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Keynote Addresses

Thomas Goetz
Executive Editor
WIRED Magazine

Thomas Goetz is the executive editor of WIRED magazine. He writes frequently about science and medicine, and his writing has been selected for the Best American Science Writing and Best Technology Writing anthologies.

Born in Minneapolis, Thomas comes from a family of healthcare providers, including his father (an internist), his mother (a registered nurse), and his two sisters (a public-health worker and a surgeon). Thomas currently lives in San Francisco with his wife and two boys. Formerly a reporter at the Village Voice and the Wall Street Journal, he has been at WIRED since 2001. In 2007, he earned his masters in public health from the University of California, Berkeley. His work there led to his first book, *The Decision Tree*.

Dave deBronkart
“e-Patient Dave”
Health Care Consultant

“e-Patient Dave” deBronkart was diagnosed in January 2007 with Stage IV, Grade 4 renal cell carcinoma (kidney cancer) at a very late stage. His median survival time at diagnosis was just 24 weeks; with tumors in both lungs, several bones, and muscle tissue, his prognosis was “grim,” as one web site described it. He received great treatment at Boston’s Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and is completely well. An accomplished speaker and writer, Dave is actively engaged in opening health care information directly to patients on an unprecedented level, thus creating a new dynamic in how information is delivered, accessed and used by the patient. In 2009 he was co-chair of the new Society for Participatory Medicine, and in 2010 left industry to devote himself full-time to transforming health care as a consultant, blogger and speaker.

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David Ahern, PhD

Director
Health Information Technology Resource
Center

David K. Ahern is a behavioral scientist and informaticist who currently serves as the Director of the Health Information Technology Resource Center (HITRC) based at the Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston for Aligning Forces for Quality, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dr. Ahern is an Associate in Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at the Brigham & Women's Hospital. Also, Dr. Ahern is an Assistant Professor of Psychology (Psychiatry) at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Ahern also holds the position of Senior Scientist for Abacus Management Technologies based in Rhode Island.

Chuck Alston

Senior Vice President and Director of Public
Affairs
MSL Washington DC

Chuck Alston works on public affairs, social marketing and crisis and reputation issues for diverse corporate and non-profit clients. A veteran business and political journalist, Mr. Alston served for 11 years as communications director and then executive director of the Democratic Leadership Council. He has broad knowledge of politics and public policy and how they intersect with business at the federal, state and local levels, and wide experience in designing and executing strategies for policy initiatives, product launches, advocacy campaigns, crises, organizational changes and major events.

Tanya Alteras, MPP

Associate Director
Consumer-Purchaser Disclosure Project
National Partnership for Women & Families

Tanya Alteras heads the Disclosure Project's work on tracking measures as they go through the National Quality Forum endorsement process; quality measurement, public reporting, and payment programs related to hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care settings; and quality initiatives related to the Medicaid and CHIP programs. She also works on issues related to patient-reported measures, measurement of patient experience to improve outcomes and care coordination, implementation of quality metrics in the Meaningful Use of Health IT program, and tracking developments in innovative health care delivery models.

Christine Amy

AF4Q Project Director
South Central Pennsylvania

Christine Helwig Amy is the project director for Aligning Forces for Quality – South Central Pennsylvania and project coordinator for Healthy York County Coalition. She possesses more than 20 years of experience in consumer advocacy, public relations and non-profit management. In prior roles, she served as the senior market director for the American Diabetes Association's nine-county Central Pennsylvania office, customer development director for the York County Chamber of Commerce and development coordinator for Rabbit Transit, a local public transportation system. Ms. Amy holds a bachelor's degree in Business from Penn State University.

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Brian Austin

Associate Director
MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation
Group Health Research Institute

Brian Austin has worked at Group Health Research Institute in various capacities for over 25 years. His interests include implementing population-based care initiatives in primary care settings, developing expert systems, and practice team redesign efforts.

Elizabeth Bailey, MPH

Program Implementation Leader
Health Care Incentives Improvement Institute

Elizabeth Bailey is responsible for coordinating and supporting Bridges to Excellence implementation regions by interacting with health plans, employers, and physicians. She also plays a key role in supporting the implementation of the PROMETHEUS pilot sites. Prior to joining Health Care Incentives Improvement Institute, Ms. Bailey was a research project manager within the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Michael Bailit, MBA

President
Bailit Health Purchasing, LLC

Michael founded Bailit Health Purchasing in 1997 and has worked with a wide array of government agencies and purchasing coalitions since. His professional interests focus on how purchasers and regulators can influence health care markets to operate as effectively and efficiently as possible. Mr. Bailit has worked with clients on performance assessment activities, vendor management, Chronic Care Model/Medical Home strategy design and implementation, reimbursement system design, and the use of incentives to motivate desired performance.

