

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

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### **Dave Abernethy**

**Vice President of Analytics and Data Operations, Center for Improving Value in Health Care**

Dave Abernethy's IT career spans over 17 years. Prior to beginning his career in IT, Dave served and retired as a United States Air Force officer. He presently serves as the Vice President of Analytics and Data Operations for CIVHC. Prior to joining CIVHC, he served as the Director of IT for the Colorado HealthOP. In this role, Dave created the health insurance start-up from the ground-up, and earned recognition from Salesforce.com as one of the "top 5 public sector CRM implementations for 2013." Dave has had other key healthcare IT roles such as serving as the largest medical device manufacturer's Chief of CRM Technology, where he managed over 15 different CRM applications and implementations. He is not only a Certified ScrumMaster, but is a Certified Scrum Professional, MCDBA, MCSA, MCSA, MCSD, MCP, MSS, ITIL Foundations V3, Siebel Customer Certified Consultant and Instructor, and Lean Sigma Green Belt.

### **Robert Aseltine**

**Professor & Interim Chair, UCONN Health**

Robert Aseltine, PhD, is Professor and Interim Chair in the Division of Behavioral Sciences and Community Health and Deputy Director of the Center for Public Health and Health Policy at UCONN Health. Dr. Aseltine is a medical sociologist with diverse research interests that include health disparities, community-based risk prevention, and the development of innovative medical and public health information systems. Over the past 20 years he has lead several major studies funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the Department of Defense. He currently serves on the Advisory Board of the Connecticut All-Payer Claims Database and is Vice Chair of the New England Comparative Effectiveness Public Advisory Council (CEPAC).

### **Linda Bartnyska**

**Director, Center for Analysis and Information Systems, Maryland Health Care Commission**

Linda Bartnyska is Director of the Center for Analysis & Information Systems at the Maryland Health Care Commission. The Center produces key reports to guide health policy in Maryland, including reports on health care expenditures and prices and evaluations of insurance mandates. Linda has 25 years' experience as a health services researcher specializing in the development and analysis of private health insurance databases and in studies of health care cost and use and insurance coverage. She holds a Master's from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where she also completed post-graduate work in health economics.

### **Katherine Bisek**

**Senior Director, Produce and Innovation, UnitedHealthcare**

Katherine has over 16 years of experience in the financial and health care services industries driving sales, creating marketing and promotion, building online products, leading large diverse teams, and implementing innovative solutions. Katherine joined UnitedHealth Group in 2009 focusing on marketing, developing and launching Consumer Digital Health Solutions. Much of her focus has been on improving Transparency in the market place, and more specifically, on launching UnitedHealthcare's transparency tool, the myHealthcare Cost Estimator, which is available to over 26 million members with over \$7.7 Billion

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

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in estimates since April 12, 2012. Bisek also taught Managerial Finance in a local MBA program. The purpose of the course was to teach non-finance employees and managers how to identify and understand financial impacts to consumers and organizations. A native of Minnesota, Bisek holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and an MBA in Organizational Leadership.

### **David Brailer**

**Chairman, Health Evolution Partners**

David Brailer is known around the world for his leadership, vision and advocacy for health information technology. From assembling his first computer in high school, to publishing research on expert systems in medical school, to founding and investing in leading health IT companies, Dr. Brailer has devoted his career to transforming health care with information technology.

Dr. Brailer was appointed by President George W. Bush as the nation's first 'Health Information Technology Czar'. In this role, he developed the nation's strategy for electronic records, information sharing, consumer empowerment and transformation of research and public health. His efforts set the foundation for the rapid adoption of information tools and the digital health explosion that are underway today.

### **Niall Brennan**

**Director & Chief Data Officer, Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

In this capacity, Niall oversees improvements in data collection and dissemination at CMS and efforts to help CMS better harness its vast data resources to drive higher quality, patient-centered care at a lower cost. Niall directs leading-edge research and analysis published by CMS, as well as efforts to make its considerable data sets available to external researchers seeking to promote better understanding of health care in the United States. He also manages CMS' extensive data and information product portfolio. Prior to joining CMS, Niall worked at the Brookings Institution, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, the Congressional Budget Office, The Urban Institute, and Price WaterhouseCoopers. He is a graduate of University College Dublin, and earned a master's degree in Public Policy from Georgetown University.

### **Lesia Carter**

**Assistant Director, Arkansas Insurance Department Rate Review Division**

Lesia Carter has worked as Assistant Director for the Arkansas Insurance Department (AID) Rate Review Division 3 years. In this position Lesia has participated in all phases of the project implementation since its inception, including the CCIIO grant application, the competitive data vendor contract process and ongoing project implementation. She monitors project deliverables and is the project liaison to CCIIO, the Arkansas Insurance Department, state oversight agencies, and various vendors since its conception, overseeing the implementation of project activities, contracts, budgets, and rate review consumer outreach programs including public relations activities. Prior to joining AID Carter worked in the medical and insurance fields for over a decade.

