



## FCC DIGITAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

### Advancing Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health

#### Welcome, Remarks and Introductions



#### **P. Michele Ellison, JD**

General Counsel, FCC and Chair Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force

**P. Michele Ellison, JD** is the General Counsel of the Federal Communications Commission. She serves as the agency's chief legal officer and advises on some of thorniest legal and policy issues before the Commission – ranging from 5G and universal service to broadband data and national security. Ms. Ellison brings deep knowledge of administrative and communications law, broad litigation experience, and formidable negotiating and consensus-building skills to this role.

Ms. Ellison previously served as Deputy General Counsel, a position she held for most of her 25-year tenure at the FCC. In that capacity, she managed the multi-billion-dollar transactions, bankruptcy, and fraud portfolio, setting numerous legal precedents and preserving the integrity of the auctions and universal service programs through a period of unprecedented challenge. She also has the distinction of being the first woman of color to hold positions as the agency's Chief of Staff, Chief of the Enforcement Bureau, and Acting General Counsel. As Enforcement Bureau Chief, Ms. Ellison aggressively pursued violations of the Commission's rules, recovering hundreds of millions for federal programs and the U.S. Treasury. She also pioneered the Enforcement Advisory, a key tool for emphasizing selected regulatory obligations and thereby improving industry-wide compliance.

Over the years, Ms. Ellison has provided strategic leadership in various cross-cutting areas critical to the agency's mission. She chairs the FCC's Connect2Health Task Force, a multidisciplinary team created to advise the Commission on broadband and health. She previously co-chaired the Commission's Localism Task Force under Chairman Michael Powell, led the Commission's Task Force on expanding communications opportunities for small, minority, and women-owned businesses, played a pivotal role on national broadband planning under Acting Chairman Michael Copps, served as Transition Counsel to Commissioner (then Chief of Staff to Acting Chairwoman) Mignon Clyburn, and advised Chairman William Kennard – who recruited her to the agency – as his Deputy Chief of Staff. Ms. Ellison also received the Commission's Gold Medal Award for Distinguished Service.

Before joining the Commission, Ms. Ellison was a partner, and earlier an associate, at Williams and Connolly. She clerked for the Honorable Damon J. Keith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and for the Honorable Paul R. Webber, III of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Ms. Ellison received her J.D., cum laude from Howard University School of Law, and her B.A. from Duke University.



## Commissioner Geoffrey Starks

FCC

**Commissioner Geoffrey Starks** believes that communications technology has the potential to be one of the most powerful forces on Earth for promoting equality and opportunity. To unlock that potential, however, all Americans must have access. From combatting internet inequality to advocating for diversity in employment, entrepreneurship, and media ownership, Commissioner Starks fights for policies designed to ensure that modern communications technology empowers every American.

Because high-quality broadband is essential to participating in our economy and society, Commissioner Starks has been a champion for the millions of Americans who lack access to or cannot afford a home internet connection. As a native Kansan, he understands the communications needs of rural America. He has consistently advocated for broadband deployment that helps rural communities tap into economic and educational opportunities that may not be close to home, which both encourages young people to stay and attracts new residents and employers.

Bringing a wealth of enforcement experience to the Commission, Commissioner Starks advocates for consumer protection and accountability, particularly in managing the Universal Service Fund. Before he was appointed Commissioner, Starks helped lead the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, handling a wide variety of complex investigations. At the Department of Justice, he served as a senior advisor to the Deputy Attorney General on a variety of domestic and international law enforcement matters and received the Attorney General's Award for Exceptional Service—the highest honor award a DOJ employee can receive.

Commissioner Starks is also a leader on national security policy, working to eliminate untrustworthy equipment from America's communications networks. His Find It, Fix It, Fund It initiative brought national attention to the urgent need to support small and rural companies as they work to make their networks more secure. With regard to personal data security, while Commissioner Starks fully supports the promise of advanced wireless service and other cutting-edge technologies—and works to ensure that all communities share in the benefits of these advancements—he also fully appreciates the potentially intrusive powers of some communications technologies and is vigilant to ensure against any uses of those powers that would promote illegal discrimination or compromise personal privacy.

Before he entered federal public service, Commissioner Starks practiced law at Williams & Connolly, clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit, served as a legislative staffer in the Illinois State Senate, and worked as a financial analyst. Commissioner Starks graduated from Harvard College with high honors and Yale Law School.

He lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife, Lauren, and their two children.

## Program Overview



### David Ahern, PhD

Senior Advisor, Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force, FCC

**David Ahern, PhD** is the Director of the Digital Behavioral Health & Informatics Research Program within the Department of Psychiatry at the Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) and Assistant Professor of Psychology (Psychiatry) at Harvard Medical School. The Program focuses on investigating the role of emerging technologies in health and healthcare, leveraging informatics and data science.

Over his 40-year career, Dr. Ahern has focused on the intersection of informatics and behavioral science to improve health and healthcare. He was National Program Director for the Health e-Technologies Initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation from 2002-2009 where he managed a technology research portfolio of 26 grants promoting the use of technology for health behavior change and chronic disease management. He has published over 100 articles, book chapters, and technical reports.