Charles L. Baumgart, MD

Vice President and Chief Medical Officer
Presbyterian Healthcare Services

Charles Baumgart is Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Presbyterian Health Plan, part of Presbyterian Healthcare Services. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, and Utilization and Quality Management. He has received the Certified Managed Care Executive designation from AHIP (Americas Health Insurance Plans). He has also completed the Advanced Training Program in Health Care Delivery Improvement at Intermountain Health Care, Salt Lake City, Utah. He has served as an Examiner for Quality New Mexico since 2002 and is a national Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award examiner.

Chad Boulton, MD, MPH, MBA

Professor, Health Policy and Management
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Chad Boulton holds joint appointments on the faculties of the Johns Hopkins University Schools of Public Health, Medicine and Nursing. He is a teacher, a researcher and a board-certified physician in Family Medicine and Geriatrics. He has extensive experience in developing, testing, evaluating, and diffusing new models of health care for older persons with chronic conditions. From 2000-2005, he edited the "Models and Systems of Geriatric Care" section of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, and he has reviewed manuscripts for 20 scientific journals and served as a grant reviewer on study sections of the NIA and AHRQ. Most recently, Dr. Boulton served as "Health and Aging Policy Fellow" at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and Senior Advisor at the CMS Innovation Center.



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Paul W. Brand, MA

Executive Director
Employers' Coalition On Health

Paul Brand is a product of a working class neighborhood in the near-west side of the City of Detroit. He worked his way through undergraduate studies in economics and public policy at Michigan State University primarily by spending summers in auto plants. He worked for the State of Michigan as a policy specialist in mental health and aging while attending graduate school full time. He has been the Executive Director of the Area Agency on Aging, held positions of increasing responsibility at three health systems, run a health insurance general agency, and ran his own health care consulting and management services company for 15 years. Mr. Brand is the Executive Director of the Employers' Coalition on Health in Rockford IL.

P.J. Brennan, MD

Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President
University of Pennsylvania Health System

A specialist in infectious diseases, Dr. Brennan served as director of Infection Control at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania for 11 years. He has led patient safety and quality initiatives for UPHS, focusing on medication safety, better communication, and improved reporting of errors and near misses. Dr. Brennan oversees the Office of Medical Affairs and has developed a Center for Evidence-Based Practice to apply scientific evidence to clinical operations. Dr. Brennan chaired the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee from 2004-2010. In 2010, he received a CDC Lifetime Achievement Award in the discipline of Policy Impact for his contributions to infection prevention, healthcare epidemiology, and patient protection. Dr. Brennan is also a member of The Joint Commission's Patient Safety Advisory Group.

Jane Brock, MD

Chief Medical Officer
Colorado Foundation for Medical Care

Dr. Jane Brock is the Chief Medical Officer for the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care, the Quality Improvement Organization for Colorado. She spent 25 years in clinical practice in urgent care and occupational medicine and is currently serving as the chief medical officer for the Integrating Care for Populations & Communities Aim National Coordinating Center. The Aim is a 3-year project funded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services which strives to improve care transitions and reduce readmissions among Medicare beneficiaries nationally.

Katherine Browne, MBA, MHA

Deputy Director/Chief Operating Officer
AF4Q National Program Office
George Washington University

Katherine Browne is the deputy director and chief operating officer of the Center for Health Care Quality within the Department of Health Policy at the George Washington University Medical Center. In that role she is responsible for the day-to-day management of Aligning Forces for Quality. Previously, she served as managing director of the Hospital Quality Alliance. Prior roles have included working on the Disclosure Project at the National Partnership for Women & Families, involvement with two RWJF initiatives – Networking for Rural Health and the National Health Care Purchasing Institute, and serving as director of community relations at the Visiting Nurse Association.

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Kristin Carman, PhD

Managing Director, Health Policy & Research
American Institutes for Research

Kristin Carman has more than 20 years of experience in health services research focused on consumer engagement; health-related communications; and health care quality, access, and financing. She is a nationally known expert on reporting information on quality of health care and the development and testing of data displays and materials that translate medical evidence for use by consumers and purchasers. She also leads projects for the California Healthcare Foundation to lead a communication collaborative, using the Communication Toolkit, to help employers educate employees about evidence-based health care, for the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research to develop a Guide to Patient and Family Engagement in Hospital Quality and Safety, and supports the AHRQ Eisenberg Center for Clinical Decisions and Communications Science.

Jim Chase, MHA

President
MN Community Measurement

Jim Chase is the President of MN Community Measurement, a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the health of the community by publicly reporting information on health care quality. Jim has over twenty five years of experience in health care management including eight years as Director of Health Purchasing with the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Jim is the Past Chair of the Network of Regional Healthcare Improvement, a group of leading regional health initiatives working to improve the quality and value of health in their communities. Jim also serves on the boards of the Institute of Clinical Systems Improvement and Apple Tree Dental.

