

Speaker Biographies

Philip W. Johnston, Chairman, Massachusetts Health Policy Forum

Philip W. Johnston is the President and Founder of Johnston Associates, LLC, a communications and public affairs consulting firm founded in 1996. Phil began his career by founding and serving as Executive Director of the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps, one of the top juvenile justice and social services agencies in the country. In 1984, Governor Michael S. Dukakis appointed Phil the Secretary of Health and Human Services in Massachusetts. In 1991, Phil served as the Executive Director of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, in Washington, D.C. In 1992, he was appointed by President Clinton to serve as the New England Administrator of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He served in that role until 1996 when he became a Democratic candidate for the US Congress in the 10th District of Massachusetts. In 2002, he was appointed to Chair the Board of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation. He has served on many Boards including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, University of Massachusetts and Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights. Phil is the Board Chair of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum, an organization funded by Massachusetts health providers and payors, which serves both as a health policy research organization and as a convener of key players in the health field to address health policy issues confronting the state and the nation. The Forum is affiliated with Brandeis University. Phil received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst (Honors in History) and a Master of Arts degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Kiame Mahaniah, MD, Undersecretary of Health, Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Dr. Kiame Mahaniah is Undersecretary for Health in the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

Before joining the Healey-Driscoll administration, Dr. Kiame Mahaniah served as CEO of the Lynn Community Health Center, where he led the transition into value-based care. He is a practicing physician in the field of addiction and primary care and has a passion for social justice. An avid teacher and committed mentor, he is an Assistant Professor in the Family Medicine department of the Tufts University School of Medicine.

Dr. Kiame Mahaniah is dedicated pescatarian, and is particularly interested in the intersection of food, wellness and the immune system.

Barbara Fain, JD, MPP, Executive Director, Betsy Lehman Center

Barbara Fain was appointed Executive Director of the Betsy Lehman Center for Patient Safety in December 2013. Barbara's career has been devoted to health policy development and analysis, public engagement, and strategic planning for government agencies, academic institutions, policy think tanks, and healthcare organizations. Her work for the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies focused on developing standards for allocating scarce medical resources in disasters.

Before then, Barbara was executive director of a health policy research center at Harvard Law School. For over a decade she served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office where she spearheaded the state's Community Benefit Guidelines for hospitals and health plans.

Barbara served on the National Advisory Council of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and was adjunct faculty at the Tufts University School of Medicine where she taught public health law. She received her BA from Brown University, a JD from UC Berkeley, and an MPP from Harvard Kennedy School.

Maryanne Bombaugh, MD, MSc, MBA, CPE, FACOG, Massachusetts Medical Society; Community Health Center, Cape Cod

Dr. Bombaugh is the Past President of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and a MA delegate to the American Medical Association (AMA). She works at the Community Health Center of Cape Cod and serves on the executive committee and task forces of the MA Coalition for Safety at the Betsy Lehman Center. She serves on the Committees on Quality of Medical Practice, Finance and Legislation at the Massachusetts Medical Society. Also active in education and advocacy at the national level, Dr. Bombaugh currently serves on the AMA Council on Legislation and recently served on the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Task Force for Improving Health and Health Care. Prior to joining the Community Health Center of Cape Cod, Dr. Bombaugh was Executive Medical Director of Population Health and Medical Director for Quality and Patient Safety at Reliant Medical Group and also as Associate Medical Director for Quality for the Steward Health Care Network. In addition to her clinical and administrative work, Dr. Bombaugh served as a board director at Coverys, the Massachusetts Medical Society, and Centene Healthcare. She presently serves on the board of the Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors. She is past chair of the Massachusetts Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Dr. Bombaugh received her undergraduate degree from Smith College, her Master of Science degree in Epidemiology and Public Health from the University of Massachusetts School of Public Health and her MBA from the Isenberg School of Management. She earned her medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and completed her internship at Brooke Army Medical Center and her residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. A veteran of the U. S. military, she served 12 years in the United States Army Medical Corps and completed her military service as the Division Chief of Gynecology at Walter Reed Medical Center and Director of Safety and Quality.