In 2013, Dr. Ahern began a detail to the National Cancer Institute whereby he served as a special advisor on health information technology (HIT) to the Healthcare Delivery Research Program (HDRP) within the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences. During his tenure at NCI, he has co-edited *Oncology Informatics* published by Elsevier and co-facilitated the President's Cancer Panel workshop series on Connected Health, with release of the final report to President Obama in November 2016. In 2017, Dr. Ahern began a detail with Connect2Health Task Force of the Federal Communications Commission. In that role he serves as a Senior Advisor to the Task Force and Co-Chair of the L.A.U.N.C.H. (Linking & Amplifying User Centered Networks for Connected Health) Initiative which is a public-private partnership to co-create patient-centered technologies for cancer symptom management in rural and underserved communities ([www.fcc.gov/health/cancer](http://www.fcc.gov/health/cancer)).

## PANEL 1: Current Perspectives—Relationship Between Broadband and Health



### **Arielle Mancuso, PhD**

Director of Research & Data Analytics, Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force, FCC

**Arielle Mancuso, PhD** is the Director of Research and Analytics for the Connect2Health Task Force at the Federal Communications Commission where she leads research efforts to better understand and explore the relationship between broadband connectivity and health. She completed her PhD and master's degree at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and her dissertation focused on the implementation and assessment of health-related smartphone applications. Prior to joining the Task Force, Dr. Mancuso coordinated a portfolio of global initiatives for decision-maker led research to strengthen the implementation of policies and programs at the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research within the World Health Organization. She also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Rwanda from 2010-2013.



### **Carter R. Blakey**

Deputy Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion,  
and Director of the Division of Community Strategies,  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Carter Blakey** is the Deputy Director of the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) at the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). She also is the Director of ODPHP's Community Strategies Division (CSD). She has served in various roles across OASH, including Acting Chief of Staff, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (Regional Operations), and Acting Regional Health Administrator (HHS Region 2 – New York City; HHS Region 9 –San Francisco). As the CSD Director, Carter provides leadership for various activities, including the Healthy People Initiative—a framework for public health priorities and actions comprised of a comprehensive set of ten-year national prevention objectives, and ODPHP's Healthy Aging and Social Determinants of Health portfolios.



### **Natalie C. Benda, PhD**

Department of Population Health Sciences, Weill Cornell Medicine

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**Nat Benda, PhD** is a faculty member and health services researcher at Weill Cornell Medicine in the Department of Population Health Sciences, Division of Health Informatics. Her work utilizes human-centered design methods to improve the quality and safety of healthcare, with a focus on equity in clinical and consumer health technologies. She has published 30 papers in high-impact journals, such as the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the *American Journal of Public Health*, *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, and the *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*. In 2021, she was one of five recipients of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities' pathway to independence career development award. Her work has also been supported by the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and the National Science Foundation.



### **Benjamin Sommers, MD, PhD**

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Policy, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

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**Benjamin Sommers, MD, PhD** was appointed the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation on January 20, 2021. Before joining ASPE, he was the Huntley Quelch Professor of Health Care Economics at the Harvard School of Public Health, and professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and Brigham & Women's Hospital. Dr. Sommers is a health economist and primary care physician whose main research interests are health policy for vulnerable populations and the health care safety net. He has received numerous awards including the Health Services Research Impact Award and the Article-of-the-Year Award from *Academy Health*, and the Outstanding Junior Investigator Award from the *Society of General Internal Medicine*. He was elected to the *National Academy of Medicine* in 2019. From 2011-2016, he served as a senior adviser in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. His research has been published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Journal of Health Economics*, and *Health Affairs*, and covered by the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Washington Post*. He received both his Ph.D. in Health Policy and his M.D. from Harvard.



**Madjid “MJ” Karimi, PhD, CPH**

Health Scientist, Office of Health Policy, Division of Healthcare Quality and Outcomes, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

**MJ Karimi, PhD** is a Health Scientist at ASPE’s Office of Health Policy, Division of Health Care Quality and Outcomes. His work portfolio includes projects related to intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD), opioid use disorder, and child health and human development.

Previously, he worked as a Scientist at the Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Prior to joining SAMHSA, MJ served as a senior adviser in the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health. In this role, he provided a wide range of program management and portfolio analysis functions.

From April 2006 to August 2016, MJ served as the Director and Team Lead of the President’s Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (PCPID), where he provided technical advice, assistance, and guidance in the development of plans and objectives necessary to the fulfillment of President’s disability agenda. He studied public health epidemiology and biostatistics and is a graduate of the George Washington University, Trident University International, and Southern Illinois University (Carbondale Campus). In addition to his Ph.D., he is certified in Public Health Epidemiology and Biostatistics.



**Euny C. Lee, PhD, MS**

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Public Health Informatics Fellow, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

As a Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Public Health Informatics Fellow, **Euny Lee, PhD, MS** works for ASPE in the Office of Health Policy. She serves as a project officer to HHS patient-centered outcomes research projects aimed at building data capacity for researchers. Her research interests include telehealth disparities, social determinants of health, and health information exchanges. Prior to her Fellowship, Euny was an adjunct assistant professor at the City University of New York. Her previous research, evaluation, and quality improvement projects focused on improving health and health equity for underserved populations using a community-based participatory approach at the Institute for Family Health, Grameen PrimaCare, and the ICAHN School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Her previous experience also includes continuing medical education program development and evaluation and patient outcomes management. Euny earned her Doctoral degree in Biomedical Informatics at Rutgers University and a master’s degree in Health Services Management and Policy at the New School.



