

**CBC Health Braintrust and
NMQF 5th Annual Leadership Summit on Health Disparities**

HEALTH EQUITY and JUSTICE NOW!

FACULTY BIOSKETCHES

DAY 1: MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2008¹

**Lawrence Y. C. Agodoa, MD, FACP
Director, Office of Minority Health Research Coordination
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIH**

Dr. Larry Agodoa is Professor of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine, and Director, Office of Minority Health Research Coordination at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), National Institutes of Health. He is also Director of the Minority Health Program in the Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases (DKUHD). Dr. Agodoa graduated from the Cornell University College of Medicine in 1971. He completed internship and residency training in Internal Medicine at the University of Washington Hospitals in Seattle, WA, and training in clinical and biomedical research in Nephrology and Renal Pathology. He was appointed Chief of the Nephrology Service at the Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, WA in 1976. Following two years of clinical and research training in Rheumatology and Immunology at the University of Washington, in 1983, he was assigned to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center as Assistant Chief of the Nephrology Service and the Nephrology Training Program, and was appointed to the faculty of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Medical Sciences (USUHS), Bethesda, Maryland. In 1985, he was appointed Director of the Military Medical Research Fellowship at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. In 1987, he was appointed Director of the Clinical Affairs Program, DKUHD.

**Paul G. Alexander, MD, MPH
Executive Director, External Medical Relations
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP**

Dr. Paul Alexander leads External Medical Relations at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, one of the top five global pharmaceutical companies in the World. At AstraZeneca, he oversees a team of physicians engaged in the development of professional and institutional medical alliances. Dr. Alexander is a founding member of the Potomac Coalition, a Washington, DC-based think tank, focused on urban community empowerment policy. In addition, he is a member of the Education Committee of the 100 Black Men of America, Inc. and a member of the National Medical Association in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Dr. Alexander completed his undergraduate premedical and graduate education in public health at Columbia University and his medical degree at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. He was appointed to the Robert Wood Johnson

¹ The Clinical CME Program spans Day 1 and Day 2, however clinical faculty biosketches appear only in the Day 1 document.

Clinical Scholars program at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Alexander has an extensive background in Health Services Research and Epidemiology, and has conducted research at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health. He assisted in the development of an Asthma Management strategy for African American and Latino populations. Dr. Alexander also held the position of Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer at Health Partners of Philadelphia, where he provided leadership to the management teams responsible for Quality Management, Care Coordination, Disease Management, Health Outcomes and Pharmacy Services.

Dennis Andress, MD

**Head, Section of Nephrology and Director, Renal Dialysis Unit
VA Puget Sound HealthCare System**

Dr. Dennis Andress is Professor of Medicine and Section Head of Nephrology at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System. He is also Director of the Renal Dialysis Unit. Dr. Andress' clinical interests are in the care of patients with end-stage renal disease and the study of renal osteodystrophy. His laboratory is devoted to studies of the cell biology of osteoblasts. He has defined the effects of insulin-like growth factor binding protein on cellular activity of osteoblasts and studies regulation of the IGF-B5 gene in osteoblast cells as well as in glomerular cells. Dr. Andress' research is supported by grants from the NIH and the Northwest Kidney Centers Foundation. Dr. Andress completed his medical degree and his medical residency at the University of Oklahoma. He also completed a nephrology fellowship at the University of Washington.

John Bartlett, MD

**Stanhope Bayne Jones Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases
Johns Hopkins University**

Dr. John Bartlett received his undergraduate degree from Dartmouth University and earned his medical degree at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, New York. He completed residency training in Internal Medicine at the Brigham Hospital in Boston and the University of Alabama, Birmingham. Dr. Bartlett also completed fellowship training in Infectious Diseases at UCLA and at the Wadsworth Veterans Administration Hospital. In 1970, he joined the faculty at UCLA. He later moved to the faculty of Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. Dr. Bartlett is an internationally renowned authority on AIDS and other infectious diseases. He received the prestigious 2005 Maxwell Finland Award for scientific achievement from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. Dr. Bartlett was the first to direct clinical trials in Baltimore of new treatments that prevent HIV from replicating, and he pioneered the development of dedicated inpatient and outpatient medical care for HIV-infected patients. In 1984, he helped start a small clinic within the Moore Clinic to serve a small group of gay men with AIDS, which along with providing research data about how the disease spread, grew to become the centerpiece of the Johns Hopkins AIDS Service, and the largest program for HIV care in Maryland. Dr. Bartlett co-chaired the national committee that drafted the first and all subsequent treatment guidelines for HIV-infected patients.

John Brockington
President
The John Brockington Foundation

Mr. John Brockington, an All-American running back at Ohio State under Woody Hayes, was the Green Bay Packers' first pick in the 1971 NFL draft. After an outstanding rookie season, he went on to become the first running back in NFL history to surpass 1,000 yards in each of his first three seasons. A three-time Pro Bowler, he was inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 1984. He remains the third leading rusher in team history. When Mr. Brockington suffered kidney failure in 2000, his friend Diane Scott donated her kidney. They married after he had returned to good health. Mr. and Mrs. Brockington direct the John Brockington Foundation to increase organ donation and raise funds for people on dialysis awaiting a transplant. Together with the local organ recovery organization, the foundation is a founding partner of Donate Life San Diego, which helps create donor-friendly workplaces throughout California. Mr. Brockington also works with Del Mar Financial Partners. Mr. and Mrs. Brockington reside in San Diego. Prompted by their own experience with dialysis and transplantation and with help from Mr. Brockington's former Buckeye and Packer teammates, they host events in Ohio and California to help address our country's most readily solved health crisis — the transplant waiting list of 94,000 Americans.

