

Shifting the nation's health investments to support long, healthy lives for all: A Symposium

Committee

Marcella Alsan

Member

Marcella Alsan, M.P.H., M.D., Ph.D. is a Professor of Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School. Prior to returning to Harvard, she was on faculty at Stanford. She is an applied microeconomist studying health inequality. Some of her recent papers include “Does Diversity Matter for Health: Experimental Evidence from Oakland” and “Tuskegee and the Health of Black Men” – published in the American Economic Review and The Quarterly Journal of Economics, respectively. These papers have been cited in the New York Times and other major media outlets and findings have been presented to the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is currently on the Board of Editors for Science Magazine, Co-Editor of the Journal of Health Economics and Co-Chair of the Health Care Delivery Initiative of Poverty Action Lab based out of MIT. She is the co-recipient of the 2019 Arrow Award for Best Paper in Health Economics.

Dr. Alsan received a B.A. from Harvard University, a Master's in public health from Harvard School of Public Health, a M.D. from Loyola University, and a Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University. Dr. Alsan trained at Brigham and Women's Hospital Hiatt Global Health Equity Residency Fellowship – then combined the Ph.D. with an Infectious Disease Fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Anita Chandra

Member

Anita Chandra, Dr.P.H., is the vice president and director of RAND Social and Economic Well-Being and a senior policy researcher at the RAND Corporation. The division manages RAND's Center to Advance Racial Equity Policy as well as other Centers on climate, housing, drug policy, policing, and civil justice. She leads studies on civic well-being and community planning; disaster response and resilience; public health emergency preparedness; health and health equity; child health and development, and effects of military deployment on families.

Throughout her career, Dr. Chandra has engaged government and nongovernmental partners to consider cross-sector solutions for improving community well-being and to build more robust systems, implementation, and evaluation capacity. This work has taken many forms, including engaging with federal and local government agencies on building systems for emergency preparedness and resilience both in the United States and globally; partnering with private sector organizations to develop the science base around child systems; and collaborating with city governments and foundations to modernize data systems and measure environmental sustainability, well-being, and civic transformation. Chandra has also partnered with community organizations to conduct broad-scale health and environmental needs assessments, to examine the integration of health and human service systems, and to determine how to integrate equity and address the needs of historically marginalized populations in human service systems. These projects have occurred in partnership with businesses, foundations, and other community organizations.

Chandra earned a Dr.P.H. in population and family health sciences from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Atul Grover

Member

Atul Grover, M.D., Ph.D., FACP, FCCP is the inaugural Executive Director of the AAMC Research and Action Institute. The Institute brings together experts from the nation's academic medical centers and other leaders in policy to tackle complex health policy issues, bring nonpartisan analysis to policy, and develop straightforward solutions to improve health.

Dr. Grover is an internal medicine physician, health services researcher, and nationally recognized expert in health policy. Dr. Grover joined the AAMC as associate director for the Center for Workforce Studies in 2005, where he managed research activity and directed externally funded workforce studies. He became a director of government relations and health care affairs in 2007, and served as the association's chief public policy officer from 2011-2016. From 2016-2020 he served as executive vice president, providing strategic leadership in the areas of medical education, academic affairs, health care affairs, scientific affairs, learning and leadership programming, diversity and inclusion, public policy, and communications. Previously, Dr. Grover held positions in health care finance and applied economics consulting as well as in the U.S. Public Health Service, Health Resources and Service Administration National Center for Health Workforce Analysis.

Dr. Grover earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from George Washington University (GWU) School of Medicine and his Ph.D. in health and public policy from Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Grover holds faculty appointments at GWU School of Medicine, and JHU Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Hilary Heishman

Member

Hilary Heishman, M.P.H., joined the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) in 2011 and spent her first two years supporting regional health care system transformation through initiatives like Aligning Forces for Quality. As a senior program officer, she has expertise in a variety of topics, with special attention to improving and connecting systems that enable people to be healthy. She embraces the aspect of her role that she describes as “finding connections among projects that RWJF supports.”