**Karen Onyeije, JD, LLM, BS**

Acting Deputy General Counsel, FCC and Chief of Staff, Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force

**Karen Onyeije, JD, LLM, BS** currently serves as Acting Deputy General Counsel at the Federal Communications Commission where she oversees the bankruptcy, transactions, and fraud teams and handles other complex and sensitive matters. She is also Chief of Staff of the Connect2HealthFCC Task Force, a senior-level, multi-disciplinary effort created to advise the Commission on the intersection of broadband, advanced technology, and health.

Connect2HealthFCC is working to help close the broadband health gap, catalyzing public-private collaborations that promote broadband in health and focusing on improving data-driven decision-making in the connected health space. For example, Ms. Onyeije was one of the chief architects of the pioneering Mapping Broadband Health in America platform (which is currently undergoing a major expansion) and manages the research team analyzing the role of broadband connectivity as a social determinant of health.

As a 20 plus-year veteran of the FCC, Ms. Onyeije has held a wide variety of policy and leadership positions across the agency, including Media Legal Advisor to Chairman William Kennard, Associate Chief and then Chief of Staff of the Enforcement Bureau, and Associate General Counsel. For example, she has served on the bankruptcy, transactions, and fraud teams, helping to favorably resolve the FCC's interests in several complex USF False Claims Act matters and bankruptcy cases (including Next Wave), led the Commission's then-novel enforcement efforts against illegal cell phone jammers yielding a \$34 million forfeiture against a foreign retailer, and represented the agency on various interagency committees.

Before joining the FCC, Ms. Onyeije was Senior Policy Advisor for Intergovernmental Affairs at the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration. Her work at NTIA involved universal service, spectrum management, and policy efforts to bridge the digital divide. Ms. Onyeije was a graduate fellow and clinical law professor at Georgetown University Law Center. She received an LL.M. in Advocacy from Georgetown University, a J.D. from the University of Southern California, and a B.A. in Psychology from Loma Linda University. Ms. Onyeije is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute, completing coursework and training in executive leadership, including team building, strategic thinking, influencing, negotiating, change management and external awareness.

## Remarks



### Commissioner Brendan Carr

FCC

**Commissioner Brendan Carr** is the senior Republican on the Federal Communications Commission, and he served previously as the agency’s General Counsel.

Described by Axios as “the FCC’s 5G crusader,” Carr has led the FCC’s work to modernize its infrastructure rules and accelerate the buildout of high-speed networks. His reforms cut billions of dollars in red tape, enabled the private sector to construct high-speed networks in communities across the country, and extended America’s global leadership in 5G.

Commissioner Carr is also focused on expanding America’s skilled workforce—the tower climbers and construction crews needed to build next-gen networks. His jobs initiative promotes community colleges and apprenticeships as a pipeline for good-paying 5G jobs. And he is recognizing America’s talented and hardworking tower crews through a series of “5G Ready” Hard Hat presentations.

Commissioner Carr leads a groundbreaking telehealth initiative at the FCC. The Connected Care Pilot Program supports the delivery of high-quality care to low-income Americans and veterans.

Commissioner Carr’s time outside of Washington helps inform his approach to the job. He regularly hits the road to hear directly from the community members, local leaders, and small business owners that are impacted by the FCC’s policies at town halls and events across the country.

Commissioner Carr brings nearly 20 years of private and public sector experience in communications and tech policy to his position. Before joining the agency as a staffer back in 2012, he worked as an attorney at Wiley Rein LLP in the firm’s appellate, litigation, and telecom practices. Previously, Commissioner Carr clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit for Judge Dennis Shedd. And after attending Georgetown University for his undergrad, Commissioner Carr earned his J.D. magna cum laude from the Catholic University of America’s Columbus School of Law where he served as an editor of the Catholic University Law Review.

Commissioner Carr was nominated to the FCC by President Trump and confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate.

Commissioner Carr lives in Virginia with his wife and three kids.

## Fireside Chat: The Value Proposition of Broadband Connectivity in Health



### **Donald Berwick, MD, MPP, FRCP, KBE**

President Emeritus and Senior Fellow, Institute for Healthcare Improvement;  
Faculty, Department of Health Care Policy Harvard Medical School;  
and Former Administrator Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

**Donald M. Berwick, MD, MPP, FRCP, KBE** is one of the leading scholars, teachers, and advocates in the world for the continual improvement of health care systems. He is a pediatrician, and a longstanding member of the faculty of Harvard Medical School. He founded and led the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, now the leading global nonprofit organization in its field. He was appointed by President Obama as administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, where he served in 2010 and 2011. He has counseled governments, clinical leaders, and executives in dozens of nations. He is an elected Member of the National Academy of Medicine and the American Philosophical Society. He has received numerous awards, including the Heinz Award for Public Policy, the Award of Honor of the American Hospital Association, and the Gustav Leinhard Award from the Institute of Medicine. For his work with the British National Health Service, in 2005 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II appointed him Honourary Knight Commander of the British Empire, the highest honor awarded by the UK to a non-British subject.