Kelly Court, MBA

Chief Quality Officer
Wisconsin Hospital Association
Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality

Kelly Court is the Chief Quality Officer for the Wisconsin Hospital Association and Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality. The focus of this role is to integrate and advance the initiatives to publicly report healthcare quality measures and improve performance with members in both organizations. Kelly has a BS-Medical Technology and an MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. She has served in the roles of Quality Director at Sacred Heart Hospital and Luther-Midelfort in Eau Claire, WI and as the Vice President of Quality at Great River Medical Center in Burlington, IA. Kelly has experience as a national examiner for the Malcolm Baldrige Award. Her areas of expertise include quality measurement, improvement, patient safety and patient experience.

François de Brantes, MS, MBA

Executive Director
Health Care Incentives Improvement Institute

Francois de Brantes is responsible for setting and implementing the strategy of the organization. This includes supervising the implementations of Bridges To Excellence and Prometheus Payment pilots, leading the development of new programs, and designing incentive efforts for employers, health plans, and provider organizations. Prior to that, Mr. de Brantes was the program leader for various health care initiatives at GE Corporate Health Care Programs, responsible for developing the and implementing GE's Active Consumer strategy.

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Dave deBronkart

“e-Patient Dave”

Health Care Consultant

“e-Patient Dave” deBronkart was diagnosed in January 2007 with Stage IV, Grade 4 renal cell carcinoma (kidney cancer) at a very late stage. His median survival time at diagnosis was just 24 weeks; with tumors in both lungs, several bones, and muscle tissue, his prognosis was “grim,” as one web site described it. He received great treatment at Boston’s Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and is completely well. An accomplished speaker and writer, Dave is actively engaged in opening health care information directly to patients on an unprecedented level, thus creating a new dynamic in how information is delivered, accessed and used by the patient. In 2009 he was co-chair of the new Society for Participatory Medicine, and in 2010 left industry to devote himself full-time to transforming health care as a consultant, blogger and speaker.

Darren DeWalt, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor

American Board of Medical Specialties

Improving Performance in Practice

Darren DeWalt is a national improvement advisor for the Improving Performance in Practice program for the boards and specialty societies of internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatrics. Dr. DeWalt researches self-management interventions for patients with low-literacy and focuses on chronic diseases. His focus is on patient-physician communication and health system design to achieve better outcomes for vulnerable populations. He is the principal investigator at the UNC research site for the Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System and chair of the Pediatrics Workgroup. Dr. DeWalt completed his residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at UNC Chapel Hill.

Anisha Dharshi, MPH

Senior Program Director

National Quality Forum

Anisha Dharshi is a Senior Program Director for Community Alliances at NQF. Ms. Dharshi builds on her work with the National Priorities Partnership and Episodes of Care Framework, coordinating several efforts to support States and communities in measuring and reporting on health and health care quality as it relates to national initiatives and reporting programs. Prior to NQF, she worked on emergency care and Veterans health quality projects at the Institute of Medicine. Ms. Dharshi earned a BA in Sociology and Health Science Education from the University of Florida and an MPH from Johns Hopkins.

Reneé Frazier, FACHE, MHSA

Executive Director

Healthy Memphis Common Table

Reneé S. Frazier is an experienced leader in the health care management arena with expertise in hospital operations, managed care, volunteer and community service, health promotion, strategic planning, and organizational excellence. Prior to joining HMCT in January 2009, Frazier served as the regional senior vice president and executive officer of VHA Pennsylvania, the Pittsburgh division of VHA Inc., a national hospital alliance of health care organizations. She has also served as a vice president of BlueCross BlueShield of Maryland, chief operating officer for Liberty Medical Center and Lutheran Health Care Corporation in Baltimore and a strategic consultant for Community Health Centers in Maryland. Frazier has written a number of health care-related articles and conducted workshops on a variety of health, leadership and lifestyle topics.

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John Gallagher

Director, Communication and Development
Puget Sound Health Alliance

John Gallagher has 20 years experience in public relations and journalism and a background in biotechnology, physician membership organizations, and evidence-based medicine. Before joining the Alliance in January 2010, Mr. Gallagher served as the Director of Public Relations for the American Academy of Ophthalmology. At the Academy, he led all media relations, public awareness campaigns and directed press coverage of the annual meeting, attended by over 25,000 people. Mr. Gallagher significantly increased visibility of the Academy, resulting in extensive coverage in national and major mainstream outlets.