Dani Hackner, MD, Physician-in-Chief for Medicine, Southcoast Health

Dani Hackner, MD, MBA is Chief Clinical Officer, Physician in Chief for Medicine, and Ronald Goodspeed Chair for Quality and Safety at Southcoast Hospitals Group. A clinically active board-certified pulmonary, critical care and medicine physician, Dan graduated UC Berkeley and Stanford School of Medicine. Dan has a background in health services, physician advising and provider performance improvement. He has published on hospital medicine improvement, authored and edited the widely used training program on physician advising (ACMA Compass) and implemented patented tools for digital decision support. He serves on the Massachusetts Hospital Association Clinical Advisory Committee, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Equity Action committee and the Southcoast Board of Trustees Quality Committee. Dan is the Executive Sponsor of the Southcoast Health System Peer Support program, is the grant-funded Executive Sponsor of the Equity Performance Improvement Project

“Southcoast Cares about My Diabetes”, and has been active in the Clinical Leadership and Governance Taskforce for the Roadmap to Safety.

Deb Washington, RN, PhD, DEI Health and Community Partnerships Manager, Massachusetts General Hospital

Deborah Washington is the current Health and Community Partnerships Manager at MGH where she assists self-contained community led health initiatives further program development through access to resources and improved organizational infrastructures. A nurse by education Deborah is a subject matter expert on leadership development, antiracism training and exploring elements of structural racism. Deborah is faculty for the American Organization of Nurse Leaders, adjunct at Emmanuel School of Nursing, member of the National Nurse Led Care Consortium for Vaccine Confidence and the National Black Nurses DEI Committee.

Patricia Folcarelli, RN, MA, PhD, Vice President, Patient Safety, CRICO

Pat Folcarelli RN, MA, PhD is Vice President for Patient Safety at CRICO the medical professional liability insurance provider for the Harvard medical community. In this role Pat assists with strategic and operational patient safety solutions. Prior to joining CRICO in 2020, Dr. Folcarelli worked at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) for more than 30 years, most recently as Vice President, Health Care Quality. Pat has worked in health care quality in leadership roles for 22 years. Pat is a part time lecturer in Medicine at HMS and co-directs a course on Patient and Family Engagement in Quality and Safety for the master’s in healthcare quality and safety at Harvard Medical School. Pat received her BS in Nursing from Hunter

College of the City University of NY and earned both her M.A. and Ph.D. from New York University.

Troyen A. Brennan, MD, MPH, Adjunct Professor, Harvard Chan School of Public Health

Troyen Brennan, MD, MPH is an Adjunct Professor of Health Policy at the Harvard Chan School of Public Health. He has previously served in various positions at insurers, retail pharmacies, pharmacy benefit managers, nonprofit hospitals and physician groups.

Theodore A. Calianos, II, MD, President, Massachusetts Medical Society

Dr. Calianos is a practicing plastic surgeon in Mashpee. He was in private practice for several years prior to joining Medical Affiliates of Cape Cod (MACC), the multispecialty group practice of Cape Cod Healthcare (CCHC), and serves as its medical director. He serves on numerous committees at Cape Cod Healthcare.

Dr. Calianos has been a member of the Medical Society since 1999. Dr. Calianos serves as the co-chair of the Working Group on Sustainability. He served as the chair of the Committee on Legislation and alternate trustee to the Medical Society and a member of the Committee on Finance. He is a longtime active member of the Barnstable District Medical Society, where he has served as district president and is currently the district treasurer. He was named the Barnstable District Medical Society Community Clinician of the Year in 2018. He is also an MMS delegate to the American Medical Association and is the vice-chair of the delegation. He has been honored with an AMA Foundation Leadership Award.