## PANEL 2: How Connectivity is Enhancing Health and Transforming Health Care; Emerging Technologies and Innovations



### **René Quashie, JD, BS (Moderator)**

Vice President of Policy & Regulatory Affairs, Digital Health,  
Consumer Technology Association

**René Quashie, JD, BS** is the first-ever Vice President of Policy & Regulatory Affairs for Digital Health at the Consumer Technology Association. Quashie provides guidance on key technical, legal, and regulatory issues relating to digital health technology products, services, software, and apps. Quashie also works on behalf of CTA's Health Division, which supports the health technology industry through advocacy, education, research, standards work, policy initiatives and more. Prior to CTA, Quashie was in private law practice at several national firms for two decades focusing his work on digital health and privacy. He earned his law degree from George Washington University.



### **Karen Rheuban, MD**

Professor of Pediatrics, Senior Associate Dean of Continuing Medical Education,  
and Director, University of Virginia Karen S. Rheuban Center for Telehealth

**Karen Schulder Rheuban, MD** serves as Professor of Pediatrics, Senior Associate Dean for Continuing Medical Education and External Affairs and Director of the University of Virginia Center for Telehealth, which she co-founded in 1995. The Center serves as the hub of a 155-site telemedicine network in the Commonwealth of Virginia, funded in part, by federal and state grants and contracts, and has supported ambulatory and specialty patient visits, e-consults, remote patient monitoring services and thousands of hours of health professional and patient education. UVA is the home of the HRSA funded Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center, and following the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, the UVA Center for Telehealth has received more than \$7 million in federal funding from HRSA, the FCC and USDA for telehealth expansions. Dr. Rheuban is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Telemedicine Association. She recently concluded two terms of service as chair of the Virginia Board of Medical Assistance Services (Medicaid). She chaired the 2020 Virginia Department of Health/Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association's COVID-19 Response Telehealth Working Group. She led the Institute of Medicine Workshop on Telehealth, serves on the American Medical Association's Digital Medicine Payment Advisory Group, and the AAMC Telehealth Advisory Committee. Dr. Rheuban has previously testified before the US Senate, the US House of Representatives, and the Virginia General Assembly regarding telehealth. With Dr. Elizabeth Krupinski, she co-edited the text "Understanding Telehealth". Dr. Rheuban is listed in the "Best Doctors in America" database and was profiled in the National Library of Medicine's exhibit "Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians." In 2017, the University of Virginia recognized her with its Thomas Jefferson Award. Dr. Rheuban is the Executive Editor of the Journal of Telemedicine and eHealth.



**David C. Rhew, MD**

Global Chief Medical Officer, Vice President of Healthcare, Worldwide Commercial, Microsoft

**David Rhew, MD** is Global Chief Medical Officer & VP of Healthcare for Microsoft. He is Adjunct Professor at Stanford University; holds six U.S. technology patents that enable authoring, mapping, and integration of clinical decision support into electronic health records; and has been recognized as one of the 100 most influential persons in healthcare by Modern Healthcare.

Dr. Rhew received Bachelor of Science degrees in computer science and cellular molecular biology from University of Michigan and his MD from Northwestern University. He completed internal medicine residency and fellowship in health services research at Cedars-Sinai and infectious diseases fellowship at UCLA.



**Michael R. Crawford, MBA, MHL**

Associate Dean for Strategy, Outreach, and Innovation, Howard University College of Medicine

**Mr. Michael Crawford, MBA, MHL** is the Associate Dean for Strategy, Outreach, and Innovation (ADSOI) at the Howard University College of Medicine and Founding Executive Director of Howard University's 1867 Health Innovations Project. Prior to Howard University, Mr. Crawford served as the Chief of Staff at Unity Health Care, Inc., one of the largest health center networks in the United States. Prior to Unity, Mr. Crawford held domestic and international leadership positions at Johnson & Johnson, GlaxoSmithKline, Gannett Company, nonprofits, and start-ups. Mr. Crawford brings expertise at the intersection of operations, strategy, digital health, data, innovation, product development, and policy. Mr. Crawford's work focuses on developing scalable digital health and data models to help enhance health access, outcomes, affordability, and patient experience for vulnerable populations.

Mr. Crawford serves on numerous national and local committees, including a member of the Academy of Health and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Service Research Learning Community, member of Robert Wood Johnson National Commission to Transform Public Health Data Systems, member of HIMSS Global Health Equity Network, member of the District of Columbia Complete Count Committee, member of New York eHealth Innovation Advisory Group, member of American Essential Hospitals Education Committee, member of the Advisory Board of National Minority Quality Forum, and member of the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Clubs Greater Washington. Mr. Crawford holds a Master of Healthcare Leadership (MHL) with a concentration in healthcare administration and management from Brown University, Master of Business Administration (MBA) with a concentration in strategic management and finance from The George Washington University, and a Bachelor of Science from Rider University with a concentration in Marketing Strategy.



