



A Focus on Health Care: Five Key Priorities for the Next Administration

Speaker Biographies

Amara Anosike, JD, is the Director of Behavioral Health Policy and Advocacy at Boston Children’s Hospital. She is responsible for advancing the hospital’s behavioral health policy agenda at the local, state, and national level to expand access to quality behavioral health care for all children. Amara works in close consultation with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and also provides strategic direction and leadership to further the policy goals of the Children’s Mental Health Campaign. Before joining the Government Relations team, Amara worked in the Office of General Counsel at Boston Children’s Hospital, where she implemented and staffed the hospital’s first MedicalLegal Partnership program. Amara also served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Health Care Division at the Massachusetts Office of Attorney General Maura Healey and as a judicial law clerk for the Delaware Family Court. She is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and the George Washington University Law School.

Stephanie Anthony is a Senior Advisor at Manatt Health. A veteran of state and federal health care administrations with experience in program design and implementation, Ms. Anthony provides research, analysis and advisory services on health policy and health law to public and private sector clients. Clients turn to Ms. Anthony for counsel on health care reform, Medicaid, and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) financing, program design and waivers, post-acute care, and long-term services and supports. She also advises on best practices in care management, integrated care models, and coverage options for the uninsured.

Before joining Manatt, Ms. Anthony was with the University of Massachusetts Medical School’s (UMMS’s) Center for Health Law and Economics, where she helped Massachusetts become the first state to implement a demonstration program of integrated care for individuals with dual eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid. Ms. Anthony oversaw strategic planning, policy development and analysis, program design, data analytics, and stakeholder engagement efforts. She was also the lead consultant providing analytic and staff support to Massachusetts’ Long-Term Care Financing Advisory Committee.

Prior to UMMS, she was deputy Medicaid director in the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services. A member of the executive management team, she worked with

the federal Medicaid oversight agency and was integral to the development and implementation of the Commonwealth's landmark health care reform law. Ms. Anthony also oversaw CHIP and the MassHealth 1115 Waiver, the primary financing mechanism for the publicly funded health care reform coverage expansions. Ms. Anthony's government service also includes work as a director of federal and national policy management within EOHHS's Medicaid office and as a legal advisor and policy analyst for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She also was a senior policy analyst for the Economic and Social Research Institute.

Karen Baumbach has been with Ecu-Health Care since 2002. She assumed the position of Executive Director in 2015 and in this role oversees the day-to-day operations of the program and remains directly involved with assisting individuals and families apply for and enroll in any and all available health care programs.

Karen is a Certified Navigator with the Massachusetts Health Connector and a Certified SHINE counselor, specializing in benefits and assistance programs available to Medicare beneficiaries. In the Fall of 2004, Karen completed the Berkshire Leadership Program sponsored by the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce. The Berkshire Leadership Program seeks, prepares, involves, and sustains leaders from diverse backgrounds who are committed and competent to address community challenges and improve the quality of life in the Berkshires.

In the fall of 2006 Ms. Baumbach won a special community service award from the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition for her exemplary service to the community. This was in recognition of her leadership in making North Berkshire the community with the most residents enrolled, per capita, in Prescription Advantage, the state's prescription drug plan for elders and the disabled.

Carlos F. Cappas, PsyD, is the Chief Behavioral Health Officer at Lynn Community Health Center, and a practicing behavioral health clinician in pediatrics. As a clinician, Dr. Cappas has helped implement behavioral health integration programs at federally qualified community health centers and independent primary care practices. As a quality improvement consultant, he has led multiple initiatives focused on integrated care and population health both in adult and pediatric primary care settings at Boston Children's Pediatric Physicians' Organization and the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership. Dr. Cappas continues his work at Lynn Community Health Center by further developing its behavioral health services through clinical and operational integration, adoption of integrated tele-mental health services, and the expansion of a behavioral health workforce pipeline to recruit and retain professionals working in community-based settings. In alignment with his work in primary care and behavioral health integration, Dr. Cappas' clinical interest also centers on the impact of integrated care in enhancing access to behavioral health services for low income and vulnerable populations. A native of Puerto Rico, Carlos received his doctoral degree from Ponce Health Sciences University in Ponce, Puerto Rico and is a graduate of UMass Medical School's Fellowship in Clinical Health Psychology in Primary Care. He also holds a master's degree in Business Administration from UMass Boston.

Priyanka Dayal McCluskey is a senior health reporter for WBUR, Boston's NPR news station. Her work airs on the radio and appears online at WBUR.org. Before joining WBUR in 2022, she spent eight years as a health care reporter at The Boston Globe. She previously covered health and medicine at the Boston Herald. She began her career writing local news for the Worcester Telegram & Gazette.