Enrique Caballero, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School

Dr. Enrique Caballero is the Director of the Latino Diabetes Initiative, Associate Medical Director of Professional Education, Staff Endocrinologist and Clinical Investigator at Joslin Diabetes Center. He is Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. In 2002, Dr. Caballero launched the Joslin Latino Diabetes Initiative, which integrates culturally oriented activities in the areas of patient care and education, community outreach, research and professional education. His research interests include type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease prevention, endothelial dysfunction and diabetes in minority populations. He is a co-investigator of the National Diabetes Prevention Program, the Look Ahead Program and the Diabetes Education Study, all sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. He is also principal investigator in a study assessing biological, psychological, social and cultural factors influencing adherence to treatment in Latinos with diabetes. Dr. Caballero is the chair for the Latino Diabetes Education Program at the American Diabetes Association. He is also one of the first tutors of the recently created Culturally Competent Care Curriculum at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Caballero graduated from the National University of Mexico Medical School. He completed a residency in Internal Medicine and a fellowship in Endocrinology at the National Institute of Nutrition in Mexico, and went on to complete a master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology in Mexico. In addition, he completed a fellowship program in Endocrinology and Metabolism at the Lahey Clinic/ Deaconess Hospital/Joslin Diabetes Center and the Program on Clinical Effectiveness at the Harvard School of Public Health.

The Honorable Donna M. Christensen, MD
Delegate, US Virgin Islands
US House of Representatives

Representative Donna M. Christensen continues to distinguish herself as a leader in the U.S. Congress. As a member serving her sixth term, she is the first female physician in the history of the U.S. Congress, the first woman to represent an offshore territory, and the first woman delegate from the U.S. Virgin Islands. In the 110th Congress, Representative Christensen serves on the Committee on Natural Resources and on the Homeland Security Committee. She chairs the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Insular Affairs and serves on the Homeland Security Subcommittees on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response, and Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity and Science and Technology. Representative Christensen is a member of the Congressional Black Caucus and chairs the Congressional Black Caucus' Health Braintrust, which oversees and advocates minority health issues nationally and internationally. She is a member of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, the Steering Committee of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus, the Congressional Rural Caucus, the Friends of the Caribbean Caucus, the Coastal Caucus, the Congressional Fire Caucus, and the Congressional National Guard and Reserve Caucus. Representative Christensen was born in 1945 and earned a bachelor of science in 1966 at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. She earned an MD in 1970 from George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, DC.

Christopher Ervin, MD, FACEP
Georgia Diabetes Coalition
National Black Alcohol and Addictions Council

Dr. Christopher Ervin is a graduate of Furman University with a degree in chemistry and Duke University a degree in medicine. He completed his residency in emergency medicine at Cook County Hospital after a preliminary year of general surgery at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Ervin is a fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians. He is also a Morehouse School of Medicine Executive Faculty Development Scholar. Dr. Ervin has served several administrative roles at in emergency departments throughout the country and as volunteer faculty for the Department of Emergency Medicine at Howard University Hospital. He has been the vice-chair and chair of the Emergency Medicine Section and the secretary of the House of Delegates of the National Medical Association (NMA) and has served on several committees within the organization. He has been on the American Medical Association/NMA Commission to End Healthcare Disparities (CEHD), with leadership positions on several committees. In addition he represented the CEHD on the Sullivan Alliance. He has been part of the writing group developing the next set of guidelines for treating childhood obesity. Currently, Dr. Ervin is working with the Georgia Diabetes Coalition, the All Healer's Mental Health Alliance, and the National Black Alcohol and Addictions Council.

Van Dunn, MD
Senior Vice President/Chief Medical Officer
New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation

Dr. Van Dunn is the Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC). HHC is the largest public hospital system in the country. HHC provides care to 1.3 million New Yorkers through eleven public hospitals, four skilled nursing facilities, six large diagnostic and treatment centers and over a hundred community based outpatient centers. Dr. Dunn received his BS from MIT, Doctor of Medicine from Cornell University Medical College, and his Master's in Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health. He completed an internal medicine residency and chief residency at Boston City Hospital. Dr. Dunn served as the Medical Director and Chief of the Adult Medicine Clinic of a community health center, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine, and Medical Director of CIGNA HealthCare of New York. He served as Senior Health Policy Advisor for Senator Edward M. Kennedy from 1991-1995. From 1988-1991, he served as the Deputy Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. He also was the Director of Community Health Programs for Boston City Health and Hospitals. Dr. Dunn's expertise includes health care access and insurance, reducing health disparities in communities of color, quality assurance, and integrating public health and preventive health services into the provision of health care. He has received numerous community service awards.

Keith C. Ferdinand, MD, FACC
Clinical Professor, Cardiology Division, Emory University
Chief Science Officer, Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc.

Dr. Keith C. Ferdinand is a clinical cardiologist and, prior to Hurricane Katrina, Medical Director of Heartbeats Life Center and professor of clinical pharmacology at Xavier University, in New Orleans, Louisiana. He currently serves as Clinical Professor of Medicine, Emory University; and Chief Science Officer at the Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc (ABC), where he directs the Health Outreach Prevention and Empowerment (HOPE) project. Dr Ferdinand is past Vice-President of the American Society of Hypertension, past-President and member of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, past-President of the Orleans Division of the AHA Louisiana Affiliate, and past-Chairman of the ABC. He serves on the editorial board of *Journal of Clinical Hypertension* and *Journal of the Cardiometabolic Syndrome* and has authored or coauthored over 90 articles and book chapters. A Telluride Scholar at Cornell University, Dr. Ferdinand received his BA in Biology from the University of New Orleans and an MD from Howard University College of Medicine. He completed an internship at the New Orleans US Public Health Hospital and a residency and fellowship at LSU Medical Center of New Orleans. He completed his cardiology training at Howard University Hospital. He is board certified in cardiovascular diseases, ASH-specialist in hypertension and a diplomat, nuclear cardiology.