### **Joe Drygas, BA**

Vice President, Global Business - Healthcare, AT&T

**Joe Drygas, BA** leads the Healthcare Solutions team globally for AT&T Business. His organization is comprised of highly experienced sales and technical professionals serving a multi-billion-dollar segment of AT&T's largest healthcare clients. A charismatic visionary, Joe is a seasoned sales leader with a focus on customer experience, talent development, teamwork, and growth. Under Joe's leadership, AT&T Healthcare designs integrated products, services, and solutions customized for the healthcare ecosystem, including the largest healthcare providers, pharmaceutical companies, and life sciences companies worldwide. Joe's passion for building relationships combined with his technical background are evident in the progress AT&T has made in the evolution from a communications provider to a strategic healthcare partner. Prior to this role, Joe led the sales teams responsible for the development and execution of the mobility, IoT, and 5G strategy across AT&T's largest global and enterprise client base. A veteran of the healthcare industry for more than a decade, Joe grew both revenue and relationships, consistently delivering customer satisfaction, employee engagement, and sales results. Joe joined AT&T in 2001 and worked in a variety of technical, consulting, and leadership roles nationwide. During his tenure, Joe has served clients across the business spectrum, from small to large, from government and education to enterprise and global. Joe graduated from Wheaton College (IL) with a Bachelor of Arts in business and economics. A native of Philadelphia, Joe spent two decades in Chicago, lived in Atlanta, and settled in Dallas, where he lives with his wife, Paige, and their two sons.



### **Elisabeth Myers, MBA, BA**

Deputy Director, Office of Policy, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC)

As deputy director of the Office of Policy at ONC, **Elisabeth Myers, MBA, BA** is focused on leading teams implementing the 21st Century Cures Act health IT provisions on interoperability for patient access, information blocking, and health IT for specialty settings and sites of service. She also leads the policy team working on the health IT provisions of the SUPPORT Act of December 2018 which established initiatives for Opioid Use Disorder prevention and treatment. Her portfolio includes supporting health IT policy for HHS partner initiatives including CMS, CDC, SAMHSA and HRSA as well as state health IT infrastructure initiatives. Prior to her work at ONC, Ms. Myers served as policy lead in the CMS Centers for Clinical Standards and Quality supporting CMS electronic quality reporting and the meaningful use/EHR Incentive Programs. In two decades of experience in healthcare and health IT policy, she has served in numerous roles in both the private and public sector including as assistant director of legislative affairs for the Governor's Office of Healthcare Reform in Pennsylvania. In this role, she worked on landmark legislation and administrative initiatives related to improving patient access to healthcare through expansions of nurse-managed care, reducing hospital acquired infections and adverse events through real-time digital surveillance, and expanding health care coverage for children and adults in the Commonwealth. In the private sector, she served as an advocate on policy initiatives related to high priority health care issues such as childhood obesity, mesothelioma, and health equity. Ms. Myers holds a bachelor's degree from Haverford College and a Master of Business Administration from Johns Hopkins University.

**PANEL 3: Connecting the Dots—Establishing Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health Domain**



**Chris Gibbons, MD, MPH (Moderator)**

Senior Advisor, Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force

**Chris Gibbons, MD, MPH** is a digital health innovator, entrepreneur, physician, and scientist. His career has been dedicated to solving some of life's most challenging health problems. Including improving health among racial and ethnic minorities and using digital technologies to improve health beyond the walls of the hospital. He is the Founder and CEO of The Greystone Group, a digital health innovation and transformation firm and the Co-Director of the Baltimore City Social Determinants of Health Task Force. Dr. Gibbons is also the Chief Health Innovation Adviser for the Federal Communications Commission's Connect2Health Task Force, a Visiting Professor, Duke University School of Medicine, a Board Member of Reach Thought Leadership Forum, and an Advisory Board member at MetroHealth DC, Microsoft for Startups, The American Medical Association's Equity in Innovation Advisory Board and Pear Therapeutics. Dr. Gibbons is a published research scientist, author, and international speaker. Previously Dr. Gibbons was the Associate Director of the Urban Health Institute at Johns Hopkins and an Assistant Professor of Medicine, Public Health and Health Informatics at Johns Hopkins schools of Medicine and Public Health.



**Gopal Singh, PhD**

Senior Health Equity Advisor, Office of Health Equity,  
Health Resources & Services Administration

**Gopal K. Singh, PhD** is the Senior Health Equity Advisor in the Office of Health Equity, Health Resources & Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services. He has published four books on health inequalities and nearly 200 peer-reviewed articles in the field of health inequalities, population health, and social determinants of health. His recent papers have appeared in Annals of Internal Medicine, JAMA Network Open, BMJ Open, American Journal of Public Health, American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Health Affairs, JAMA Pediatrics, and International Journal of Epidemiology.



**Jill Egeth, PhD, MS, BA**

Managing Director, Healthcare Delivery & New Opportunities  
The MITRE Corporation

**Jill Egeth, PhD, MS, BA** is the Managing Director of the Healthcare Delivery and New Opportunities Division within MITRE's Health FFRDC. In this role, she leads a team that sets and executes the FFRDC's strategic vision for reimagining healthcare delivery, with a focus on increasing access to virtual care. Jill and her team recently published A National Strategy for Digital Health, a MITRE-developed framework that

outlines a set of national priorities focused on realizing a vision of improved health and well-being of the nation, powered by a digital health ecosystem.

Jill is a health psychologist and applies her expertise in attitudes, beliefs, behaviors, and cognitive processes across a variety of domains, ensuring technical rigor in behavioral science research and applied work. She is a leader in MITRE's behavioral science community, previously serving as the Department Head of the Social and Behavioral Sciences department and as the Co-Technical Director of MITRE's Data and Human-Centered Solutions Innovation Center.