Sarah Gardner

Vice President, Benefits and Employee Relations
Prodigy Health Group

Joining Prodigy Health Group 6 years ago, Sarah Gardner has taken on responsibilities including the ownership and oversight of employee benefits across Prodigy Health Group's national operating organization. In her current position, she directs benefit program design and purchasing, operations for the internally-administered health plan, employee consumerism and wellness programs. Ms. Gardner oversees a spectrum of employee relations initiatives including employee engagement and satisfaction programs, employee recognition programs, performance analytics and improvement, litigation and EEOC claims, FMLA, Workers Compensation and ADA matters. Additionally, Sarah designs and delivers Leadership Training and Senior Leadership Workshops driving executive accountability on a national scale.

Claire Gibbons, PhD

Senior Program Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Claire Gibbons manages research and evaluation programs for the Foundation's efforts in improving health care quality, and the work in its Pioneer Portfolio. Drawn by the Foundation's "commitment and passion to quality health and health care," she views RWJF's strong policies and programs for families and communities as closely aligning with her expertise in maternal and child health. Since joining the Foundation in 2007, Dr. Gibbons has primarily focused on research and evaluation of the Foundation's regional approach to improving the quality of health care for patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma, depression and heart disease. She also serves as program officer for the evaluation of Aligning Forces for Quality.

Matt Gigot, MPH

Clinical Data Analyst
Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality

Matt Gigot is the Clinical Data Analyst with the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (WCHQ). Matt has been with WCHQ since early 2010, and spends much of his time providing analytic support to WCHQ members and staff. During his time at WCHQ he has been involved in a wide range of projects, including the development of a Diabetes Value Metric, and a project involving the integration of clinical quality data with individual-level health survey data collected by the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin. Matt received both his undergraduate and Master of Public Health degrees from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

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Alan Glaseroff, MD

Chief Medical Officer
Humboldt-Del Norte IPA

Alan Glaseroff is the principal investigator for the Humboldt Diabetes Project, and served as president of the California Health Care Foundation's Leaders Group for 2006-7. He is the co-director for the Aligning Forces for Quality Humboldt Initiative sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dr. Glaseroff has also served as faculty for diabetes collaboratives for the California Academy of Family Physicians, the Breakthroughs in Chronic Care Program for the Pacific Business Group on Health, and for the Institute for Health Care Improvement on various projects. In 2009, he was appointed to the NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home Advisory Committee and also named the California Family Physician of the Year.

Robert Graham, MD

AF4Q National Program Director
George Washington University

Robert Graham is the national program director of Aligning Forces for Quality, at George Washington University Department of Health Policy. After receiving his medical degree, Dr. Graham began a distinguished career in health policy administration. He has held a number of leadership positions in the federal health sector, including the position of Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, during which time he held the rank of Rear Admiral in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and served as an Assistant Surgeon General. He also served in senior positions at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Health Resources Administration, and the Health Services and Mental Health Administration. He is currently chair of the board of the Alliance for Health Reform and a member of the Institute of Medicine.

Dianne Hasselman, MSPH

Director, Quality and Equality
Center for Health Care Strategies

Dianne Hasselman leads multi-payer and multi-stakeholder quality improvement initiatives at CHCS. She is currently directing Reducing Disparities at the Practice Site, an initiative designed to strengthen the primary care infrastructure of small, under-resourced primary care practices serving a large volume of Medicaid beneficiaries and racially/ethnically diverse populations. She also manages CHCS' involvement in AF4Q. Ms. Hasselman helped to spearhead CHCS' Regional Quality Improvement initiative, which tested the ability of state Medicaid agencies to lead alignment of quality improvement efforts across public and private payers and purchasers to improve chronic care delivery throughout a region.

Nikki Highsmith, MPA

Senior Vice President
Center for Health Care Strategies

Nikki Highsmith leads CHCS' quality, measurement and improvement collaboratives, working with state Medicaid agencies, health plans, providers and consumer organizations. She also spearheads the development of public/private regional improvement programs, including multi-payer initiatives to drive measurement, quality improvement, and efficiency. Ms. Highsmith sits on several national committees and advisory groups related to health care redesign and quality. Ms. Highsmith holds a MPA from American University, and a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Texas.



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Kathy Hutcheson, MS, MBA

Health Promotion Consultant
York Hospital

The first half of Kathy Hutcheson's career was spent in business development for the food industry. A life-long interest in health and wellness led her to pursue studies in health administration to make a transition into the health care field. As Director of Adult Education for a health education non-profit, she developed worksite wellness programs and facilitated Lifestyle Returns sessions for Highmark Blue Shield. Ms. Hutcheson is now a Health Promotion Consultant for Highmark Blue Shield. In early 2011 she became involved in the Consumer Advisory Council for South Central Pa; it was through this role that Kathy became the Patient Partner Coordinator.

