

Speaker Biographies



**Philip W. Johnston
Chairman,
Massachusetts
Health Policy Forum**

In 1984, Governor Michael S. Dukakis appointed Phil the Secretary of Health and Human Services in Massachusetts. As Secretary, he was responsible for the administration of seventeen state agencies in the health and human services field, which comprised over fifty percent of the state budget. Just prior to his appointment as Secretary, Phil had begun his fifth consecutive term as an elected State Representative from the Fourth Plymouth District of Massachusetts.

In 1991, Phil served as the Executive Director of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, in Washington, D.C., an organization established by the Kennedy family to continue to carry on Robert F. Kennedy's work in the field of social justice and human rights in the United States and around the globe. 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. As the Administrator, Phil had supervisory responsibility for a multitude of federal Health and Human Services programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, Headstart, WIC and many other programs serving vulnerable populations in the six New England states. He reported directly to HHS Secretary, Donna Shalala. He served in that role until 1996 when he became a Democratic candidate for the US Congress in the 10th District of Massachusetts. From 2000-2007, Phil was twice elected Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party.

Phil was appointed in 2007 by Governor Deval Patrick as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Massachusetts. He chaired the Search Committee for a new Chancellor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. He also served as Chair of the Search Committee for the new UMass Amherst Chancellor. From 2013

to 2017, Phil served as Chairman of the University of Massachusetts Building Authority Board of Directors. He was recently elected Vice Chair of the University of Massachusetts Foundation.

Phil has served on the Board of Directors of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts since 1998. In 2002, he was appointed to Chair the Board of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation, which has an endowment of \$115 million dollars and provides grants to Massachusetts nonprofit organizations, which work in the healthcare field on behalf of low-income citizens. In addition, 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 convenor of key players in the health field to address key health policy issues confronting the state and the nation. The Forum has a close affiliation with Brandeis University.

Phil also sits on the Boards of ConforMIS, the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights, the Carroll Center for the Blind, the Tramuto Foundation, Health eVillages, along with the Advisory Board for the Kenneth B. Schwartz Center. In 2012, Phil was appointed to the Advisory Board of the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at the Harvard Kennedy School. Most recently, Phil was named a trustee of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York.

Phil founded and served 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. Currently, he serves on the Advisory Board of the Action Corps.

In addition to holding honorary degrees from the University of Massachusetts Boston, Bridgewater State College, and Curry College, 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.



**Marylou Sudders,
Secretary,
Executive Office of
Health and Human
Services**

Marylou Sudders serves as the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, overseeing 12 agencies and MassHealth, with a combined budget of \$24 billion and 22,000 public employees delivering essential services that touch the lives of 1 in 4 state residents.

Since joining Governor Baker's cabinet in January 2015, Sudders has advanced strategic policy priorities, including: restructuring MassHealth into a population-based health coverage system, reforming the child welfare system, addressing the opioid epidemic, integrating physical and behavioral health care, and strengthening community-based services.

Sudders co-chairs the Governor's Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness, the Governor's Interagency Council on Aging, and chairs the Autism Commission and the board of Massachusetts Health Connector, the state's health insurance marketplace.

Sudders has held leadership roles across the public and private sectors, including serving as the Massachusetts Commissioner of Mental Health, a non-profit CEO, and associate professor and program chair at Boston College School of Social Work, a top ten nationally-ranked program.

Sudders holds a bachelor's degree with honors and a master's degree in social work from Boston University, and honorary doctorates from the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology and Bridgewater State University. She is the recipient of many civic, social work, and professional honors.



**Haiden A. Huskamp, Ph.D.,
Henry J. Kaiser Professor
of Health Care Policy,
Department of Health
Care Policy, Harvard
Medical School**

Haiden Huskamp, Ph.D., is a health economist and the Henry J. Kaiser Professor of Health Care Policy. Dr. Huskamp has three primary areas of research: 1) mental health and substance use disorder policy; 2) prescription drug policy; and 3) the financing and utilization of end-of-life care services. She also serves as Director of Harvard's National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) T32 Pre- and Post-doctoral Training Program in Mental Health Policy.

