



# THE KAISER COMMISSION ON **Medicaid and the Uninsured**

## **Getting into Gear for 2014: Kaiser Briefing to Release New Data From 50-State Survey of Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Policies**

### **Speaker Biographies**

#### **Samantha Artiga**

Samantha Artiga serves as Director of the Disparities Policy Project at the Kaiser Family Foundation and Associate Director for the Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. Ms. Artiga leads research and policy analysis to provide greater insight into healthcare disparities affecting underserved groups and strategies to promote equity in health care. In addition, she serves as a national expert on Medicaid and CHIP and directs the Foundation's work on eligibility policy at the federal and state level and outreach and enrollment. Her work also focuses on emerging program issues, including implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Section 1115 waivers, and coverage and access for vulnerable populations, including homeless individuals and immigrants. Ms. Artiga also is a member of the Advisory Panel on Outreach and Education, which advises the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of outreach and educational strategies. Prior to joining the Commission, Ms. Artiga worked with the *Healthy Steps for Young Children Program*, an initiative designed to improve health services for children between ages zero and three. Ms. Artiga holds a Masters in Health Services Administration degree with a concentration in Health Policy and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the George Washington University.

#### **Tricia Brooks**

Tricia Brooks is a Senior Fellow at the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families (CCF) and an assistant research professor at the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute. She works on policy and implementation issues affecting coverage for children and families with a focus on children who are eligible but not enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. Ms Brooks provides policy technical assistance to the Lucille and David Packard Foundation Finish Line project and two Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiatives: the Maximizing Enrollment Program and the National Covering Kids & Families Network. She also serves on the National Advisory Committee for the Ford Foundation Work Support Strategies Program. Prior to joining CCF, Ms. Brooks served for fifteen years as the CHIP director in New Hampshire. As the President and CEO of New Hampshire Healthy Kids Corporation (NHHK), a legislatively-created nonprofit organization that began covering kids in 1995, she took on responsibility for launching and administering New Hampshire's CHIP program as a public-private partnership in 1999. NHHK also took the lead in coordinating outreach and application assistance for Medicaid and CHIP and served as the mail-enrollment and renewal center for both programs. During her tenure with NHHK, Ms. Brooks served on the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Health Plan, the state's high-risk pool, and participated in numerous legislative and advocacy efforts to advance health coverage for children and families. Ms. Brooks holds a Master in Business Administration from Suffolk University and a Bachelors of Science from Mars Hill College.

**Nico Gomez**

Nico Gomez serves as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and is responsible for the Communications, Outreach and Reporting Division at the Oklahoma Health Care Authority. As of February 1, 2013, Nico will be the Chief Executive Officer of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority. An employee of the state Medicaid agency since 2000, Nico is responsible for legislative communication at the state and congressional level as well as managing several other integral communication areas, the Reporting & Statistics unit, the Public Information unit, the Child Health unit and the Tribal Relations unit. Nico began his career in public service as a spokesman for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation in 1995. In 2005, Nico was appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to serve on a state Medicaid reform task force. In 2006, he was honored to be recognized as one of *OKCBusiness*'s Forty under 40 professionals. Nico is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and has also earned a master's degree in business administration with an emphasis in health care administration from Southern Nazarene University. Nico is also now serving as adjunct faculty for the university teaching Managerial Economics at Southern Nazarene University.

**Cindy Mann**

Cindy Mann, J.D. has served as the Director of the Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification (CMCS) within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) since June 2009. As CMS Deputy Administrator and Director of CMCS, Ms. Mann is responsible for the development and implementation of national policies governing Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and the agency's provider survey and certification activities. CMCS also serves as the focal point for all CMS interactions with State and local governments and the Territories. Prior to her return to CMS in 2009, Cindy served as a research professor at the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute and was the Executive Director of the Center for Children and Families at the Institute. Her work at Georgetown focused on health coverage, financing, and access issues affecting low-income populations and States. Cindy served as Director of the Family and Children's Health Programs Group in the CMS (then HCFA) Center for Medicaid and State Operations from 1999-2001, where she played a key role in implementing the SCHIP program and led the Center's broader work on Medicaid policies affecting children and families. Before joining HCFA in 1999, Cindy directed the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities' federal and State health policy work. She also has extensive State-level experience, having worked on health care, welfare, and public finance issues in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York. Cindy holds a law degree from the New York University School of Law.

**Lorez Meinhold**

Lorez Meinhold serves as the Deputy Executive Director and Director of Community Partnerships for the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. In this capacity she helps establish and advance the work of the Department, and focuses on building and managing community partnerships and relationships that integrate Department strategy and activities with statewide and national health reform initiatives. Prior to joining the Department, Lorez served as the Senior Policy Director for Health, Human Services, Education, and Economic Development in the Office of Policy and Research for Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper. Lorez previously served as Senior Health Policy Analyst for Governor Ritter as well as worked on state and federal policy for the Colorado Health Foundation.

**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 the United States 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.

**Jessica Stephens**

Jessica Stephens is a Policy Analyst with the Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured and the Disparities Policy Project at the Kaiser Family Foundation. Ms. Stephens' work focuses on Medicaid and CHIP eligibility, enrollment, and outreach, and issues affecting vulnerable populations, including low-income immigrants, individuals with limited English proficiency, and communities of color. Ms. Stephens has a Masters in Health Policy and Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Yale University.

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