Jeff Kamil, MD

Vice President and Senior Medical Director
Anthem Care Management

At Anthem Blue Cross, Jeff Kamil and his team work with the contracted physicians and members to assist them deliver and obtain safe, effective, efficient, timely, equitable and affordable healthcare. From 1988 to 1997, he enjoyed a distinguished senior management career with Prudential Healthcare. He was Medical Director of Southern California Operations, and then went on to serve as Senior Vice President of Prudential Western Operations from 1995 to 1997. He developed a pharmacy medical management program and developed and oversaw the utilization management and QI programs. A board-certified pediatrician, Dr. Kamil also served as medical director of a large Southern California medical group during the development and growth period of managed care in California.

Melinda Karp, MBA

Director of Strategic Planning and
Development
Massachusetts Health Quality Partners

Melinda Karp has been with MHQP since 2000. As the Director of Strategic Planning and Business Development for MHQP, Ms. Karp directs strategic and business planning, along with program development activities for the organization. She also directs MHQP's nationally recognized statewide patient experience measurement effort and the development of collaborative quality improvement tools and guidelines.

Cynthia Keltner, MPA

Executive Director
HealthCare Quality Institute

Cindy Keltner is the executive director for the HealthCare Quality Institute. Prior to forming HCQI, Ms. Keltner worked at the Center for Health Improvement (CHI) where she served as the deputy director for the Aligning Forces for Quality. Ms. Keltner has more than 25 years of experience in health, including a broad range of experience in technical assistance, project and program management, facilitation and training. Ms. Keltner managed CHI's custom policy and advocacy trainings for community organizations. From 2001 to 2003, Ms. Keltner led the CHI consulting team in providing technical assistance to the First 5 Commissions in all 58 counties in California. She has a BA in Health and Safety Studies from California State University Sacramento and a MPA from the University of San Francisco.



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Melissa Kennedy, MHA

Director of Operations
Health Collaborative of Greater Cincinnati

Melissa Kennedy is the AF4Q project director in Cincinnati, and is a member of the Greater Cincinnati Beacon Community Leadership Team. She is the director of operations for The Health Improvement Collaborative of Greater Cincinnati. Ms. Kennedy received her BA from Lake Forest College and her Master in Health Administration from Ohio State University. She co-founded HealthCare Research Systems, a health care outcomes, satisfaction and quality improvement consulting company. During her nine year tenure as Executive Vice President, the company successfully executed several, large scale national satisfaction and outcomes projects. She later joined the University of Rochester Medical Center as a strategic planner, and served as a consultant to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Vincent Kerr, MD

President of Care Solutions
Uniprise, United Health Group

Vincent Kerr is President of Care Solutions at Uniprise, a United Health Group Company serving large self-insured employers. Care Solutions is focused on enhancing the value proposition of Uniprise to its customers by shaping network and clinical capabilities to deliver more effective care, enhance patient decision-making and improve the overall health care experience. He is deeply involved in helping employers and members differentiate healthcare based on safety, effectiveness and overall value.

John Lumpkin, MD, MPH

Senior Vice President and Director of Health
Care Group
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

John Lumpkin is a senior vice president and the director of the Health Care Group at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He oversees the planning, budgeting, staffing, management and evaluation of all program and administrative activities of the RWJF Health Care Group. Before joining the Foundation, Lumpkin served as director of the Illinois Department of Public Health. He has participated directly in the health and health care system, first practicing emergency medicine and teaching medical students and residents at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University. In 1985, he became director of an Illinois state public health agency where led improvements to programs dealing with women's and men's health, information and technology, and the state's laboratory services.

Tricia McGinnis, MPP, MPH

Senior Program Officer
Center for Health Care Strategies

Tricia McGinnis works on initiatives that enhance the financing and delivery of health systems to both improve quality and reduce disparities in care received by Medicaid beneficiaries. She is a member of the CHCS team providing technical assistance for Aligning Forces for Quality. Ms. McGinnis also works on Reducing Disparities at the Practice Site, an initiative designed to strengthen the primary care infrastructure of small, under-resourced primary care practices serving a large volume of Medicaid beneficiaries and racially/ethnically diverse populations. Prior to joining CHCS, Ms. McGinnis managed a provider performance measurement, improvement, and transparency program as a senior program manager at Blue Shield of California.

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Susan Mende, MPH

Senior Program Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Susan Mende is a distinguished public health professional with more than 25 years of experience working with underserved populations in several countries around the world. Ms. Mende joined the Foundation in 2008 and is engaged in efforts to help consumers take an active role in improving the quality of health care in their communities, and works to address the adverse impacts of language barriers in limiting access to quality health care. Previously, Ms. Mende co-founded and was vice president for programs for the Tsao Foundation, an organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for older people in Singapore and Asia Pacific region.