Dr. Huskamp is Multi-Principal Investigator (MPI) on an R01 funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) assessing the use of telemedicine for the treatment of opioid use disorder. She recently served as MPI for an R01 funded by the NIMH focused on factors that influence physician adoption and use of antipsychotic medications and an R01 funded by NIDA assessing the effects of new payment and delivery models on substance use disorder treatment. Dr. Huskamp is currently studying utilization of substance use disorder treatments among enrollees in high deductible health plans. She has published numerous papers on the impact of managed care for behavioral health services on utilization patterns, costs, and quality of care and on the impact of parity in insurance coverage for behavioral health services. Dr. Huskamp previously served as a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Developing Evidence-Based Standards for Psychosocial Interventions for Mental Disorders. She is a co-Director for the Brandeis-Harvard NIDA Center to Improve System Performance of Substance Use Disorder Treatment.

Dr. Huskamp is an expert on the impact of pharmacy management tools used to control prescription drug costs on drug utilization, cost,

and quality of care. Through a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Award in Health Policy Research, Dr. Huskamp examined the social costs and benefits of newer psychotropic drugs to assess their social value and identify ways that the value of psychotropic drug spending can be increased. She recently served as MPI on a NIMH-funded U01 grant examining characteristics of provider organizations that influence the diffusion of new technologies, including prescription drugs. Dr. Huskamp served as a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Accelerating Rare Diseases Research and Orphan Products Development.

Dr. Huskamp's research on end-of-life care has examined the changing characteristics of the hospice industry and the effects of industry changes on the provision of end-of-life care, the timing of discussions about hospice care that occur between physicians and patients with advanced illness, and variation in hospice costs across hospice users. She served as a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Care for Children Who Die and Their Families, and she currently serves on the National Academy of Medicine Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness.



Ben Kragen
Ph.D and M.B.A. Student,
The Heller School for Social
Policy and Management,
Brandeis University

Ben Kragen is a PhD student and Nehemais Gorin Fellow studying health policy at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University. Mr. Kragen is simultaneously working towards an MBA at the Heller School. He received a BA in anthropology from Wheaton College (2014). Mr. Kragen also serves as a research associate at the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum and is editing a textbook on management in medicine that is jointly being published by Brandeis University and Springer Nature. His research focuses on

technology interventions that facilitate care coordination using web-based telehealth applications.



Barbra G. Rabson, MPH
President and CEO,
Massachusetts Health
Quality Partners

Under Barbra Rabson's leadership since 1998, MHQP has become a national leader in the measurement and public reporting of health care information, with a particular focus on measuring and improving patients' experiences of care. She has led MHQP's most recent work to better understand patient and clinician experiences with telehealth.

Barbra directed and has been the principal investigator of numerous federal and private foundation grants (including CMS, AHRQ, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Commonwealth Fund) for MHQP. She is a member of the MA Executive Office of Health and Human Services Quality Measure Alignment Task Force and Quality Subcommittee, the Massachusetts Health Employer Coalition, and the Betsey Lehman Center Research Advisory Committee. Barbra is also a founding member and past Board Chair of the Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI), a national network of regional health improvement collaboratives.

Barbra received her Masters in Public Health from Yale University and her undergraduate degree from Brandeis University. She enjoys sculling on the Charles River and playing her cello in her free time.



Mark Keroack, MD, MPH
President and CEO,
Baystate Health

Dr. Keroack provides strategic, financial, and operational oversight for all services at Baystate Health and its subsidiary health plan, Health New England. Under his leadership, Baystate Health has expanded the reach and variety of its clinical services, incorporating two new community hospitals and growing its outpatient practices across the region. The system has been a national leader in adopting population-based approaches to organizing and financing health care, emphasizing prevention, wellness, care integration, and cost containment under a global budget for the majority of its patients. During this time, Baystate Health also enhanced its role as the sole academic medical center of western Massachusetts, growing the scope, sophistication and reach of its tertiary services, elevating its research programs, and opening UMMS-Baystate, a regional medical campus focused on the training of primary care physicians. The system has continued its long tradition of receiving national and regional awards for outstanding performance in safety, quality, and innovation during his tenure. Dr. Keroack also provides strategic oversight for philanthropic and community benefits activities in support of the health system.