Within his specialty, he serves on the American Society of Plastic Surgery's Committee on Legislative Affairs and is a subject matter expert in licensing, board certification as well as out-of-network and balance billing. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Plastic Surgery and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. For the Medical Professional Liability Association, he is a member of the Government Relations Committee and a graduate of the MPLA Fellows Leadership Program.

In addition, he serves on the boards of Coverys and Cape Cod Healthcare. Dr. Calianos earned his BS at Boston College and his MD at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston (UTMB). He was a general surgery resident at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester. He completed plastic surgery training at UTMB and a hand surgery fellowship at Rush Medical Center in Chicago.

**Michael Curry, Esq., President & CEO,
Massachusetts League of Community Health
Centers**

Dr. Michael Curry, Esq. serves as President & CEO of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, which represents 52 health centers, serving over one million patients out of over 300 practice sites. He was named "Bostonian of the Year 2021" by The Boston Globe and Boston Magazine, and in the spring of 2022 will deliver three commencement college speeches and receive two honorary degrees: a Doctorate in Business Administration from Curry College, and Healthcare Administration from Labouré College. During the early battle with the COVID-19 pandemic, Michael was appointed by the Massachusetts Senate to the legislatively created Health Equity Task

Force, which he co-chaired, aimed at addressing the health disparities that have been realized and magnified by COVID-19. He was also appointed by Governor Charlie Baker to the COVID-19 Vaccine Working Group, and served on the Department of Public Health's Health Equity Advisory Group, the City of Boston's Health Inequity Task Force, and the City of Brockton's Social Justice Task Force. He brings over 25 years of experience and results in civil rights advocacy, health reform and health equity. Notably, Dr. Curry raised over \$6.5 million dollars in 2021 to launch the nation's first "Institute for Health Equity Research, Evaluation & Policy" at a state primary care association. The institute will focus on "participatory" and "emancipatory" research and evaluation at community health centers, building a pipeline of diverse researchers and evaluators grounded in community health. He also co-led an effort to organize Black and Latinx leaders in health in Massachusetts to launch a "Health Equity Compact" aimed at eliminating health disparities in Massachusetts through an omnibus health equity reform proposal. He is also the Immediate Past President of the Boston Branch of the NAACP (2011-2016), and has over twenty years of dedicated service to the NAACP on the city, state-area conference and national levels. He was elected nationally to the NAACP Board of Directors in 2014, and was reelected in 2017 and again in 2020. He serves on the National NAACP's Executive Committee, and has been appointed Chair of the National Board's Advocacy & Policy Committee since 2019 and Vice-Chair the Political Action and Legislation Committee. He serves on the Board of Advisors for Eastern Bank and WGBH (public broadcasting), among others. He also served on the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, the Massachusetts Nonprofit

Network, Kids Count Advisory, and Roxbury Community College Board of Directors, as well as the City of Boston's Compensation Advisory Group and the City of Brockton Redevelopment Authority. Michael has received numerous local and national awards for leadership and advocacy, and is frequently requested as a keynote speaker and panelist on a wide range of civil rights and health policy issues. In 2022, he received the Trailblazer Award from the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association (MBLA), a Community Leadership Award from the Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA), a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Massachusetts Non-profit Network (MNN). Mr. Curry is a regular commentator on the local Public Radio Broadcast/WBUR Boston, WGBH Radio, as well as on television with WGBH, WBZ and New England Cable News/NBC Boston, on a wide range of political, cultural and social issues. He earned a Bachelor's of Arts from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from New England School of Law, and later graduated from the inaugural class of the Executive Leadership Council's Pipeline to Leadership Program.

**Christine Schuster, RN, MBA, Board Chair,
Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association
and President & CEO,
Emerson Health**

Ms. Schuster has over 25 years of health care experience. Prior to joining Emerson Health as president and CEO in 2005, she served as president and CEO of Quincy Medical Center and previously Athol Memorial Hospital. She also served as COO of the Tenet Saint Vincent Healthcare System, Extended Care Division. Ms. Schuster worked as a health care consultant

with PriceWaterHouseCoopers early in her career.