Michael Painter, JD, MD

Senior Program Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Michael Painter is a distinguished physician, attorney, health care policy advocate, 2003-2004 Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow, and a senior member of the RWJF Quality/Equality Team. In 2003-2004, Painter was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow with the office of Senator William Frist, former majority leader. Prior to that, he was the chief of medical staff at the Seattle Indian Health Board, a community health center serving urban American Indians and Alaska Natives. He is a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, American Academy of Family Physicians, Association of American Indian Physicians, National Medical Association and California Bar Association.

Robert Parrish, MM

AF4Q Project Director
Alliance for Health

Robert Parrish is a senior strategy advisor with over 25 years of experience in the health care field. His areas of expertise include health policy development and analysis, strategic thinking and visioning, conceptual modeling, community health planning, design and management of major projects and group consensus building. Mr. Parrish has extensive experience working with a wide variety of health care stakeholders, including health systems and hospitals, physicians, business, organized labor, health plans and governmental units, on a broad array of health care issues. Mr. Parrish formed his own consulting firm, Future Directions in Health Care, in 2004, with a focus upon comprehensive health care transformation initiatives.

Judy Phalen, MPH

Associate Director
Health Information Technology Resource Center

Judy has over twenty years of experience in program planning, administration and research in non-profit, healthcare and higher education settings. She most recently served as the Deputy Director of the Health e-Technologies Initiative, a national program office of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She has created, marketed, implemented and evaluated health education and training on issues including eHealth, HIV/AIDS and sexual assault prevention for various age groups and educational levels. Judy also has an extensive history of coalition and task force leadership, consortium development and network building. She previously participated in research funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, RWJF, and the National Institute of Mental Health. Judy is a graduate of the University of Michigan's School of Public Health in Health Behavior and Health Education.

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Jennifer Powell, MPH, MBA

Technical Advisor
American Board of Medical Specialties
Improving Performance in Practice

Jennifer Powell provides coaching to leaders and clinicians in implementing quality improvement initiatives in healthcare settings and communities. Her areas include creating systematic care for patient populations, implementing advanced patient centered medical homes and developing infrastructure to spread and sustain quality improvement. She has convened four Learning Networks to accelerate knowledge by learning from fellow colleagues working towards a collaborative aim. Her projects include AF4Q, the American Academy of Pediatrics Chapter Quality Network Collaborative, the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative and the National Fellowship Program for Family Medicine.

Ted Rooney, RN, MPH

AF4Q Project Director
Maine Aligning Forces for Quality

Ted Rooney is the project leader for Maine Aligning Forces for Quality, which is led by Maine Quality Counts in partnership with the Maine Quality Forum and Maine Health Management Coalition. He is the project leader for the Maine Health Management Coalition's Pathways to Excellence initiatives, which measure and report the value of health care, and work to change the reimbursement system to reward high value care. Previously, Mr. Rooney managed health programs for L.L. Bean for 15 years. He serves on the Maine Health Information Center board, the QASC National-Regional Implementation Workgroup, and the Healthy Choices for ME advisory committee, among others.

Dana Safran, ScD

Senior Vice President
Performance Measurement & Improvement
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts

Dana Safran leads Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts' initiatives to measure and improve healthcare quality, safety and outcomes. Dr. Safran also retains an active academic practice and is Associate Professor of Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. Prior to joining BCBSMA, she was Director of The Health Institute at Tufts-New England Medical Center's Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies. Dr. Safran was among the lead developers of the BCBSMA Alternative Quality Contract. She oversees the implementation of the performance incentives, related informatics and the company's ongoing engagement with its provider network to monitor and improve performance on all aspects of the contract.

David Schneider

Principle Communications Specialist
American Institutes for Research

David Schneider serves as a principle communications specialist in the American Institutes for Research Health Program. His areas of expertise include technical assistance and project management for communication, outreach, marketing, and stakeholder relations. Mr. Schneider currently serves as acting project direct director for the evaluation of the HITECH Regional Extension Centers for HHS Office of the Coordinator of HIT. Prior to AIR, he was a project director at Lumetra on projects including directed provider outreach and program monitoring for California's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch; and the California Office of the Patient Advocate HMO Enrollee Regional Outreach and Information Center.

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Dale Shaller, MPA

Principal
Shaller Consulting Group

Dale Shaller has over 23 years of experience in the design, implementation, and evaluation of health care quality measurement and reporting programs. Mr. Shaller currently directs the National CAHPS Benchmarking Database designed to support benchmarking and research related to consumer assessments of care. He also has worked with over 50 public and private health coalitions to support their value-based purchasing efforts. He was the founding executive director of the Minnesota Health Data Institute and senior consultant to the Cleveland Health Quality Choice Program.

