

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

MARIE SAINT CYR

Marie Saint Cyr is Executive Director of Iris House, the first community-based organization created by women living with HIV/AIDS. Established in 1993, Iris House provides comprehensive services to meet the needs and enhance the lives of HIV-positive women and their families.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Saint Cyr was the Director of the Haitian Coalition on AIDS in New York City and developed the Women and AIDS Resource Network (WARN) in Brooklyn, New York. She also served as Deputy Commissioner for Human Rights in New York City during the Dinkins Administration, initiating the Commission's Prison Project for Offenders with AIDS. She has held a number of positions in programs benefiting women and children in Philadelphia, and developed and directed a comprehensive community clinic for Haitians in Florida.

Ms. Saint Cyr currently serves as an appointee of Mayor Guiliani as Community Co-Chair of the HIV Planning Council of New York City. She has served as Board Chair of the National Minority AIDS Council, and was selected to serve on the advisory board of the National Institutes of Health subcommittee on HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Saint Cyr received her Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania.

CYNTHIA HALL

Cynthia Hall became President of Women's Policy, Inc. (WPI) in January, 1999. WPI is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy organization that conducts legislative research and provides information on congressional actions affecting women and families.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Hall worked on Capitol Hill for 18 years for four Members of Congress. From 1987-1998, she served as Congresswoman Connie Morella's Legislative Director, with specific responsibilities for women's health, biomedical research, and budget and tax issues. In her work, Ms. Hall focused on HIV/AIDS and other STDs, osteoporosis, and breast cancer. She was the staff liaison to the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues during the 104th Congress, when Congresswoman Morella served as co-chair.

Ms. Hall received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Colgate University.

JENNIFER KATES

Jennifer Kates is a Senior Program Officer for HIV/AIDS Policy at the Kaiser Family Foundation. She works on HIV/AIDS-related policy research, managing most of the Foundation's policy initiatives in this area.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Ms. Kates was a Senior Associate with The Lewin Group, where she focused on HIV/AIDS policy, strategic planning/health systems analysis, and managed care and vulnerable populations. She provided consulting services to a variety of public and private sector clients including: the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the New York State AIDS Institute, the Texas Department of Health, the New York City Department of Public Health, the Whitman Walker Clinic, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Before that, Ms. Kates was the Director of the Office of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns at Princeton University. She also worked at the Princeton University Health Center, where she was the Coordinator of the University's Alcohol and Other Drugs Peer Education Program.

Ms. Kates holds a Bachelors Degree in Political Science and Women's Studies from Dartmouth College, a Masters Degree in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts, and a Masters Degree in Public Affairs, with a concentration in Demography, from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

MALA KENNEDY

Mala Kennedy is a resident of Washington, D.C. Educated by life's trials and tribulations, she considers herself a "long-term thriver, in spite of HIV." The mother of two sons, she is a motivational speaker for teen AIDS programs, a current member of the Community Advisory Boards of Children's and Georgetown Hospitals, as well as the Bill Austin Center of Whitman Walker Clinic, the D.C. Housing Planning Council, and the Sisters-Helping-Sisters-to-Survive Program.

She is a current resident of Sunflower House, an apartment dwelling for families living with HIV. Ms. Kennedy facilitates health fairs to raise the awareness of HIV, volunteers for the Washington Hospice and Home, and is a caregiver to numerous people infected with HIV. Last but not least, she is dedicated to "shedding the myths of HIV."

THE HONORABLE JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD (D-CA)

Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald, serving her third term, represents California's 37th District. She serves as the Ranking Member on the Small Business Subcommittee on Empowerment. She also serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Congresswoman Millender-McDonald is the current co-chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, and is recognized for her work on women's health, education, and small business issues. She has worked to promote funding and expanded prevention efforts for HIV/AIDS, heart disease, and cancer in particular.

Before her election to Congress, Congresswoman Millender-McDonald served on the Carson City Council and in the California State Legislature. She has a B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Redlands, a Masters Degree in Educational Administration from California State University, Los Angeles, and holds teaching and administrative credentials from the California State University system. She is currently

pursuing a dual Masters/Doctorate Degree in Public Administration at the University of Southern California.

THE HONORABLE CONNIE MORELLA (R-MD)

Congresswoman Connie Morella, serving her eighth term, represents Maryland's Eighth District. She chairs the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia of the Government Reform and Oversight Committee and also serves on the Civil Service Subcommittee. She also is a member of the Science Committee.

Congresswoman Morella, former co-chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, is recognized for her work on domestic violence, women's health, educational and economic equity issues. She has long been a leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS in women, having sponsored legislation focusing on research and prevention for the past 11 years.

Before her election to Congress, Congresswoman Morella served for eight years in the Maryland House of Delegates. From 1970 to 1985, she was a professor in the English Department of Montgomery College in Rockville, Md. Congresswoman Morella has an A.B. from Boston University, an M.A. from the American University, and several honorary doctoral degrees.

ALINA SALGANICOFF, PH.D.

Alina Salganicoff is Vice President and Director of Women's Health Policy for the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. Dr. Salganicoff also serves as Associate Director of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. Her work for the foundation focuses on health care financing and access for low-income women, access and coverage for low-income children, Medicaid managed care, and state health reform.

Dr. Salganicoff has written numerous book chapters, journal articles, and reports on health care access and financing for low-income women and children. Prior to her work with the Kaiser Commission and the Kaiser Family Foundation, she served as a Research Associate at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, worked on the health program staff of the Pew Charitable Trusts, and as a trainer and counselor for CHOICE, a Philadelphia-based, reproductive health care advocacy organization. Dr. Salganicoff has served as a member of the advisory committee to the Jacobs Institute's project on women's health and managed care and as an advisor to the U.S. Public Health Service's Office on Women's Health, the Health Services and Resources Administration, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Dr. Salganicoff completed her undergraduate degree at the Pennsylvania State University and holds a Ph.D. in Health Policy from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health.