Jill held a Lecturer Position with Johns Hopkins University's Advanced Academic programs from 2002 – 2011 and, prior to joining MITRE, was a Science Policy Analyst with the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Science, where she engaged in non-profit science policy advocacy on behalf of the nation's behavioral science researchers. She received her doctorate in Health and Social Psychology from Rutgers University.



**Susan Dentzer, MS**  
Incoming Chief Executive Officer  
America's Physician Groups

**Susan Dentzer, MS** is the incoming President and Chief Executive Officer of America's Physician Groups, the organization of more than 335 physician practices that provide patient-centered, coordinated, and integrated care for patients while being accountable for cost and quality. APG members provide care to nearly 90 million patients nationwide. Dentzer is one of the nation's most respected health and health policy thought leaders and a frequent speaker and commentator on television and radio, including PBS and NPR, and an author of commentaries and analyses in print publications such as *Modern Healthcare*, *NEJM (New England Journal of Medicine)-Catalyst*, and the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. She was also the editor and lead author of the book *Health Care Without Walls: A Roadmap for Reinventing U.S. Health Care*, available on Amazon.com.

From 2019 to February 2022, Dentzer was Senior Policy Fellow for the Robert J. Margolis Center for Health Policy at Duke University. Based in Washington, DC, where the center's research team is located, she focused on aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic response; health system transformation, such as through telehealth; biopharmaceutical policy; health coverage expansion, and other key health policy issues. From 2016 to 2019, Dentzer was President and Chief Executive Officer of NEHI, the Network for Excellence in Health Innovation, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization then composed of more than 80 stakeholder organizations from across all key sectors of health and health care. From 2013 to 2016, she was senior policy adviser to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation's largest philanthropy focused on health and health care in the United States, and before that, was the editor-in-chief of the policy journal *Health Affairs*. From 1998 to 2008, she was the on-air Health Correspondent for the PBS NewsHour. Dentzer wrote and hosted the 2015 PBS documentary, *Reinventing American Healthcare*, focusing on the innovations pioneered by the Geisinger Health System and spread to health systems across the nation.

Dentzer is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine); an elected member of the Council on Foreign Relations; a fellow of the National Academy of Social Insurance; and a fellow of the Hastings Center, a nonpartisan bioethics research institute. She is the chair of the Board of Directors of Research!America, which advocates on behalf of biomedical and health-related research and innovation and is also a member of the Board of Directors of the International Rescue Committee, a leading global humanitarian organization. She was formerly a member of the board of directors of the Public Health Institute, a nonprofit organization addressing public health issues and solutions nationwide. She is a member of the Boards of Advisors for RAND Health and for the

Philip R. Lee Institute of Health Policy Studies at the University of California-San Francisco. From 2011 to 2017 she was public member of the Board of Directors of the American Board of Medical Specialties, which assists 24 medical specialty boards in the ongoing evaluation and certification of physicians. She was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University in 1986-87.

Dentzer graduated from Dartmouth and holds a master's in health care delivery science from Dartmouth as well. She is a trustee emerita of the college and chaired the Dartmouth Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2004. She serves on the advisory board for the Center for Global Health Equity at Dartmouth, and previously was a member of the Board of Advisors of Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine or more than two decades. Dentzer holds an honorary master's degree from Dartmouth and an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Muskingum University. She and her husband have three adult children.



**Gretchen Purcell Jackson, MD, PhD, FACS, FACMI, FAMIA**

**President and Board Chair, American Medical Informatics Association**

**Gretchen Purcell Jackson, MD, PhD, FACS, FACMI, FAMIA** is Vice President and Scientific Medical Officer at Intuitive Surgical and an Associate Professor of Surgery, Pediatrics, and Biomedical Informatics at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC). She is an internationally recognized biomedical informatician and accomplished clinical surgeon with over 30 years of contributions to informatics research and surgical science. Dr. Jackson is a President and Chair of the Board of Directors for the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA), an elected Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics (FACMI), and an elected member of the Society for University Surgeons, the Southern Surgical Association, and the American Surgical Association.

Dr. Jackson earned her BS (Electrical Engineering and Biological Sciences), MD, and PhD (Medical Information Sciences) at Stanford University. She trained in general surgery at Duke University Medical Center and pediatric surgery at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and she is board certified in general surgery, pediatric surgery, and clinical informatics. Dr. Jackson spent 12 years as an academic clinician scientist at VUMC, where she served as the Director of Graduate Studies and was a co-Principal Investigator for Vanderbilt's National Library of Medicine T15 Training Grant in Biomedical Informatics. In 2018, Dr. Jackson joined IBM Watson Health as Chief Science Officer, and in 2021, she took on the role of Chief Health and Science Officer. In her current position at Intuitive Surgical, Dr. Jackson is a healthcare technology executive focused on scientific strategy, and she practices pediatric surgery at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.



**Lauren Riplinger, JD, BA**

**Vice President of Policy & Government Affairs,  
American Health Information Management Association**

**Lauren Riplinger, JD, BA** currently serves as AHIMA's Vice President of Policy & Government Affairs. In this capacity, she is responsible for AHIMA's policy and advocacy before Congress and various federal agencies. With two decades of healthcare policy experience, Lauren previously worked on Capitol Hill where she was actively involved in almost every aspect of a congressional office, including serving as Chief of Staff—a position that requires the ability to quickly synthesize multiple issues and adapt to constantly shifting priorities. Lauren received her JD from American University Washington College of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from Vanderbilt University. She is admitted to practice law in New York.