David Shute, MD

Medical Director
GreenField Health

David Shute is the medical director and a practicing internist at GreenField Health. He integrates his experience from his clinical, administrative and consulting roles to identify practical solutions to real world challenges faced by physicians, health systems, and community leaders. His portfolio of experience includes extensive work with quality measurement and reporting, quality improvement, practice transformation, physician engagement and physician culture, transparency, and the application of information technology in clinical practice.

Karthik Shyam, MPP

Communications Associate
American Institutes for Research

Karthik Shyam serves as task lead on AIR's cost and resource work and as site liaison to 5 Aligning Forces communities. Prior to joining AIR, Mr. Shyam worked at America's Health Insurance Plans, where he was responsible for providing technical assistance to health insurance plans and managing day-to-day tasks related to the RWJF-funded High-Value Health Care Project: A Nationally-Consistent Data Aggregation Methodology. Mr. Shyam received his B.S. in Business Administration from Carnegie Mellon University and his MPP (concentration in health policy) from Duke University.

Kirsten Sloan

Vice President
National Partnership for Women & Families

Kirsten Sloan is vice president of the National Partnership for Women & Families with responsibility for the organization's multi-faceted health portfolio. Prior to joining the National Partnership, Sloan was the director of federal health issues for AARP the nation's largest consumer organization. In that role, she served as chief health lobbyist and managed a team of senior lobbyists in AARP's Government Relations Department. Sloan and her team worked directly with the Congress and the Administration on advancing AARP's key health care priorities including Medicare, prescription drugs, long-term care, Medicaid, managed care, health insurance, and health care quality.

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Stephen Somers, PhD

President and Chief Executive Officer
Center for Health Care Strategies

Stephen Somers is the president and chief executive officer of CHCS, which he founded in 1995 with a major grant on Medicaid managed care from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. CHCS now receives support from multiple philanthropies, corporate community benefit programs and the federal government. Before starting CHCS, Dr. Somers was an associate vice president and program officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Prior to that, he was a professional staff member at the US Senate Special Committee on Aging. Dr. Somers serves as a visiting lecturer at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Dr. Somers earned his PhD in the politics of education from Stanford University.

Betsy Stapleton, FNP

Consumer Engagement Consultant
California Healthcare Foundation

Betsy has been an integral part of the Aligning Forces for Quality initiative since its start in Humboldt County. She is a member of the AF4Q leadership team and sits on several Independent Practice committees to represent consumer interests. Her current efforts focus on bringing the consumer voice to the health care redesign movement. She has helped create and implement a program to recruit and support patients to be part of medical teams involved in Humboldt County's quality improvement collaborative. She has been instrumental in bringing the Stanford model "Chronic Disease Self Management Program" to her community and engaging consumers to participate at the highest per capita rate of any county in California.

Jennifer Stephens, MPH

Senior Health Researcher
American Institutes for Research

Jennifer Stephens specializes in displaying quality measures and website usability testing. She leads and contributes to multiple projects to improve the quality of care and health of populations, particularly around patient safety. She has developed considerable experience providing technical assistance, developing step-by-step guides for professionals and conducting qualitative and quantitative data collection. She provided technical assistance to CSAT Service, Access to Recovery, and Discretionary fund grantees; conducted usability testing of both print and web-based materials for AHRQ's Eisenberg Center projects on various topics and CMS' quality reporting for their Compare websites; and managed the qualitative evaluation of the AHRQ's joint effort with the Veterans Administration, Patient Safety Improvement Corps.

Diane Stollenwerk, MPP

Vice President of Community Alliances
National Quality Forum

Diane Stollenwerk is the vice president of community alliances at the National Quality Forum, where she leads efforts to identify and pursue opportunities to engage and provide stronger support for communities. Before joining NQF, she provided consulting services for local and national organizations involved in healthcare quality improvement. She served as project director of the AF4Q program in the Puget Sound region, was liaison to the Agency on Healthcare Research and Quality's Chartered Value Exchange efforts, and represented the Alliance in the Washington Health Information Collaborative to promote the use of health information technology.

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Jennifer Sweeney, MA

Director
National Partnership for Women and Families

Jennifer Sweeney is the director of Americans for Quality Health Care, a project of the National Partnership for Women & Families. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Americans for Quality Health Care promotes consumer involvement in the drive to improve health care quality and increase transparency. Sweeney sits on the Joint Commission's Patient and Family Advisory Board, the Center for Medical Technology's Patient Consumer Advisory Committee, AHRQ's Talking Quality website Editorial Board, and the Consumers United for Evidence-Based Healthcare Steering Committee.