Carter obtained her bachelor's in Business from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2010. She resides in Little Rock and has two sons, a senior in high school, and a freshman in college.

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

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### **Bruce Cohen**

**Co-Chair, Population Sub Committee, National Committee on Vital & Health Statistics**

Dr. Cohen retired from full time state service in September 2014 and now serves in a part time role. Dr. Cohen is particularly interested in the areas of simplifying epidemiologic data for community advocacy, data release guidelines, race-ethnicity variation in disease patterns, use of population estimates and socioeconomic data for small area health analyses, the impact of the use of assisted reproductive technology, and evaluation of health programs. He served as chair of the Department IRB for eight years and has adjunct appointments at Tufts Medical School, University of Massachusetts School of Public Health and Boston University School of Public Health. Dr. has been a member of the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics where he currently co-chairs the Population Health Subcommittee. He was on the Board of Directors for the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems, where he served as treasurer. He received his Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of California, School of Public Health, Berkeley; his M.S. in comprehensive health planning from the University of California, Los Angeles; and his B.A. in social and behavioral sciences from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

### **Mary Beth Conroy**

**Director, Division of Information and Statistics, New York State Department of Health**

Mary Beth Conroy has over 26 years of experience at the NYS DOH and currently serves as the Director of the Division of Information and Statistics.

The Division has a strategic goal of achieving quality and safety objectives through a targeted focus on data promotion, management, research and publications. As director, she leads the development and operations of data systems that serve internal and external stakeholders. These data systems include all payer discharge data, Vital Statistics, a Medicaid data mart, and the governor's open data portal-Health Data NY.

Ms. Conroy oversees a group of managers, research scientists and programmers who support large scale system transformation initiatives; develop predictive models; report on a wide range of quality, efficiency and performance metrics; collect, analyze and publicly disseminate population based vital record, hospital, emergency room and ambulatory surgery statistical reports; evaluate Medicaid incentive programs; and prepare comparisons on quality and costs for consumer focused price transparency initiatives. Ms. Conroy holds a Master of Public Health degree with a concentration in Health Policy and Management.

### **Mia DeSoto**

**Health Scientist Administrator, Center for Delivery Organization and Markets**

Mia DeSoto PhD, MHA leads the All Payers Claims Database (APCD) project for the agency. Through its involvement in APCD, AHRQ intends to advance the Agency's priority of "Improving Health Care Affordability, Efficiency and Cost Transparency". Mia also co-manages the AHRQ Quality Indicators Program and is the lead for the Pediatric Quality Indicators. Prior to joining CDOM, Mia worked with AHRQ's Office of Extramural Research, Education and Priority Populations (OEREP). In her work with the Division of Priority Populations, Mia co-managed the CHIPRA Pediatric Quality Measures Program, an amalgamation of cooperative agreement grants and contracts for the agency.

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

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Mia has a PhD in Health Sciences and received a Ford Foundation Doctoral Fellowship to study Behavioral Healthcare. She conducted her primary research on treatment seeking behaviors of adolescents from low-income populations. Mia has taught graduate and undergraduate classes at leading national and International universities. Her Master's degree is in Health Services Administration from University of Maryland, College Park. As a public health expert Mia has worked in the field of health care for more than a decade. Her expertise includes healthcare quality and measurement, healthcare disparities, behavioral healthcare including reproductive health and sexuality and research on infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and TB for minority populations. She has intensive training experience in use of social science research methods in the field of public health.

### **Anne Elixhauser**

**Sr. Research Scientist, Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality**

Anne Elixhauser, Ph.D. is a senior research scientist with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. She has conducted research on technology assessment, medication compliance, children's use of services, disparities, cost-effectiveness analysis, and merging clinical and administrative data, among other topics. She has clinical experience as a physician assistant.

She participates in the development of hospital administrative databases and has worked to develop tools for use with these data including Comorbidity Software, Quality Indicators, and Clinical Classifications Software. She developed HCUPnet, a web-based query tool for hospital data, and MONAHRQ, a tool that allows data organizations to input their data and output a website which they can host. She oversees the production of HCUP Statistical Briefs.

Her work has appeared in Journal of the American Medical Association, Lancet, Pediatrics, Health Affairs, Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Journal of Public Health Policy, Medical Care, Diabetes Care, Health Services Research, and Health Economics.

### **Ana English**

**Chief Executive Officer, Center for Improving Value in Health Care**

Ms. English, CIVHC Chief Executive Officer, holds a Masters of Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance, as well as Bachelor of Arts degrees in the fields of Economics and Political Science. She brings to CIVHC more than 25 years of finance and business operations experience in health care; combined with previous financial industry experience. Most recently, she was a member of American Medical Associations' (AMA) executive management team and served as the head of the AMA's for profit subsidiary, AMAGINE. Previously she served as President and Chief Operating Officer for Electronic Network Systems (ENS) up through its acquisition by Optum Health. As President and Chief Operating Officer for ENS and later with Optum, Ms. English gained a clear understanding of the new direction of e-Health's positive impact on health care operations. Ms. English's health care career started with insurers Lincoln National and Foundation Health Systems (FHS) where she held various leadership positions including Vice President of Analysis and Planning, Senior Vice President of Administration, and divisional Senior Vice President of Operations. Ms. English was one of the founders of the industry association called Cooperative Exchange and served as their board's President and Vice President.