Heishman's background in local public health, community health planning, and health care system improvement enable her to take a broad, multifaceted approach to program development. She has developed programs related to building communities' capacities to improve health, helping health care organizations address patients' social circumstances and play a strong role in improving community health, improving the use of health data and information systems, identifying health care payment methods that support community health, and helping people learning from one another in networks. For example, she is a senior program officer for grants that support Health Leads, Data Across Sectors for Health, Payment Reform for Population Health, and 100 Million Healthier Lives.

Previously, Heishman was a prevention specialist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). While on field assignment, she coordinated the development of a Community Health Improvement Plan in Manchester, N.H. At CDC headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., she supported the Influenza Epidemiology and Prevention Branch during the spread of the 2009 H1N1 influenza. She also worked with CDC's Healthy Community Design Program to promote and evaluate Health Impact Assessments (HIA) and with CDC's WHO Collaborating Center for Reproductive Health to improve birth outcomes in hospitals in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Heishman received a bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Virginia and a Master of Public Health in Community Oriented Public Health Practice from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Dora Hughes

Member

Dora Hughes, M.D., M.P.H., is Associate Research Professor of Health Policy & Management at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University, where her work focuses on the intersection of clinical and community health, social determinants of health, health equity, healthcare quality and workforce. Previously, Dr. Hughes was a Senior Policy Advisor at Sidley Austin, where she advised on regulatory and legislative matters in the life science industry. Prior to that, she served for nearly four years in the Obama Administration as Counselor for Science & Public Health to Secretary Kathleen Sebelius at HHS. Her areas of responsibility included implementation of public health and FDA-related provisions of the ACA, as well as signature legislation for tobacco, Alzheimer's and FDA reform. She served in leadership roles for several White House initiatives, including the Childhood Obesity Task Force, President's Food Safety Working Group, Committee on STEM Education and Let's Move. Dr. Hughes began her career in health policy as Senior Program Officer at the Commonwealth Fund, and subsequently as Deputy Director for the HELP Committee under Senator Edward M. Kennedy. She then served as the Health Policy Advisor to former Senator Barack Obama.

Dr. Hughes received a B.S. from Washington University, M.D. from Vanderbilt and M.P.H. from Harvard. She completed internal medicine residency at Brigham & Women's Hospital.

Tiffany Manuel

Member

Tiffany Manuel, Ph.D. is President and CEO of TheCaseMade, an organization dedicated to helping leaders powerfully and intentionally make the case for systems change. She also serves as the Executive Director of the Redress Movement – a movement to build public will around redressing the effects of racial segregation in our nation today. In these capacities, Dr. Manuel works with hundreds of passionate social changemakers, innovators and adaptive leaders around the United States who are building better, stronger communities that are diverse, equitable and inclusive. By aligning their community stakeholders around the kind of deep systems changes that can improve population outcomes, these leaders are able to grow their impact, scale their programs, and harness the investments they need to improve their communities.

Dr. Manuel has degrees from University of Chicago, Purdue University, and the University of Massachusetts Boston. She's written extensively on public will building on equity issues. She sits on the board of several national organizations (KaBoom!, Rebuilding Together and Shelterforce) and has served on the External Advisory Committee for the Culture of Health Evaluation with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and on the Advisory Committee for the City Health Dashboard.

J. Mac McCullough

Member

Mac McCullough, Ph.D., M.P.H., is associate professor and director of public health agency partnerships at Boise State University School of Public and Population Health. McCullough came to Boise State in 2022 from Arizona, where he served in a dual role as associate professor at Arizona State University (ASU) and health economist at the Maricopa County Department of Public Health. Dr. McCullough's research centers on public health practice and finance. He created a national data source to measure public health and social service spending and uses these data to explore how spending can influence health factors and outcomes.

Dr. McCullough was a '40 Under 40 in Public Health' honoree by the deBeaumont Foundation and an elected member of the Arizona Public Health Association Board of Directors. At ASU he won educator of the year (2019, 2022) and translational science (2021) awards. He was deputy director of the RWJF-funded National Safety Net Advancement Center (2015-20) and chair of AcademyHealth Public Health Systems Research group (2017-19).

McCullough received his Ph.D. in health policy and management from UCLA, M.P.H. from the University of Minnesota, and B.S. from Georgetown University. Prior to academia he worked at the National Academy of Sciences and the U.S. Department of State.