Darrell J. Gaskin, PhD

Associate Professor of Health Economics

Acting Chair of the African American Studies Department

University of Maryland at College Park

Dr. Darrell J. Gaskin is Associate Professor of Health of Economics and Acting Chair of the African American Studies Department at the University of Maryland at College Park. His primary research interests are safety net hospitals, access to healthcare for minority, low-income, uninsured, and other vulnerable populations, and healthcare disparities. His primary aim is to promote policies and practices that improve access to care for poor and other vulnerable populations, and that eliminate disparities in healthcare. Dr. Gaskin is a nationally recognized expert on the hospital safety net and healthcare disparities. His research has been recognized by Academy Health. His most recent article in *Health Affairs* investigates whether hospitals provide lower quality care to minorities than to whites. Prior to coming to the University of Maryland, Dr. Gaskin served on the faculties of Georgetown and Johns Hopkins. While at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Gaskin was the Deputy Director of the Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions. He earned his PhD in health economics from The Johns Hopkins University, a MS degree in economics from MIT and a BA degree in economics from Brandeis University.

James R. Gavin III, MD, PhD

Clinical Professor of Medicine

Emory University School of Medicine

Dr. James R. Gavin III is clinical professor of medicine at Emory University School of Medicine, Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Medical Officer of Healing Our Village, Inc. Before joining the senior staff of HHMI, Dr Gavin was a professor and chief of the Diabetes Section, acting chief of the Section on Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Hypertension, and William K. Warren Professor for Diabetes Studies at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Diabetes Association (ADA), the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE), the American Society of Clinical Investigation, and the American Association of Physicians. He is a past president of the ADA. He has served on the editorial boards of the American Journal of Physiology and the American Journal of Medical Sciences. He is on the board of trustees for Emory University, Livingstone College, and national program director of the Harold Amos Faculty Development Program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He serves as chairman of the Data Safety Monitoring Board for the VA Cooperative Diabetes Study. Dr Gavin graduated from Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina, earned his PhD in biochemistry from Emory University and his MD degree from Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina. He has published more than 200 articles and abstracts and 3 books.

Rita Geier, JD
Associate to the Chancellor and Senior Fellow
Howard Baker Center for Public Policy
University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Atty. Rita Geier is Associate to the Chancellor and Senior Fellow at the Howard Baker Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where she leads efforts to achieve the university's intercultural and diversity goals and to examine and promote solutions to critical public policy issues. She assumed these positions following an extensive career in Federal service, most recently as Executive Counselor to the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration (SSA). She was Associate Commissioner and Deputy Associate Commissioner for Hearings and Appeals from 1992 to 2001. Atty. Geier was General Counsel for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) in Washington, DC from 1988 to 1992. Her experience at ARC was preceded by work as a litigator at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Civil Division, as a Senior Trial Attorney and Assistant Director for Commercial Litigation. Before DOJ, she directed operations in seven western states and Micronesia as Regional Director for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) in Seattle, Washington. Atty. Geier holds a B.A. degree from Fisk University, a MA degree from the University of Chicago and a JD degree from Vanderbilt University. She has been admitted to the Bar in the States of Tennessee and Washington and to practice in numerous Federal courts, received the Presidential Rank Meritorious Executive Award from President William Clinton and is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Gary H. Gibbons, MD
Director, Morehouse Cardiovascular Research Institute
Morehouse School of Medicine

Dr. Gary H. Gibbons is the Director of the Morehouse Cardiovascular Research Institute, a NIH-NHLBI sponsored Research Center of Excellence. He is also an attending cardiologist in the Division of Cardiology at the Morehouse School of Medicine. Dr. Gibbons earned his undergraduate degree from Princeton University and graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Medical School in Boston. He completed his residency and cardiology fellowship at the Harvard-affiliated Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston. Dr. Gibbons has been selected as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Minority Faculty Development Awardee, a PEW Foundation Biomedical Scholar and, an Established Investigator of the American Heart Association (AHA). Dr. Gibbons was a member of the faculty at Stanford University (1990-1996) and Harvard Medical School (1996-1999) before becoming Director of the Morehouse Cardiovascular Research Institute in July 1999. He serves on several editorial boards for journals in cardiovascular medicine as well as grant review committees for the NIH, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the AHA. Dr. Gibbons directs NIH-funded research in the fields of vascular biology and the pathogenesis of vascular diseases. The innovations derived from his research resulted in the receipt of several US patents. His bibliography lists over 70 reviews and original reports in the fields of vascular biology, gene therapy, hypertension, atherosclerosis and cardiovascular medicine. He is married with three children and resides in Atlanta, Georgia.

Barbara Goodman, RN, MS
President and Executive Director
A.J. Fletcher Foundation

Mrs. Barbara Goodman is president and executive director of the A.J. Fletcher Foundation. She graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Memphis, Tenn., in 1965. She is a 1994 graduate of Meredith College in Raleigh and completed the master of liberal studies program at North Carolina State University in 2000. She has served on a number of community boards and brings a wealth of experience to the Fletcher Foundation. With primary interests in the field of human service, she has served as chairman of the Salvation Army, vice chairman of The Healing Place of Wake County, and chairman of Wake County Human Services. She has received the William Booth Award from the Salvation Army and was inducted into the Academy of Women of the Raleigh YWCA.

