



THE KAISER COMMISSION ON
Medicaid and the Uninsured



THE 16TH ANNUAL KAISER 50-STATE MEDICAID BUDGET SURVEY: SLOWING GROWTH AND EVOLVING POLICIES AT A FORUM WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAID DIRECTORS

October 13, 2016

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. ET

The Barbara Jordan Conference Center

Panelist Biographies

Leesa Allen, currently serves as the Deputy Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Human Service's Office of Medical Assistance Programs. In this role, Ms. Allen provides executive leadership for Pennsylvania's \$30 Billion Medical Assistance Program. Ms. Allen previously held the position of the Executive Medicaid Director and provided leadership and consultation to the DHS Secretary regarding strategic planning, policy formulation and implementation, and ongoing evaluation of operations to improve system design, program management, cost containment and the financial integrity of the Medicaid Program. Ms. Allen has also held numerous positions within the Office of Medical Assistance Programs including Chief of Staff, Director of the Bureau of Policy, Analysis and Planning, Director of the Division of Regulatory and Program Development, and Chief of Managed Care Policy. Ms. Allen holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English with a minor in Political Science from Chatham University in Pittsburgh and holds a Corporate Law Paralegal Certificate from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

Calder Lynch, In March 2015, Governor Pete Ricketts appointed Calder Lynch to serve as Nebraska's Medicaid director. Prior to coming to Nebraska, Calder served in several senior leadership roles within Louisiana's health agency, including time as the department's Chief of Staff and Policy Director. There he participated in the formation and implementation of key reform efforts like Louisiana's Medicaid managed care initiative, Bayou Health. A Louisiana native, Calder earned his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Louisiana State University and his Masters in Health Administration from the University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB).

John McCarthy, State Medicaid Director John McCarthy oversees the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM), Ohio's first cabinet-level state Medicaid agency. Through its network of more than 83,000 active providers, Ohio Medicaid makes coordinated, person-centered care available to residents across Ohio. The department has become a cornerstone of the Governor's Office of Health Transformation (OHT), which Governor John R. Kasich created in 2011. In conjunction with the Office of Health Transformation Director Greg Moody, Director McCarthy and his team have implemented a series of innovative policy initiatives that have modernized the Medicaid program by improving the quality of health services at a substantial value to Ohio's taxpayers. Prior to overseeing Ohio Medicaid, McCarthy served as Medicaid Director for the District of Columbia. McCarthy has a master's degree in public affairs from Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs and a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Indiana University.

Diane Rowland, Sc.D., is the Executive Vice President of the Kaiser Family Foundation and Executive Director of the Foundation's Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. She is a nationally recognized health policy 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. She has directed the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured since 1991 and overseen the Foundation's health policy work on Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance, global health and HIV, women's health, and disparities since 1993. A noted authority on Medicaid, Medicare and health care policy, Dr. Rowland frequently testifies and has published widely on these issues. Appointed in 2009 as the inaugural chair, Dr. Rowland continues to serve as the Chair of the congressionally-authorized Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC) established to advise Congress on issues related to Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Dr. Rowland is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) formerly known as the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and holds a Bachelor's degree from Wellesley College, a Master's in Public Administration from the University of California at Los Angeles and a Doctor of Science in health policy and management from the Bloomberg School of Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University.

Robin Rudowitz, an Associate Director for the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, a major initiative of the Kaiser Family Foundation. Ms. Rudowitz, who has been with the Commission since August 2004, 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. Ms. Rudowitz has also spent time working on budget and health policy issues at the federal, state and local levels of government. 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 and 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 K. Smith, Ph.D., Senior Fellow at Health Management Associates. Vernon Smith's entire career has focused on Medicaid, beginning as Michigan's first Medicaid budget analyst in the state budget office, later as department budget director and Medicaid director, appearing before legislative committees for 26 consecutive years. After three decades of public service, Dr. Smith joined Health Management Associates, where his work continues to focus on Medicaid trends in spending, enrollment and the initiatives states undertake to make their programs better. Dr. Smith has a passion for telling Medicaid's story for national and state audiences, in news stories, TV and NPR, testimony before Congressional committees, and in dozens of articles and reports. His PhD is in economics from Michigan State University. He continues to serve on several boards, including the Board of Trustees for his undergraduate alma mater, Anderson University.