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

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### **Mary Fields**

**New Hampshire CHIS Project Manager/Business Systems Analyst, New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services**

Ms. Fields has over 16 years' experience with the NH Medicaid program, serving several rolls. She began as a provider representative, with a focus in provider billing education, billing software support, and EDI coordination. She led many projects that served to enhance the NH MMIS system and the impact to the NH Medicaid program. She has served as a business analyst for the past several years, studying not only medical data, but also provider and client trends. For several years she administered the NH Medicaid Transportation program, managing all aspects of the program. This included managing the budget, process improvement, fraud detection, rule revision, and policy compliance. For the past year and half she has served as the NH CHIS project manager. Her well rounded background of medical data, NH Medicaid program policy and mission, as well as technical expertise, has enabled her to help shape the NH CHIS project and move it forward.

### **Herbert Fillmore**

**Senior Director, Strategic Innovations, 3M Health Information Systems**

Herb Fillmore has over 30 years of experience developing, delivering, and evaluating innovative healthcare solutions for all populations. Herb has led major statewide and regional healthcare financial transformation efforts, implemented new models of community-based long term care, and directed the startup and operations of a special needs managed care plan. He is an inventor and thought leader in quality measurement and its application in accountable care as well as in the design and introduction of new models for integrating medical and long-term care services and supports in statewide change system efforts.

### **Robin Gelburd**

**President, FAIR Health**

Robin Gelburd is the President of FAIR Health, a national, independent nonprofit, with the mission of bringing transparency to healthcare costs and insurance reimbursement. FAIR Health also uses its database of billions of healthcare claims to create data products and analytics and to power an award-winning consumer website that enables consumers to estimate their healthcare costs and to understand health insurance reimbursement. Prior to FAIR Health, Robin served as General Counsel of a medical research foundation comprised of approximately 30 premiere academic medical centers and research institutions in New York. During this period, Ms. Gelburd also served as Chairperson of the New Yorkers for the Advancement of Medical Research, a statewide coalition which had as its mission the promotion of state funding and support for stem cell research. Prior to her tenure as General Counsel, Ms. Gelburd was a partner at a Manhattan law firm where she represented a wide array of healthcare-based clients on a variety of strategic, regulatory, policy, governance, business, and contractual matters. Previously, Ms. Gelburd worked as a legal associate at Morrison & Foerster. She began her legal career as a federal appellate law clerk to the Honorable Francis D. Murnaghan, Jr. from the Federal Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit.

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

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### **Stefan Gildemeister**

**Health Economics Program Director, Minnesota Department of Health**

Mr. Gildemeister has over 15 years of experience in conducting health services research and studying health care markets to generate applied policy analysis on a broad set of topics. Mr. Gildemeister has directed research at the Minnesota Department of Health in health system finance, organization and coverage, and performance quality, relying on primary and secondary data to inform health policy-making and delivery system reform. As part of this work, Mr. Gildemeister has contributed to the state's work to design Minnesota's nation-leading 2008 health reform legislation. Mr. Gildemeister currently directs the Department's critical work to improve market transparency of cost and quality, which relies in important ways on Minnesota's All-Payer Claims Data set. As the State Health Economist and Director of the Health Economics Program, Mr. Gildemeister provides policy advice and analytic guidance to Minnesota's implementation of state and federal health reforms. Mr. Gildemeister holds degrees in economics and economics/business administration from the New School for Social Research, New York, and the University of Bremen in Germany.

### **Willis Goldbeck**

**Health and Education Policy Futurist**

Currently works with the US Department of State Office of Overseas Schools, the Institute for Alternative Futures and individual schools for the development of foresight education programs. Health policy roles included being Founder and President of the Washington Business Group on Health; Advisor to the European Regional Director of the World Health Organization (focus on countries of Central and Eastern Europe); Program Director CARE Telematics for the European Union; Personal Advisor to Dr. Jonas Salk; Director and Moderator Schering-Plough global conference series; President and Board member Koop National Health Awards; board National Mental Health Association. Formerly Correspondent, TIME Magazine and Special Assistant Research and Technology US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

### **Joseph Greenway**

**Director & Co-founder, Center for Health Information Analysis, of the University of Nevada Las Vegas**

Joseph Greenway has a Master's in public health and more than 25 years of experience in the health data field. Mr. Greenway's recent projects have been: 1) Co-Chair of the HIT taskforce for the NV SIM project. 2) Partnership with various health data groups in NV to assist in the advancement of data sharing projects. 3) Added to health care transparency ([www.NevadaCompareCare.Net](http://www.NevadaCompareCare.Net)) with the creation of a new book on NV Health Choices, updated to MONAHRQ 6.0. Worked with other CHIA members to update PPCs, Readmissions, etc.