**PANEL 4: Looking Ahead—Implications of Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health Domain on Government Policies, Clinical Care, and Health Equity**



**David Blumenthal, MD, MPP (Moderator)**

President, The Commonwealth Fund; former National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

**David Blumenthal, MD, MPP** is President of the Commonwealth Fund. Previously, he served as Chief Health Information and Innovation Officer at Partners Health System and was Samuel O. Thier Professor of Medicine and Professor of Health Care Policy at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School. From 2009 to 2011, Dr. Blumenthal was the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology under President Barack Obama. As a renowned health services researcher and national authority on health IT adoption, he has authored over 300 scholarly publications, including the seminal studies on the adoption and use of health information technology in the United States.



**John Horrigan, PhD, BA**

Senior Fellow, Benton Institute for Broadband & Society

**John B. Horrigan, PhD, BA** is Senior Fellow at the Benton Institute on Broadband & Society, with a focus on technology adoption and digital inclusion. Horrigan has served as an Associate Director for Research at the Pew Research Center and Senior Fellow at the Technology Policy Institute. During the Obama Administration, Horrigan was part the leadership team at the Federal Communications Commission for the development of the National Broadband Plan (NBP). For the NBP, Horrigan was responsible for the plan's recommendations on broadband adoption.

Horrigan has a Ph.D. in public policy from the University of Texas at Austin and his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia.



**Joshua Edmonds, MPP, BA**

Director of Digital Inclusion, Department of Innovation and Technology, City of Detroit

**Joshua Edmonds, MPP, BA** is the City of Detroit's inaugural Director of Digital Inclusion and is America's first municipal Director of Digital Inclusion. He is responsible for the creation of Connect 313 – Detroit's sustainable digital inclusion strategy designed to bridge the digital divide. While appointed at the City, Joshua has testified in front of Congress on the matter of digital equity, hosted Detroit's first Digital Inclusion Summit, Established the City's first Digital Equity Fund and most recently, helped raise a combined \$30 million for distance learning and telehealth initiatives for Detroit residents. Joshua also chairs the telehealth workgroup within the Federal Communications Commission's Intergovernmental Advisory Committee. Prior to his current role, Joshua served as a Digital Inclusion Policy Fellow for the University of Michigan's Poverty Solutions Initiative, a Digital Innovation Fellow at The Cleveland Foundation, and a Public Service Fellow at the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority working on President Obama's ConnectHome initiative. Among others, Joshua has been recognized by Forbes, the Federal Communications Commission, Next Century Cities, Government Technology, and the National Digital Inclusion Alliance for his contributions to the field.



**Mikelle Moore, MBA, MHSA, BS**

Senior Vice President, Chief Community Health Officer, Intermountain Healthcare

**Mikelle Moore, MBA, MHSA, BS** has been a part of Intermountain Healthcare's leadership team for over 20 years. In April 2017, Mikelle joined the Executive Leadership Team and serves as Senior Vice President and Chief Community Health Officer. Mikelle is a pioneer leading healthcare's pivot towards social determinants of health, disease prevention, and mental health well-being, in support of Intermountain's mission of helping people live the healthiest lives possible. Mikelle also serves as President of the Intermountain Community Care Foundation.

Intermountain Healthcare is a Utah-based not-for-profit system of 24 hospitals (includes "virtual" hospital), a medical group of 2,400 physicians and advance practice providers, 160 clinics, 40,000 caregivers, a health plans group under the name SelectHealth, and other medical services.

Mikelle is a certified Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. She serves on the American Hospital Association's Population and Community Health Advisory Committee and the National Alliance to Impact the Social Determinants of Health. Mikelle also serves on various local boards, to include United Way of Salt Lake, Envision Utah, and Shelter the Homeless.

Mikelle earned her master's degrees in business administration and health services administration from Arizona State University, and a bachelor's degree in physiology from the University of Arizona.



### **Jorge A. Rodriguez, MD**

Digital Health Equity Researcher and Hospitalist, Division of General Internal Medicine and Primary Care, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School

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The research and passion of **Jorge Rodriguez, MD** lie in the meaningful intersection of medicine, social justice, and technology. He is a digital health equity researcher and hospitalist in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Primary Care at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He completed his Internal Medicine training at Massachusetts General Hospital. He also completed a Clinical Informatics fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Prior to his current position, he was Medical Director of Clinical Informatics at Lawrence General Hospital where he oversaw a transition to electronic health record in a safety-net hospital. He is currently focused on bridging disparities in patient-facing health technology, including patient portals, mobile apps, and telehealth.



### **William England, PhD, JD**

Senior Advisor, Office for the Advancement of Telehealth,  
Health Resources & Services Administration

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**William England, PhD, JD** is senior advisor for Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT) at HRSA. Previously, he directed OAT as a division of the Office of Rural Health Policy prior to OAT becoming an independent HRSA office last year. Bill began work in health care financing as an assistant professor of Industrial Engineering and Preventive Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and then came to CMS where he ran the first Medicare telemedicine demonstration. Subsequently he was Director and Vice President of the FCC/Universal Service Rural Health Care Program, before coming to HRSA. He is a Fellow of the American Telemedicine Association and was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Healthcare Financing Fellow. He has a BS and MS in Electrical Engineering and a PhD in Industrial Engineering from Purdue University. His law degree is from the University of Maryland.