Kalahn Taylor-Clark, PhD, MPH

Research Director, Racial/Ethnic Health Care Equity Initiative
National Partnership for Women and Families

Kalahn Taylor-Clark was a W.K. Kellogg Health Scholar at Harvard University from 2006-2008, where her areas of research included public health communication in politically and socially marginalized populations and minority voting on health care issues. She was a lecturer at Tufts University, where she taught "Women and Health" and "The Politics of Health Disparities." Prior to teaching, Taylor-Clark held a position as a researcher at the Harvard School of Public Health's Project on Biological Security and the Public, where she focused on risk communication in communities of color during public health emergencies. She received a BA in International Relations from Tufts University, an MPH from Tufts School of Medicine, and a PhD in Health Policy from Harvard University.

Lee Thompson, MSc

Senior Researcher
American Institutes for Research

Lee Thompson is a Senior Researcher in the Health Program at the American Institutes of Research. In this role, she provides leadership for research and technical assistance projects, developing research designs and audience-focused project plans, and identifying individual and group technical assistance and stakeholder needs, as well as creative approaches for addressing these needs. Ms. Thompson currently plays a key role in the SHIP Resource Center, funded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and Aligning forces for Quality, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Prior to joining AIR, she served as the Director of the Health Assistance Partnership, of Families USA.

Barbara Tobias, MD

Medical Director
Health Improvement Collaborative of Greater Cincinnati

As Medical Director of the Health Collaborative, Barbara Tobias serves as a liaison to physician practices involved in public reporting, quality improvement and patient centered medical home initiatives. She is a family physician and the Robert and Myfanwy Smith Chair Professor of Family Medicine in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. She was an RWJ Health Policy Fellow 2009-10 in the Immediate Office of the Secretary at HHS. Previously she was the Director of Medical Education and the Family Medicine Clerkship. She has been recognized by students and her colleagues with awards in teaching and clinical excellence.

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Cristie Upshaw Travis

Chief Executive Officer
Memphis Business Group on Health

Cristie Upshaw Travis is CEO of the Memphis Business Group on Health, a business coalition with 15 employer members and affiliates providing health care benefits in Mid-South and Tennessee, which focuses on sharing solutions and providing tools to manage health benefits. Ms. Travis was chair of the Board of Governors of the National Business Coalition on Health, and continues to serve on the Board; and she serves on the Purchaser Advisory Committee for NCQA. She was the chair of the Healthy Memphis Common Table and continues to serve on the Board. She also serves on the National Commission on Prevention Priorities and the National Transitions of Care Coalition.

Jessica Waddell

Researcher
American Institutes for Research

Jessica Waddell conducts research at the American Institutes for Research on a variety of healthcare and public health issues related to quality of care, consumer engagement, public deliberation in health policy, comparative effectiveness research, and payment reform. Ms. Waddell's responsibilities include leading and managing several projects and tasks, using mixed methods to address research questions, contribute to study design decisions, write and produce deliverables and materials such as presentations for myriad audiences, and contribute to new business development. Among the clients she has served as a researcher are the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the Department of Defense.

Jay Want, MD

Principal
Want Healthcare LLC

Jay Want is the owner and principal of Want Healthcare LLC, a healthcare consultancy. He is also currently chairman of the board of the Governor's Center for Improving Value in Health Care in Colorado, a public-private partnership purposed to catalyze health care reform in the state. He serves on the board of the non-profit Rocky Mountain Health Plan and on the Health Care Committee of Rose Community Foundation. For eight years he was President and Chief Executive Officer of Physician Health Partners, LLC, a management services organization serving over 60,000 covered lives in Colorado, and supporting nearly 300 primary care physicians in providing high quality, cost-effective care.

Andrew Webber

President and Chief Executive Officer
National Business Coalition on Health

Andrew Webber joined the National Business Coalition on Health in June of 2003. NBCH is a national membership organization of 60 purchaser-based coalitions on health, dedicated to improving health, transforming health care. Mr. Webber is responsible for overseeing all association activities including value based purchasing programs, government and external relations, member communications and technical assistance, and research and evaluation. Mr. Webber currently sits on the Board of Directors of the National Quality Forum, the Leapfrog Group, and the combined Bridges to Excellence and Prometheus Payment organizations. He is a Principal of the Hospital Quality Alliance and the Quality Alliance steering committee.



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Anne Weiss, MPP

Team Director, Quality/Equality
Senior Program Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Anne Weiss is a senior program officer and team director of the Foundation's Quality/Equality Health Care Team. Weiss joined the Foundation, after a distinguished career in health care policy at both the federal and state level. She served as senior assistant commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, where she directed the state's oversight of managed care plans and hospital indigent care. She also served as executive director of New Jersey's Health Care Reform Commission, where she directed a subsidized health benefits program for the working uninsured. Previously, Weiss was a member of professional staff to the United States Senate Committee on Finance and as a senior examiner with the Office of Management and Budget.