Bobby Milstein

Member

Bobby Milstein, Ph.D., M.P.H., is a director of ReThink Health for the Fannie E. Rippel Foundation and a visiting scientist at the MIT Sloan School of Management. With an educational background that combines cultural anthropology, behavioral science, and systems science, Dr. Milstein concentrates on challenges that involve large-scale institutional change and the need to align multiple lines of action. He led the development of the ReThink Health Dynamics model and a suite of regionally-configured simulations that are used by leaders across the country to explore the likely health and economic consequences of policy scenarios.

From 1991 to 2011, Dr. Milstein worked at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where he founded the Syndemics Prevention Network, chaired the agency's Behavioral and Social Science Working Group, and was coordinator for a wide range of new initiatives. He was the principal architect of the CDC's framework for program evaluation and published a monograph entitled *Hygeia's Constellation: Navigating Health Futures in a Dynamic and Democratic World*, recommended as "required reading for all health professionals."

Dr. Milstein has led several award-winning teams that bring greater structure, evidence, and creativity to the challenge of health system change. He is a cofounder (with Patty Mabry) of the NIH Institute on Systems Science and Health, and a codeveloper of several other widely used health policy simulation models including HealthBound and the Prevention Impacts Simulation Model. He has received CDC's Honor Award for Excellence in Innovation, the Applied Systems Thinking Prize from ASysT Institute, as well as Article of the Year awards from AcademyHealth and the Society for Public Health Education.

Dr. Milstein holds a B.A. in cultural anthropology from the University of Michigan, an M.P.H. from Emory University, and a Ph.D. in interdisciplinary arts and sciences with a specialization in public health science from Union Institutes and University.

Tyler Norris

Member

Tyler Norris, MDiv., is a social entrepreneur and trusted advisor to philanthropies and partnerships working to improve the well-being of people and place. For over four decades, he has shaped health and development initiatives in hundreds of communities in the U.S. and around the world and built over a dozen business and social ventures.

Tyler serves as Board Chair of Naropa University; co-Chair of the CEO Alliance for Mental Health; and as a board member for Mindful Philanthropy, the National Academies of Sciences' Child Well Being Forum, Build Healthy Places Network, and the Global Flourishing Study. He was recently named as Visiting Fellow of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Until recently, Tyler served as founding CEO of Well Being Trust for its first 5½ years was an impact philanthropy with a mission to advance mental, social and spiritual health of the United States. Previously, Tyler led Total Health at Kaiser Permanente.

Tyler is a graduate of Harvard Business School's Executive Leadership Program, earned a Master of Divinity (MDiv.) from Naropa University, and has a bachelor's degree in World Political Economy from Colorado College. He lives and serves in the communities of the Wood River Valley of Idaho and Oakland, California.

Kara Odom Walker

Member

Kara Odom Walker, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.H.S., is Senior Vice President and Chief Population Health Officer (CPHO) for Nemours Children's Health System. She leads Nemours National Office of Policy and Prevention, as well as all aspects of Population Health Strategy, Research, Innovation and Implementation. Dr. Walker and her team are responsible for the development and implementation of national and state-specific advocacy strategies to help achieve outcomes tied to health and value while also leading Nemours's policy agenda. She is based in Washington, D.C., and reports to Nemours President and Chief Executive Officer, R. Lawrence Moss, MD.

A highly accomplished executive, physician and scientist, Dr. Walker is a visionary leader who has focused her career on transforming health care delivery to ensure that the system is designed to create a healthier population. She has led efforts to focus on addressing critical social determinants that impact health while eliminating unnecessary medical tests and procedures. Her philosophy and vast experience are a tremendous asset to Nemours' goal of redefining health in children and transforming payment for medical care to ensure the healthiest generation of children.

Dr. Walker has been recognized for her leadership by Harvard Business School's Program for Leadership Development, the American Medical Association and the National Medical Association. A respected leader, innovator and clinician, she was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in 2018. Election to the NAM is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine, recognizing individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement.

Dr. Walker completed her family and community medicine residency at the University of California San Francisco, graduated with a Master's of Public Health from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Master's of Health Services Research from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Health, where she also completed her fellowship in the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars program.

Alina B. Baci

Staff Officer