Priyanka's coverage spans health business and policy, medical research, and health disparities. She is focused on how the health care system serves — and doesn't serve — patients. Her recent work chronicles the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on patients, workers, and the health care system. She is also a co-author of WBUR's CommonHealth newsletter. Priyanka has a B.S. in Journalism and a B.A. in Political Science from Boston University.

Michelle P. Durham, MD, is the Vice Chair of Education in the Department of Psychiatry at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM)/Boston Medical Center (BMC). She is a board-certified physician specializing in pediatric and adult psychiatry with additional board certification in addiction medicine. Dr. Durham practices clinically at BMC and is a Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at BUSM. Her public health and clinical roles have always been in marginalized communities with a focus on health equity and advocacy for equitable mental health treatment globally and locally. Her research focuses on workforce development that reflects groups historically excluded from medicine, training, and education for both the pediatric workforce and mental health professionals. She is the Director of Clinical Training for the BMC Transforming and Expanding Access to Mental Health in Urban Pediatrics (TEAM UP) grant funded initiative to bring mental health care into the pediatric primary care setting in federally qualified community health centers. Through the TEAM UP initiative, she developed an e-course for the pediatric care team to build foundational skills in working with children and adolescents with behavioral health concerns. She is the Principal Investigator for three federally funded grants: HRSA Maternal and Child Health Collaborative Office Rounds, HRSA Achieving Culturally Competent and Equitable Substance use Services (ACCESS) Training Program and SAMHSA STAR (Services for Trauma and Resources) for families. She is involved at the state and national level in the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society, American Psychiatric Association and American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry to improve the standard of care for adults, children, and adolescents. She has testified for the U.S. Senate HELP and Finance Committees to advocate for increase funding, access, and parity in mental health.

Jeffrey Keilson is Senior Vice President of Strategic Planning and Development at Advocates, Inc Starting in the 1970s with the movement to support people to move from state institutions and nursing homes, Mr. Keilson has provided leadership to support people to live in real homes and live fulfilling lives in the communities of their choice.

Mr. Keilson has worked with elders and people with autism, intellectual/developmental disabilities, brain injuries, and mental health needs, along with their families. All his work puts people with disabilities and their families at the center, as he has listened to, learned from, and valued their voices in advocating for themselves and family members. He initiated an

innovative program to support children with complex needs to stay living with their families. In the 1990s Jeff spearheaded an initiative supported by the RWJ Foundation to support self-determination in communities of color. He worked with Bay Path Elder Services to develop a self-direction initiative for elders that received a 2010 Local Innovation Award from the federal Administration on Aging.

As Senior Vice President for Advocates, which provides supports to more than 30,000 people with disabilities and their families, he provides leadership in the implementation of more person-directed services and Advocates' strategic growth. He serves on the Implementation Council for One Care (dual demonstration) in Massachusetts.

Mr. Keilson co-founded Rewarding Work Resources, Inc., a multi-state organization that provides a means for individuals with disabilities and their families to find respite and direct support professionals. He also was the Director of the Lindemann Mental Health Center in Boston and served as Assistant Commissioner for Community Programs and Regional Director for the Metro Region for MA Department of Developmental Services.

Mr. Keilson gets his deepest rewards when working directly with consumers and families in supporting them to become more empowered--in states as diverse as Arkansas, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, and Massachusetts. In 2017 he received the Marie Feltin Award from BCIL and in 2008 Jeff received the Gunnar Dybwad Leadership Award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He serves on the AG's Disability Rights Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors for the Disability Policy Consortium.

Colin Killick (he/him/his) is the Executive Director of Disability Policy Consortium (DPC), a civil rights advocacy organization run by and for people with disabilities. At DPC, he led the effort that overturned Massachusetts' discriminatory COVID-19 Crisis Standards of Care and co-founded the Housing Advocacy Leadership Team (HALT) whose advocacy has led to Massachusetts quintupling its investment in housing vouchers for low-income people with disabilities since 2014. He holds a 2018 MPP from Harvard's Kennedy School, and won their RFK Award for public service. He serves on a variety of boards and commissions, including the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission's advisory board, the Health Equity Advisory Group to the MA Department of Public Health, and the National Advisory Council for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Partnership for Health Equity.

Juan Fernando Lopera is Beth Israel Lahey Health's inaugural Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer and in this role leads the system's efforts to transform care delivery for the underserved, while establishing diversity, equity and inclusion capabilities across the system.

Before joining BILH, Juan served as Vice President and Corporate Business Diversity Officer at Point32Health, where he led company-wide diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives and co-chaired the company's Anti-Racism Leadership Taskforce. He also oversaw the Rhode Island Medicaid business and led marketing and community outreach efforts for Tufts Health Public Plans. Previously, he served as the company's Director of Health Services leading medical cost

management and provider contracting strategy and analytics. Earlier in his career, Juan served as Director of Affordability Strategies at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and held management roles at Deloitte Consulting.