**Adie Tomer, MPP, BA**

Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution

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**Adie Tomer, MPP, BA** is a Senior Fellow at Brookings Metro and leads the [Metropolitan Infrastructure Initiative](#). Tomer is an expert in infrastructure policy and urban economics, with a particular focus on transportation and digital technology issues. Tomer’s work has received coverage and citations in international print publications and other media outlets, including The Economist, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Washington Post, National Public Radio, and the BBC. Tomer has testified in front of the U.S. Congress about the future of American infrastructure and has advised staffs of presidential candidates.

Tomer leads a team whose work aims to better understand how [infrastructure policies](#)—from the federal through local level—impact economic development, social prosperity, and environmental resilience. Their work covers multiple infrastructure sectors, including transportation, water resources, and broadband. Tomer’s team regularly publish long-form reports and targeted analyses on topics including metropolitan transportation behavior, the infrastructure workforce, and the economic dimensions of the digital divide.

Tomer holds a master’s in public policy from American University and a B.A. from the University of Florida. Tomer currently sits on the Advisory Board of the Eno Transportation Foundation.

**PANEL 5: Next Steps—A Focus on Broadband and Health Data and Social Determinants of Health Research**



**David Ahern, PhD (Moderator)**

Senior Advisor, Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force, FCC

David Ahern biography is on page 3.



**Robin Gelburd, JD**

President, FAIR Health

**Robin Gelburd, JD** is the founding President of [FAIR Health](#), a national, independent nonprofit organization that serves as a trusted leader in healthcare cost transparency, data analytics and benchmarks. FAIR Health possesses the nation's largest collection of private healthcare claims data, which includes over 36 billion claim records and grows at a rate of over 2 billion claim records a year. Certified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services as a national Qualified Entity, FAIR Health also receives data representing the experience of all individuals enrolled in traditional Medicare Parts A, B and D. Robin is a nationally recognized expert on healthcare policy and health literacy and transparency. Selected as one of *Crain's* 2019 Notable Women in Health Care, she has been invited to speak to organizations and federal and state agencies across the country and world.



**Kiersten Frobom, MPA, MPH, BA**

Senior Evidence Analyst on Evidence & Policy Analysis Team, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Population Health Institute, University of Wisconsin

**Kiersten Frobom, MPA, MPH, BA** is a senior analyst on the Evidence & Policy Analysis team within County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. This team's work includes [What Works for Health](#) (WWFH), a searchable online database that provides community leaders, coalitions, and others with promising strategies to respond effectively to their health priorities. Prior to joining the County Health Rankings, Kiersten worked at the statewide research project Survey of the Health of Wisconsin and with nonprofit Health Access Connect on its Monitoring and Evaluation team in Uganda. Kiersten holds dual master's degrees in Public Affairs and Public Health, and a certificate in Global Health, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



### **Adam Perzynski, PhD**

Associate Professor, Center for Health Care Research and Policy in the Population Health Research Institute at MetroHealth and Case Western Reserve University; Founding Director of the Patient Centered Media Lab

**Adam Perzynski, PhD** is a tenured Associate Professor of Medicine and Sociology in the Center for Health Care Research and Policy in the Population Health Research Institute at MetroHealth and Case Western Reserve University. He is also the Founding Director of the Patient Centered Media Lab. His doctoral degree is in sociology and his current research interests include novel strategies to eliminate health disparities, outcomes measurement over the life course and mixed methods research. He is the lead editor of *Health Disparities: Weaving a New Understanding with Case Narratives (2019)* and co-authored the first ever textbook on structural equation modeling for medical applications (*Structural Equation Modeling for Health and Medicine, 2021*). His bibliography includes more than 200 publications and presentations on social factors and health. In addition to teaching research methods in public health at CWRU, he regularly teaches seminars on health disparities and social determinants of health with MetroHealth residents and faculty in primary care disciplines.

Dr. Perzynski is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and is currently funded by the National Institute on Aging to examine how community social factors influence cardiovascular disease across the life course. He has multiple health technology invention disclosures, including work on health risk assessments and a new wearable dehydration risk sensor. His combined work represents a career long effort to infuse the study of biomedical scientific problems with the knowledge, theories, and methods of social science.



### **Patricia Keenan, PhD**

Senior Researcher, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

**Patricia Keenan, PhD** is a senior researcher at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, where she has worked since 2014 on data resources including the Social Determinants of Health Database and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. She has a PhD in Health Policy from Harvard University.



### **Robin Vanderpool, DrPH**

Chief, Health Communication, and Informatics Research Branch, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute

**Robin Vanderpool, DrPH** is chief of the Health Communication and Informatics Research Branch in the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). As branch chief, Dr. Vanderpool leads the development of health communication research initiatives in areas such as cancer communication surveillance, patient-centered communication, telehealth and cancer care, social media and health misinformation, and community engagement. Prior to joining NCI, Dr. Vanderpool was a professor in the College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky (UK) and associate director for community outreach and engagement at the UK Markey Cancer Center. Dr. Vanderpool earned her DrPH from UK; her MPH from Western Kentucky University; and her BS from Centre College.

## Symposium Planning Leadership Team

### FCC Connect2Health Task Force

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**David Ahern**, PhD, Senior Advisor  
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### The MITRE Corporation

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