James F. Goodman
Chairman of the Board
A.J. Fletcher Foundation

Mr. James F. Goodman is Chairman of the Board of the A.J. Fletcher Foundation and The Fletcher Academy School of Achievement. He joined Capitol Broadcasting Company in 1968, and has been its President and CEO since 1979. Mr. Goodman serves on numerous other Boards, including Capitol Broadcasting Company, RBC Centura Bank, Duke University Health System, and Leadership Triangle. He has received many outstanding honors and awards, and has been recognized by the community, the broadcasting industry and the State of North Carolina.

Carmen R. Green, MD
Associate Professor Anesthesiology
Director, Pain Management Research
University of Michigan Medical School

Dr. Carmen R. Green is an associate professor of anesthesiology and director of pain management research as well as a practicing anesthesiologist and pain medicine physician at the University of Michigan Medical School. She received a BS in Biology from the University of Michigan-Flint, and an MD from Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. She completed an Anesthesiology residency and Pain Medicine fellowship at the University of Michigan Health System. Dr. Green is nationally known for her research focusing on disparities in pain care and health care provider variability in pain management decision-making. She was the founding chair of the American Pain Society's special interest group for pain and disparities as well as guest editor for *Pain Medicine's* special issue on the unequal burden of pain. She has a long-standing interest in health policy and health disparities particularly in the area of disparities in pain assessment and management among minorities, women, and elderly people. In 2006, Dr. Green was awarded the Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship. She currently serves on the board of the Institute of Medicine's Health Care Services and the Center for Healthcare Quality and Transformation.

Scott Gottlieb, MD
Resident Fellow
American Enterprise Institute

Dr. Scott Gottlieb is a practicing physician and Resident Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), a private, nonpartisan, not-for-profit institution dedicated to research and education on issues of government, politics, economics and social welfare. Dr. Gottlieb's work focuses on providing insights into the economic, regulatory and technological forces driving the transformation of healthcare today. From 2005-2007, Dr. Gottlieb served as FDA Deputy Commissioner, and from 2003-2004, as a senior advisor to FDA Commissioner Mark McClellan and as the FDA's Director of Medical Policy Development. He left FDA in the spring of 2004 to work on implementation of the new Medicare Drug Benefit as a Senior Adviser to the Administrator of Medicare and Medicaid Services, where he supported the agency's policy work on quality improvement and coverage and payment decision-making, particularly related to new medical technologies. Previously Dr. Gottlieb worked as a healthcare analyst for the investment bank Alex Brown & Sons and authored the Forbes-Gottlieb Medical Technology Letter and the Gilder Biotech Report. Dr. Gottlieb is a noted authority on pathways to successful innovation and implementation of new medical products. Dr. Gottlieb completed his residency in internal medicine at the Mount Sinai Hospital and is a graduate of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and of Wesleyan University, in Connecticut. Dr. Gottlieb practices medicine as an attending physician at Stamford Hospital in Connecticut.

Mark Gourley, MD
Program Director, Rheumatology Fellowship Training
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, NIH

Dr. Mark Gourley is the Program Director of Rheumatology Fellowship Training at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS). He graduated from Tulane Medical School and completed his Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Wisconsin. Autoimmunity became his research interest when he joined the National Institutes of Health and studied animal models of lupus and published the results of a large clinical trial about the treatment of lupus nephritis. In 1996 he joined the Washington Hospital Center and began the Greater Washington DC area's first Lupus Clinic. He returned to the NIH in 2002 to research environmental causes of rheumatic diseases and recently joined NIAMS. Dr. Gourley also serves as the Clinical Care Coordinator of the NIAMS Community Health Clinic (CHC) in Washington, DC. One mission of the CHC is to research the natural history of rheumatic disease in minority communities.

Karen Hacker, MD, MPH
Executive Director, Institute for Community Health
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School

Dr. Karen Hacker is an Internist with a subspecialty in Adolescent Medicine and an assistant professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. She currently serves as Executive Director at the Institute for Community Health, a public health research organization, while continuing to work as a physician at Cambridge Health Alliance's Somerville high school Teen Connection. She is also the interim Chief Public Health Officer for the City of Cambridge. Her interest in child mental health springs from her work with adolescents and her belief that mental health promotion is a crucial part of primary care. Dr. Hacker spent over 15 years working in the public sector. In the late 1980's she started one of the first school-based health centers at Los Angeles High School. Subsequently, she spent over twelve years working with disadvantaged populations as both a clinician as the Division Director for Child and Adolescent Health at the Boston Public Health Commission and Boston Medical Center. Dr. Hacker received her undergraduate education at Yale University with a major in Anthropology, and her medical education at Northwestern University. She completed her residency in primary care internal medicine at Boston City Hospital and went on to complete her fellowship in Adolescent Medicine at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. Dr. Hacker received her MPH from Boston University.

