level funding for contraceptive care and to help sustain programmatic efforts for low-income and uninsured people. In previous roles, Dr. Khoury led the evaluation of the *Loving Support Makes Breastfeeding Work* campaign for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Findings from this evaluation were used by the US Department of Agriculture to expand the campaign nationwide. Khoury has also investigated patterns of clinical preventive service use among Medicaid beneficiaries, screening services and clinical trial participation among women of color, and practices of primary care providers in the deep south. She coordinated the first national study of women's health centers and contributed to case studies of innovative models of reproductive health care delivery. She also directed the first national study examining the impact of affiliations between religious and nonreligious health care systems on reproductive health care access in communities across the US. Dr. Khoury holds a PHD in Health Policy and Management from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public

Health and a Master of Public Health from the American University of Beirut. She has served in multiple leadership roles with the American Public Health Association, AcademyHealth, and the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health. She has additionally provided expertise on the boards of statewide health coalitions and as a consultant with state departments of health.



KIMBERLY MUTCHERSON, JD, is a Professor of Law and former Co-Dean at Rutgers Law School in Camden. Professor Mutcherson is a reproductive justice scholar whose work focuses on assisted reproduction and abortion among other topics. Cambridge University Press released her edited volume, *FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE REWRITTEN* in 2020. In 2023, Professor Mutcherson received the Trailblazer Award from the New Jersey Women Lawyer's Association. She was a co-recipient of the 2021 M. Shanara Gilbert Human Rights Award from the Society of American Law Teachers and the 2020 Association of American Law Schools inaugural Impact Award as one of the creators of the Law Deans Antiracist Clearinghouse Project.

Professor Mutcherson has served as a Scholar in Residence at the Birnbaum Women's Leadership Center at NYU Law School, a Senior Fellow/Sabbatical Visitor at the Center for Gender and Sexuality Law at Columbia Law School, and a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to entering academia, Professor Mutcherson was a consulting attorney at the Center for Reproductive Rights and a Kirkland & Ellis Fellow and Staff Attorney at the HIV Law Project



JEN STARK is the Co-Director of BSR's Center for Business and Social Justice. She is a strategy development and implementation expert at complex health and humanitarian organizations with 20+ years of experience. She launched the Center in 2022 alongside Jarrod Green to illuminate a path for companies to shift from performative to transformational actions with a focus on public policy engagement and influence. Prior to joining BSR, she directed investments at the Tara Health Foundation to advance meaningful change among private sector employers on gender and racial equity, including historic progress on paid family and medical leave, reproductive health, and other workplace protections. Before working in philanthropy, she founded the corporate relations program at Planned Parenthood Federation of America to unlock advocacy, grantmaking and employee support to preserve

access to reproductive healthcare nationwide. She also managed the disaster fundraising team at the American Red Cross, coordinating large scale efforts to responsibly raise and deploy hundreds of millions of dollars. She is frequently cited in business press on flashpoint topics and is an advisor to Gauge.ai and GoFundMe's Compassion Leadership Network. Jen holds a BA in Economics and Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is based in Washington, DC with her family, where she also plays cello in a community orchestra.