He serves on several boards and committees, including: Dimock Center (Board Vice-chair), Stonehill College Board of Trustees, The Boston Foundation's Latino Legacy Fund (Co-chair), The State of MA's COVID-19 Health Equity Advisory Group and The State's Latino Advisory Commission, Eastern Bank's Board of Corporators, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce Economic Inclusion Committee and the MA Hospital Association Diversity, Health Equity & Inclusion committee.

Juan earned a B.S. from the School of Management at Boston College. He is originally from Medellin, Colombia and resides in Waltham, MA with his wife and two children. In his spare time, Juan is a competitive cyclist and was the 2019 Massachusetts Masters Road Champion.

Amy Rosenthal is the executive director of Health Care For All, a nonprofit organization with a mission of advocating for health justice in Massachusetts by working to promote health equity and ensure coverage and access for all. Under her leadership since 2017, Health Care For All has achieved a number of successes including assisting tens of thousands of residents enroll in health insurance coverage, advocating for policies that help reduce prescription drug costs for the state's Medicaid program and expand behavioral health care, and run a large-scale culturally- and linguistically-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine campaign in nine of the state's hardest hit communities. Ms. Rosenthal brings close to 30 years of expertise in health care, public policy, politics, and philanthropy, as well as a wide variety of prior experience in multiple sectors including hospitals, state government, political campaigns, a foundation, and non-profit advocacy organizations. She previously served as the Director of External Affairs & Campaigns at Community Catalyst where she spent a decade working on the passage, implementation, and defense of the Affordable Care Act. For the past nine years, she has taught at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health working with MPH policy students on their practicum experience.

Ms. Rosenthal holds a bachelor's degree in organizational studies from Northwestern University, a master's degree in public health from Harvard University, and a master's degree in public affairs with a concentration in non-profit management from Indiana University.

Assaad Sayah, MD, has served as an emergency medicine physician for over three decades. He was named Cambridge Health Alliance's CEO in January 2020. His leadership has been a critical component of CHA's growth and success over the past decade. Before being named CEO, he served as the health system's chief medical officer, the chief of emergency medicine, and senior vice president of primary care. In the Emergency Department, Dr. Sayah led tremendous advancements which led to enhanced efficiency, quality, volume, and patient satisfaction. He has also played a key role in CHA's commitment to the communities it serves, including his tenure as the co-chair of the Massachusetts Legislature Health Equity Task Force and co-chair of the Cambridge City Manager's Opioid Working Group.

Additionally, Dr. Sayah serves as the Commissioner of Public Health for the City of Cambridge and on the faculty at Harvard Medical School. His research and publications focus on Emergency Department operation, systems design, continuous quality improvement, disaster planning, equity, and patient experience of care.

Audrey Shelto is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation. Ms. Shelto has over 30 years of achievement in improving the delivery of health care and human services, particularly for low-income and vulnerable populations. She assumed leadership of the Foundation in August 2013. She leads the Foundation's strategic agenda to broaden health coverage and reduce barriers to care through grants, research, and policy initiatives.

Ms. Shelto served as interim president of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation in 2005, helping to shape the Foundation's policies and supporting the Roadmap to Coverage initiative that led to Massachusetts' landmark 2006 universal health care law. She joined Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts in 2007, where she focused on medical cost and care management initiatives over the next six years before returning to the Foundation to become its president. Ms. Shelto's other professional experience includes chief operating officer of Neighborhood Health Plan, executive director for the Boston Mayor's Advisory Committee on Health Care, associate commissioner of Massachusetts's Department of Mental Health, and assistant budget director for the Massachusetts Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

She is widely recognized for her expertise in all aspects of health care and is often called upon to serve on committees and task forces around the state, such as the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Addiction & Recovery (Boston), the MA House of Representatives Legislative Working Group on Managed Care Organizations and the Attorney General's Advisory Task Force on Community Benefits. Audrey is also a sought after speaker in the local and national health care field.

Ms. Shelto holds a master's degree in management of human services from the Heller School at Brandeis University. She serves on the boards of the Justice Resource Institute, the MA Health Policy Forum and Philanthropy Massachusetts. She received the inaugural Art of Healthcare Award from the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center in 2014 and the Thomas M. Menino Award in 2016 from the Disability Policy Consortium. In 2018, Audrey was honored by the Lynn Community Health Center with their annual women's award and by the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health with their Spirit of Compassion award. She was named a 2022 Champion of Health and Wellness by the Massachusetts Health Council.