Alan T. Hirsch, MD
Professor of Epidemiology and Community Health
University of Minnesota School of Public Health

Dr. Alan T. Hirsch is Professor of Epidemiology and Community Health at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health and directs the Vascular Medicine Program at the Minneapolis Heart Institute in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These appointments demonstrate his dual focus on individual vascular health and community vascular health. Dr. Hirsch received his undergraduate degree from Harvard College and attended medical school at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). He completed his internship and residency at the University of Chicago Hospitals and UCSF; a cardiovascular pharmacology fellowship at the Cardiovascular Research Institute (UCSF); and a physiology fellowship at the Harvard Medical School. He has published over 100 manuscripts that describe the risk of peripheral arterial disease (PAD), efficacy of community-based PAD detection, and the use of education as a "health intervention". He leads many ongoing national vascular clinical investigations and is chair of the NHLBI-sponsored CLEVER trial that is now evaluating the benefit, risk and health economic effects of current claudication "strategies of care". Dr. Hirsch was a founding member and Past-President of the Society for Vascular Medicine; is a Fellow of the American Heart Association (AHA), and chaired the publication of the 2006 "ACC-AHA Guidelines for the Management of Patients with PAD. He also now leads the non-profit "Peripheral Arterial Disease Coalition", which unifies the efforts of 71 health organizations and NHLBI in order to promote the national "PAD Public Awareness Campaign".

Laybon “Skip” Jones, Jr., MD
Attending and Consulting Cardiologist
Sutter Solano Medical Center

Dr. Skip Jones graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in Physiology and received his Medical Degree from the University of California, San Diego. His Internal Medicine residency was through Kaiser Permanente, Oakland that was followed by a Fellowship in Cardiovascular Diseases at the University of California, Irvine. He is an attending and consulting cardiologist at Sutter Solano Medical Center in Vallejo, California (where he has been ICU/CCU Director and Chief of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory), and at John Muir Medical Center in Concord, California. He is both a Diagnostic and Interventional Cardiologist and is on the clinical teaching staff at Touro University Medical School. He has had clinical research published in *Circulation* and the *American Journal of Cardiology*. He has served as Marine Mammalian Cardiovascular consult for Marine World/Africa USA and has been a speaker and moderator of various health symposia. He has previously addressed the Congressional Black Caucus on cigarette smoking and the importance of smoking cessation in African Americans. He serves as consultant and speaker for several major pharmaceutical and cardiac medical device companies as he has expertise in the management of hypertension, heart failure, and implantation of pacemakers and ICDs

Joseph B. Kelley, BS
Vice President, Government and Public Affairs
Eli Lilly and Company

Mr. Joseph B. Kelley is Vice President of Government and Public Affairs for Eli Lilly and Company. He was named to the position in June of 2003. In that capacity, he serves as the head of Lilly's Washington office and is responsible for Lilly's USA federal, state, and public affairs activities. He also serves as a member of the U.S. Affiliate's Operations Committee. Mr. Kelley joined Lilly in January 1994 as Manager of Public Affairs for the mid-Atlantic Region. In September of 1995, he was promoted to Director, State Government Affairs. In October 2001, he was promoted to Executive Director, Government and Public Affairs. Mr. Kelley served as chairman of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America's (PhRMA) State Government Affairs Section (1997-1998). Prior to joining Lilly, Mr. Kelley served as Assistant Director, State Government Affairs for W.R. Grace & Company from 1989 to January 1994 where he was responsible for directing legislative and regulatory issues affecting Grace's U.S. business operations. He also served as Associate Director, Health, Safety and Regulations for the Chemical Manufacturers Association from 1986–1989. Mr. Kelley earned a Bachelor of Science from University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and graduated from the Senior Executive Fellows Program at Harvard University (2000).

Terris A. King, MS

**Deputy Director, Office of Clinical Standards and Quality
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services**

Mr. Terris King serves as the Deputy Director of the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality, (OCSQ) at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. He is responsible for the development of national coverage policies and quality standards for Medicare and Medicaid providers; quality measurement and public reporting initiatives; and manages the Quality Improvement Organization program. He is the CMS executive lead for value-based purchasing. This initiative includes designing and developing quality improvement activities for the Physician Office, Hospital, Home Health, Nursing Home and End Stage Renal Disease Arenas. He is also the lead executive responsible for reducing health disparities throughout the country among underserved populations. Prior to assuming his OCSQ role, he served as the Deputy Associate Commissioner of the Office of Quality Assurance and Performance Assessment. He was responsible for assuring the integrity and quality of the administration of Social Security programs. Mr. King has served as the Acting Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for the State of Maryland. Mr. King graduated from Towson University and received his Master's Degree in Applied Behavioral Science (1997) from Johns Hopkins University and completed the Senior Executive Fellows Program in (1999) from Harvard University and is now pursuing his PhD in Leadership and Organizational Development.

William B. Lawson, MD, PhD, DFAPA

Professor and Chairman

**Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Howard University College of Medicine**

Dr. William B. Lawson is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Howard University College of Medicine. He is also a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, treasurer of the American Orthopsychiatry Association, Chair of the Committee of Tellers for the American Psychiatric Association, and a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the Medical Honor Society. Dr. Lawson is a past Chair of the Section of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences of the National Medical Association, and a past president of the Black Psychiatrists of America. He received the Howard University College of Medicine Research Award, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Exemplary Psychiatrist Award, the Jeanne Spurlock Award from the American Psychiatric Association, the E.Y. Williams Clinical Scholar of Distinction Award from the Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Section of the National Medical Association, and was named one of "America's Leading Black Doctors" by Black Enterprise Magazine. He has over one hundred publications involving severe mental illness and its relationship to psychopharmacology, substance abuse, and racial and ethnic issues. Dr. Lawson received his PhD, from the University of New Hampshire, and MD from the University of Chicago. He is certified by the Board of Psychiatry and Neurology with special qualifications in addictions, and licensed in Washington, DC, and the State of California.