Dr. Keroack served as Baystate Health's system chief operating officer from 2013 - 2014 and as its chief physician executive and president of Baystate Medical Practices from 2011 - 2013. He came to Baystate Health from University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) in Oak Brook, Illinois, where he served as senior vice president and chief medical officer. At UHC, a national alliance of over 100 academic medical centers, he oversaw programs for clinical and operational performance improvement, faculty group practice management, and patient safety. He also led UHC's research to define the leadership

and management practices associated with top organizational performance in quality care. Prior to his national work, he served on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts for 12 years, where he focused on HIV and AIDS care and won five annual teaching awards. Beginning in 1995, Dr. Keroack took on a more administrative role, serving as the first president of the 700-physician UMass Memorial Medical Group and the vice president of Medical Management for UMass Memorial Health Care. He has authored over 50 publications.

Dr. Keroack is a graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Medical School and received his MPH from Boston University. He trained in internal medicine and infectious diseases at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He serves on several local boards focused on improving the quality of life in his native Springfield and across western Massachusetts, as well as several state and national boards. He is married to Dr. Ann Errichetti, and they have two grown daughters now living in Massachusetts and Vermont.



Kenneth Duckworth, MD
Senior Medical Director,
Blue Cross Blue Shield of
Massachusetts, Chief
Medical Officer, NAMI

Ken Duckworth, MD, serves as the medical director for NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. He is triple board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in Adult, Child and Adolescent, and Forensic Psychiatry and has extensive experience in the public health arena. Dr. Duckworth is currently an Assistant Clinical Professor at Harvard University Medical School and an Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at Boston University School of Public Health, and he has served as a board member of the American Association of Community Psychiatrists. Dr. Duckworth has held clinical and leadership positions in community mental health, school psychiatry and now also works as Associate Medical Director for

Behavioral Health at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts.



Kiame Mahaniah, MD
Chief Executive
Officer, Lynn
Community Health
Center

Dr. Mahaniah was born in Philadelphia, PA but grew up in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Geneva, Switzerland, before returning to the United States at age 19. He attended Haverford College and received his degree in Political Economy of the Third World, taking a special interest in the transformation of agrarian/traditional society into modern economies. He went to Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia, PA and completed his residency at St. Margaret Memorial Hospital. Dr. Mahaniah served as a staff physician and residency faculty member at Greater Lawrence Family Health Center from 2003-2012. He has served as the Chief Medical Officer of the North Shore Community Health, Inc. in Salem, MA. He is now the CEO of Lynn Community Health Center in Lynn, MA. His overarching interest in medicine is the pursuit of social justice and the interaction, communication, and complexity of doctor/patient relationships. Dr. Mahaniah enjoys reading, particularly philosophy and science fiction, playing soccer, and spending time with his family.



Lora M. Pellegrini, Esq.
President and CEO,
Massachusetts
Association of Health
Plans

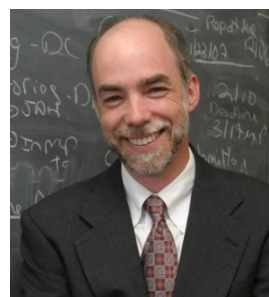
Lora has been President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans (MAHP) since February 2010. She has served on the staffs of two Governors, most

recently as Chief Advisor for Government Affairs for Governor Deval Patrick, and on the legislative staff of Governor Michael Dukakis.

Lora serves as a member of the Health Policy Commission Advisory Council, served on the 2017 Special Commission on Provider Price Variation, and was appointed by Governor Baker to serve on the Digital Health Council. Lora also serves as Vice President of the Massachusetts Health Council and as a Big Sister in the Big Sister of Massachusetts program. Lora is a past president of the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus (MWPC); a non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting women to elected and appointed office. She is currently a Corporator at Dedham Savings Bank.

In October 2019, Lora was awarded the Abigail Adams Award from the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus for her years of service to the MWPC. Lora was named to the Boston Business Journal's 2017 and 2018 Power 50, the BBJ's list of the 50 most powerful individuals in Boston-area business. In addition, she was awarded the 2018 Women's Bar Association Lelia J. Robinson Award, which recognizes women who, like Robinson, are pioneers in the legal profession, experts in their fields and have made a difference in their community.

Lora holds a BA from Wheaton College and a JD from the New England School of Law.



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.