She serves as chair of the Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association (MHA), chair of the Massachusetts Council of Community Hospitals, and chair of the Massachusetts Value Alliance, a leading supply purchasing consortium. She was appointed to the Clinical Advisory Board of the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission, and advisory boards for the Suffolk University MHA Program and Riverside Partners, a private equity firm. She is a Middlesex Bank corporator. She currently serves on the MHA Finance, Governance, and Executive Committee.

Ms. Schuster was named to the Boston Globe/Women's Edge List of Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts from 2017 to 2022. She received the 2017 Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce Excellent Nonprofit Leadership Award, the 2011 Concord Chamber of Commerce Businessperson of the Year Award, and the 2008 Maynard Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award. She received the Prescription for Excellence Award from the Mass Medical Health Law Report. She is a four-time recipient of the American Hospital Association Grassroots Champion Award. She was recognized by Modern Healthcare Magazine and Witt Kieffer Associates as an Up and Comer Award recipients. Ms. Schuster received her MBA, with honors, from the University of Chicago Booth Business School and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Boston University.

**Ashley Yeats, MD, FACEP, FCFPC(EM), CHIE,
Vice President, Medical Operations,
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts**

Dr. Ashley Yeats joined Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts in November 2019. His

areas of responsibility include clinical partnership innovation, mental health strategy, physician & psychologist utilization review, medical policy administration, care management consultation, clinical appeals, and corporate peer review.

Yeats has practiced in the Boston area for 20 years, following a career in academic emergency medicine at the Ottawa Civic Hospital in Canada. He has held executive and medical leadership positions within system hospitals and the liability captive insurance carrier of the Harvard teaching hospital community. He previously served as Chief Medical Officer and Vice President of Healthcare Quality & Clinical Integration within the Beth Israel Lahey Health System, with operational oversight of hospital-based, non-nursing patient care services, infection control, pharmacy, clinical program development and physician recruitment, graduate medical education, credentialing, and healthcare quality & patient safety. Prior roles include serving as Associate Medical Director of the CRICO Academic Medical Center Patient Safety Organization (AMC PSO) and as Associate Chief of Emergency Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Milton Hospital and Brigham & Women's Faulkner Hospital.

He completed a dual residency in family medicine and emergency medicine at the University of Ottawa, receiving certification as a patient safety officer from Intermountain in Salt Lake City, Utah and a medical degree from the University of Western Ontario, Canada.

In addition to his current role at Blue Cross, Dr. Yeats is an assistant professor at the Boston University School of Medicine where he teaches on topics of quality and patient safety, also lecturing in the Northeastern University Physician Assistant Program. He

sits on the board of directors of the Massachusetts Alliance for Communication & Resolution after Medical Injury and the Health Care Transformation Task Force in Washington, DC.

Michael Doonan, PhD, Executive Director, Massachusetts Health Policy Forum

Michael Doonan, PhD is an associate professor and Director for the Masters of Public Policy Program, Schneider Institute for Health Policy at The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University. He is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum. His Ph.D. from Brandeis is both in Political Science and Health Services Research. His research and publications focus on issues related to access to health care reform, federalism, Medicaid, federal/state relations, public health and the politics and economics of health system change. He speaks widely on state and national health care reform. He is author of *American Federalism in Practice: The Formulation and Implementation of Contemporary Health Policy*, published by the Brookings Institute Press in 2013. Michael worked as program specialist for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), in the area of Medicaid managed care and state health care reform. He served as a member of President Clinton's Health Care Taskforce working primarily on the Low-Income and Working Families work group, and as a member of the Taskforce Speakers Bureau. Michael also worked as a fellow for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee as they considered national reform in 1994. He began his career as a legislative aide for Senator John Kerry where he worked on health and environmental issues.