Maria Lemus

Executive Director

Vision Y Compromiso: The Community Health Worker/Promotoras Network

Ms. Maria Lemus is the Executive Director of Vision Y Compromiso: The Community Health Worker/Promotoras Network. The Network supports a statewide coalition of community health workers and promotoras by providing capacity building, leadership development and support for advocacy efforts. Ms. Lemus also provides management services, strategic planning, group facilitation, project and program evaluation services for small and medium-sized nonprofits. Ms. Lemus is active in education issues, and has advocated for children as PTA president and as school district representative on various committees in West Contra Costa County.

Richard A. Levy, PhD

President

Levy Consulting

Dr. Richard A. Levy is President of Levy Consulting, specializing in health services research, pharmaceutical policy, strategic message development, and pharmaceutical communication. His research interests include: the impact of pharmaceutical policies on treatment outcomes and innovation; factors influencing adherence to therapy; disparities in treatment of vulnerable populations; and personalized medicine. Dr. Levy has spent over thirty years teaching, writing, and conducting research in universities and private industry, and has authored over 90 publications. Dr. Levy was Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology of the University of Illinois College of Medicine and Vice President of Scientific Affairs for the National Pharmaceutical Council. He received his BS at the City College of New York, and a PhD from the University of Delaware.

John (Jack) C. Lewin, MD

Chief Executive Officer

American College of Cardiology

Dr. Jack Lewin has been Chief Executive Officer of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) since November 2006. The 35,000-member ACC represents American cardiologists, and a growing number of international members. Based in Washington DC, ACC has a distinguished reputation among professional societies for leadership in the monitoring of quality care and outcomes, and for making such results transparent. Publisher of the Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC), ACC is also the world leader in cardiovascular clinical education and clinical guidelines development, operating the NCDR quality of care data registries in over 2,400 hospitals. Prior to his position at ACC, Dr. Lewin was CEO of the California Medical Association and its various subsidiary companies. Dr. Lewin served as Hawaii's Director of Health from 1986-1994. In Hawaii, he was also CEO of the statewide 13-facility Community Hospital System. Dr. Lewin received his B.A. in Biological Sciences from the University of California, Irvine, and his MD from the University of Southern California.

Freda Lewis-Hall, MD
Senior Vice President
U.S. Pharmaceuticals Medical Affairs
Bristol-Myers Squibb

Dr. Freda Lewis-Hall leads the US Medical Affairs function for Bristol-Myers Squibb including medical strategy, post marketing trials, outcomes research, patient assistance, field medical science, medical education, and medical information for the areas of Oncology, Neuroscience, Immunoscience, Cardiovascular, Metabolics and Virology. Dr. Lewis-Hall started her pharmaceutical career at Eli Lilly Company as a Clinical Physician and has led the execution of global development and commercialization plans, pediatric clinical trials and Phase IV clinical trials. She was the founder and director of the Lilly Center for Women's Health focusing on gender related research, product development, strategic market research and commercialization and served as Vice President for Research and Development, Product Development for Pharmacia where she led research and development teams covering urology and women's health. Prior to pharmaceuticals, Dr. Lewis-Hall was Special Advisor, National Institute of Mental Health - Office of Special Populations, and as Vice Chairperson - Department of Psychiatry, Howard University College of Medicine where she created the first center in the United States with special competency in research and treatment of anxiety disorders in minority Americans. She has also served in the roles of Visiting Professor at Johns Hopkins University, Board Member for the Merck Foundation Urban Health Alliance, Acting Medical Director for the US Virgin Islands Department of Health, and on air personality for Washington DC based television.

Eliana T. Loveluck, MSW
Director, Center for Consumers
National Alliance for Hispanic Health

Ms. Eliana T. Loveluck has been the Director of the Center for Consumers at the National Alliance for Hispanic Health for 13 years. As Center Director, Ms. Loveluck oversees numerous national projects conducted in partnership with Hispanic community-based organizations throughout the U.S. These projects focus on health promotion and disease prevention in areas such as diabetes, HIV/AIDS, mental health, cancer, and environmental health, as well as capacity development for community-based agencies. Ms. Loveluck is a member of the American Hospital Association's Special Advisory Group on Improving Hospital Care for Minorities. She also serves on CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) Health Disparities Task Force. She served as the Chairperson for the Hispanic/Latino Workgroup of the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) from 1997 to 2000, and is a past member of the Board of Directors of *La Clínica del Pueblo*. Ms. Loveluck has served as an external consultant in the areas of HIV prevention in racial/ethnic communities, racial and ethnic health disparities, and capacity-building assistance for community-based organizations. Prior to joining the Alliance, Ms. Loveluck served as the Health and Human Services Specialist for the District of Columbia Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs. Before becoming a social worker, Ms. Loveluck was in charge of the Human Rights Project at the Institute for Policy Studies, where she advocated for human rights legislation as a component of U.S. foreign policy. Ms. Loveluck holds a

Master's degree in Social Work from the Catholic University of America and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Michigan.

Susanne B. Nicholas, MD, PhD, FASN

Associate Professor Medicine

David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles

Dr. Susanne B. Nicholas is a graduate of the UC San Diego School of Medicine and the San Diego State University School of Public Health. She completed her Internal Medicine residency at the UCLA San Fernando Valley Program, subspecialty training in Adult Nephrology and graduate work leading to a PhD in Physiology, at UCLA. She completed the UCLA Scientific Training and Advanced Research program and was a Fellow of the Robert Wood Johnson Faculty Development Program. Dr. Nicholas is a Board certified Clinical Nephrologist, a certified Clinical Hypertension Specialist, and Fellow of the American Society of Nephrology. She is a tenured Associate Professor of Medicine, active in the National Kidney Foundation of Southern California and a member of their Medical Advisory Board Executive Committee. She is on the American Journal of Nephrology editorial board. Her translational research focuses on the pathophysiologic mechanisms of Chronic Kidney Disease, particularly Diabetic Nephropathy (DN), identification of novel therapeutic targets and a clinical study of susceptibility genes for DN. Dr. Nicholas has authored numerous original research papers, abstracts, review articles and book chapters. Her administrative responsibilities involve teaching and mentoring undergraduates, medical students and house-staff and she is sought after to present at academic and professional meetings.

