

Briefing on State Medicaid Programs, the Recession and Health Reform
Speaker Biographies
Thursday, September 30, 2010

Elizabeth Kellar

Elizabeth Kellar is the President and Chief Executive Officer for the Center for State and Local Government Excellence. The Center promotes excellence in public service so that local and state governments can attract and retain the talent they need. It identifies promising practices and publishes research on pension and retirement plans, health care, demographics, and workforce issues. Ms. Kellar speaks and writes on a variety of issues affecting state and local governments, including ethics, workforce challenges, retirement and health plans, intergovernmental relations, international municipal development, and emergency management. She also serves as the Deputy Executive Director of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), overseeing public policy and representing the Association in national policy meetings. She is a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration and has served as chair for NAPA's Standing Panel on the Federal System. She serves on the Advisory Council, American University School of Public Affairs, and on the Editorial Board, *Public Administration Review*. She began her career with the City of Sunnyvale, California, and served as chair of the Montgomery County, Maryland, Ethics Commission.

Diane Rowland

Diane Rowland is the Executive Vice President of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and the Executive Director of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. She is also an adjunct Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School of Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University. In December 2009, Dr. Rowland was appointed the Chair of the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC), established to advise Congress on issues affecting the Medicaid and CHIP programs. She has directed the Kaiser Commission since 1991 and overseen the Foundation's health policy work since 1993. She is a noted authority on health policy, Medicare and Medicaid, and health care for low-income and disadvantaged populations and frequently testifies as an expert witness before Congress on health policy issues. A nationally recognized expert with a distinguished career in public policy and research, focusing on health insurance coverage, access to care, and health care financing for low-income, elderly, and disabled populations, Dr. Rowland has published widely on these subjects. Dr. Rowland is a member of the Institute of Medicine, a founding member of the National Academy for Social Insurance, Past President and Fellow of the Association for Health Services Research (now AcademyHealth), and a member of the Board of Grantmakers in Health. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Wellesley College, a Masters in Public Administration from the University of California at Los Angeles and a Doctor of Science in health policy and management from the Johns Hopkins University.

Robin Rudowitz

Robin Rudowitz is an Associate Director for the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, a major initiative of the Kaiser Family Foundation. The Commission functions as a policy institute and forum for analyzing health care coverage and access for the low-income population and assessing options for reform. Ms. Rudowitz, who has been with the Commission since August 2004, identifies policy opportunities for the Commission, develops and oversees some of the Commission's research, and develops and writes Commission publications. Her

work focuses on Medicaid financing issues. Prior to coming to the Commission, Ms. Rudowitz was a Senior Manager at The Lewin Group, a health policy and management consulting firm, where she worked on a wide variety of health policy and delivery issues related to safety-net providers, Medicaid payments and the uninsured. Ms. Rudowitz has also spent time working on budget and health policy issues at the federal, state and local levels of government. From 1999 to 2001 she served as the Medicaid Director in the Office of Legislation at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Prior to that, she worked for the District of Columbia's Chief Financial Officer, overseeing funding for the District's Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and public health programs. She also worked at the Congressional Budget Office preparing estimates for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program through the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and before that for the Ways and Means Committee for the New York State Assembly. Ms. Rudowitz was educated at Cornell University where she earned her undergraduate degree and a Master's in Public Administration.

Vernon Smith

Vernon Smith is a Managing Principal with Health Management Associates, where he focuses on Medicaid, Medicare, the Children's Health Insurance Program, health reform and trends in the health care market place. He has authored several reports and articles on Medicaid and CHIP policy, spending and enrollment trends and on state and national approaches to health reform. Dr. Smith has spoken on these issues before many national and state audiences, including the National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Association of State Medicaid Directors, American Medical Association, American Hospital Association, the National Health Policy Forum, committees of the U.S. Congress, and Medicaid reform groups in several states. He has been a guest on National Public Radio and quoted on these issues in many national publications. Dr. Smith previously served as the Michigan Medicaid director and as the Michigan human services budget director. He holds a Ph.D. degree in economics from Michigan State University. Among other involvements, he serves on the Board of Trustees of Anderson University, his undergraduate alma mater.

Carol H. Steckel

Carol Steckel has held the position of Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency since her appointment by Governor Bob Riley, December 2003. Prior to her appointment as Commissioner, she served as Director of the Survey Companies, LLC, Birmingham, Alabama, and as Chief Executive Officer of Survey Associates, LLC. In this capacity she worked with senior housing market investors regarding regulatory and quality issues within the long term care market. Additionally, Mrs. Steckel has served in various capacities with various entities such as Senior Vice President of Northport Health Services, Inc., Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Program Chief of Staff, March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, White Plains, New York; Commissioner, Alabama Medicaid Agency November 1988 through July 1992; Deputy Director, Office of Prepaid Health Care, Health Care Financing Administration (now the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)), Washington, D.C.; Assistant to the Special Assistant to President of Health Policy, the White House, Washington, D.C. Mrs. Steckel currently serves as the President of the National Association of Medicaid Directors and has served as the Chair of the Executive Committee of the National Association of State Medicaid Directors and on the Board of the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) as its Treasurer. Mrs. Steckel was chosen as a Fellow in the Medicaid Leadership Institute, sponsored by the Center for Health Care

Strategies, Inc. and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She also was appointed to the Long Term and Chronic Care Steering Committee of the National Academy for State Health Policy. Mrs. Steckel has a Master's Degree in Public Health from UAB and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology from Birmingham-Southern College. She is married to the Reverend Arthur D. Steckel, II, who serves as the Chaplain at Cooper-Green Mercy Hospital. They have two cats.

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