Nancy H. Nielsen, MD, PhD

President-Elect

American Medical Association

Dr. Nancy H. Nielsen, an internist from Buffalo, New York, is President-elect of the American Medical Association. Previously, she served four terms as speaker of the AMA House of Delegates, and three as vice-speaker. As a member of the AMA Council on Scientific Affairs, she helped develop policies on depression, alcoholism among women, Alzheimer's disease and a host of other issues. Dr. Nielsen has also served as a member of the National Patient Safety Foundation board of directors, the Commission for the Prevention of Youth Violence, and the Task Force on Quality and Patient Safety. Currently, she's a delegate to the AMA Medical School Section, and she is a liaison to the Council on Medical Education. A champion of medical quality, she represents the AMA on initiatives including the National Quality Forum, the AMA Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement, and the Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance. Dr. Nielsen holds a doctorate in microbiology and her medical degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. There, she's a clinical professor of medicine and senior associate dean for medical education.

Peter R. Orszag, PhD
Director
Congressional Budget Office

Dr. Peter R. Orszag is the seventh Director of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). His four-year term began on January 18, 2007. Before joining CBO, Dr. Orszag was the Joseph A. Pechman Senior Fellow and Deputy Director of Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution. While at Brookings, he also served as Director of The Hamilton Project; Director of the Retirement Security Project; and Co-director of the Tax Policy Center. In previous government service during 1997 and 1998, Dr. Orszag served as Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Senior Economic Adviser at the National Economic Council. In 1995 and 1996, he was Senior Adviser and Senior Economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisers. His first appointment with the Council was as a staff economist in 1993 and 1994. Dr. Orszag graduated summa cum laude in economics from Princeton University and obtained an MSc and a PhD in economics from the London School of Economics, which he attended as a Marshall scholar. He has coauthored a number of books, including *Protecting the Homeland 2006/7* (2006), *Aging Gracefully: Ideas to Improve Retirement Security in America* (2006), and *Saving Social Security: A Balanced Approach* (2004), and co-edited *American Economic Policy in the 1990s* (2002). His main areas of research have been pensions, Social Security, budget policy, higher education policy, homeland security, macroeconomics, and tax policy.

James H. Powell, MD
Principal Investigator, Project IMPACT
National Medical Association

Dr. James H. Powell is a native of Birmingham, Alabama. He attended Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry (Cum Laude). Dr. Powell received his Doctor of Medicine Degree from Cornell University Medical College in New York City. He trained in the Division of Clinical Pharmacology at Cornell University Medical College and was appointed Assistant Professor of Pharmacology. In 1982, he joined Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals, where he held multiple positions of increasing responsibility within the drug development divisions, most recently as Senior Medical Director and Head of the Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacokinetics Department before retiring in September 2006. In his most recent capacity, his responsibilities included managing pharmacokinetics programs and early human testing of new prescription pharmaceutical products, developing pharmacogenomics and biomarker capability, and developing clinical trial modeling and bio-simulation programs. In December of 2002, Dr. Powell completed a three-year Executive-on-Loan assignment to the National Medical Association as Researcher-in-Residence, Director of Biomedical Education and Research, and Developer of Project IMPACT (Increase Minority Participation and Awareness of Clinical Trials). In the fall of 2005, Dr. Powell was appointed to the DHHS Secretary's Advisory Committee for Human Research Protection. Dr. Powell is Principal Investigator for NMA's Project IMPACT, an alternate member of Schulman and Associates Institutional Review Board, Inc., and serves as an independent consultant on medical research strategies and issues.

Gary A. Puckrein, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Minority Quality Forum

Dr. Gary A. Puckrein is President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Minority Quality Forum (the Forum). In 1989 he founded the predecessor program, the National Minority Health Month Foundation to help communities and policy makers eliminate the disproportionate burden of premature death and preventable illness in special populations through the use of evidence-based, data-driven initiatives. The Forum maintains a centralized data warehouse of vital statistics, demographics, environmental information, provider claims, prescription drugs use, clinical laboratory values, health care access points and other data elements. The Forum employs these data resources to build web-based data atlases that enable users to measure and forecast health status in small geographic areas; evaluate the impact of specific interventions; and monitor changes in health outcomes. Dr. Puckrein has published two successful magazines, Smithsonian's *American Visions*, and later *Minority Health Today*. Dr. Puckrein was awarded his doctorate from Brown University, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. Dr. Puckrein also serves as Executive Director of the Alliance of Minority Medical Associations, a collaborative effort of the Asian and Pacific Physicians' Association, the Association of American Indian Physicians, and the National Medical Association.

Diana Ramos, MD, MPH, FACOG
Medical Director for Reproductive Health
Los Angeles Public Health Department

Dr. Diana Ramos serves as Medical Director for Reproductive Health for the Los Angeles Public Health Department. She is also an Associate Clinical Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine. Dr. Ramos is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and is a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG). She is the Chair of the American Medical Association's Minority Affairs Consortium. She serves on the ACOG Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women in District-IX, and steering committees for the National Hispanic Leadership Fellowship, and the National Commission on Healthcare Disparities. She also serves on the California Women's Health Council. Recent awards for Dr. Ramos include the American Medical Association Young Physician Leadership Award (2006); the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Recognition for Outstanding Service—Los Angeles Public Health Commission (2005); the American Medical Association Community Service Award (2004); and the Pfizer National Award for Community Outreach (2003). Dr. Ramos received her bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California, a Master in Public Health from University of California Los Angeles, and a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine. She completed her internship and residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Women's and Children's Hospital.

Britt Rios-Ellis, PhD

Professor of Health Science

**Director, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and Leadership Training
California State University Long Beach and the National Council of La Raza**

Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis is a Professor of Health Sciences at California State University Long Beach (CSULB) and the Director of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR)/CSULB Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training. She has directed several Latino health-related projects including the NCLR Latino Families HIV/AIDS Needs Assessment, the NCLR Latino Families HIV/AIDS Prevention Project, Rompe El Silencio (Break the Silence), Salud es Cultura: Protégete (Health is Culture: Protect Yourself), and Comienzo Sano: Familia Saludable (Healthy Beginnings: Healthy Families). Her work centers on the facilitation of community-based participatory research and capacity building through promotores de salud (community health worker) projects in HIV/AIDS, Maternal Child Health, and Nutrition and Obesity Prevention. Dr. Rios-Ellis is also the Co-Principal Investigator for the Su Casa, Su Universidad Project, a \$2.9 million initiative funded by the Department of Education to improve the recruitment, retention and timely graduation of Latino students. She is a member of the Steward Group for the National Network to Eliminate Disparities and has consulted for the Pan American Health Organization, the National Association for Community Health Centers, the US Health Resource Services Administration, the National Minority AIDS Education and Training Center, and the US Office of Minority Health.

William G. “Bill” Robertson

President and CEO

Adventist HealthCare, Inc.

Mr. William G. “Bill” Robertson is the President and CEO of Adventist HealthCare, Inc., which operates Washington Adventist Hospital, Hackettstown Regional Medical Center, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Potomac Ridge Behavioral Health, Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital of Maryland, Adventist Senior Living services with six nursing centers, Adventist Home Health, and a number of other health care services. Based in Rockville, Adventist HealthCare is one of the largest private employers in Montgomery County, employing more than 7,200 people and caring for nearly 450,000 patients each year. Mr. Robertson has served as President and CEO of this non-profit corporation since the spring of 2000 and has been a health care executive for the past 22 years. Prior to joining Adventist HealthCare, Inc., Mr. Robertson served for four years as the Chief Executive Officer of Shawnee Mission Medical Center, one of the largest and most preferred hospitals in the Kansas City area and he was the Executive Vice President and CFO of Huguley Health System in Fort Worth, Texas from 1988 to 1996. Mr. Robertson is involved with a number of community organizations, including the Governor’s Workforce Investment Board, the Governor’s P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland; the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Board, the Strathmore Hall Foundation Board, the IMPACT Silver Spring Council of Advisors, the Maryland Hospital Association’s Community Hospital Connections, the American Hospital Association Health Care Systems Governing Council, the Greater Washington Board of Trade, and the Columbia Union College Board of Trustees.

Elijah Saunders, MD, FACC, FACP
Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Hypertension
University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore

Dr. Elijah Saunders is professor of medicine, head of the Division of Hypertension and former clinical director of the Hypertension and Vascular Biology Center at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland. He also serves as clinical associate professor of medicine at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. He is vice-president for Graduate Medical Education and Affiliations at the University of Maryland. Dr. Saunders received his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and his Bachelor of Science degree from Morgan State College. He completed both his residency and a fellowship in cardiology at the University of Maryland Hospital in Baltimore. Dr Saunders has received the American Heart Association (AHA) Award of Merit, Louis B. Russell Award (highest award for contribution to cardiovascular minority health), and the Presidential Award from the Maryland Affiliate. He is a member of the AHA Council on Clinical Cardiology and the Council on High Blood Pressure Research. Dr. Saunders is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, American College of Physicians and the American College of Angiology. He has lectured extensively on hypertension and its concomitant diseases, especially as it affects populations such as Blacks and the elderly. He is co-author of the medical textbook, *Hypertension in Black: Epidemiology, Pathophysiology and Treatment*, and a book for non-clinicians on high blood pressure. He is chief editor of the textbook, *Cardiovascular Diseases in Black*.

Bruce Siegel, MD, MPH
Research Professor
Department of Health Policy, School of Public Health and Health Services
George Washington University

Dr. Bruce Siegel is a Research Professor in the Department of Health Policy at the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services. There he directs two national programs of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: *Urgent Matters*, focused on improving hospital patient flow; and *Expecting Success*, dedicated to reducing disparities in health care for minority Americans. Examples of his research projects include work with the Commonwealth Fund, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the District of Columbia on hospital quality, emergency care and vulnerable populations. Dr. Siegel has held the positions of New Jersey Commissioner of Health, President of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, and President of Tampa General Healthcare. He has served as a Director of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and as an advisor to the Institute of Medicine, the World Bank, hospitals and trade associations. He is a member of the Board of Stewardship Trustees of Catholic Health Initiatives. Dr. Siegel received his AB degree from Princeton University, MD from Cornell University Medical College, and MPH from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. He is board certified in Preventive Medicine.

**The Honorable Hilda L. Solis
Congresswoman
US House of Representatives**

Representative Hilda L. Solis is serving her fourth term in the US House of Representatives. She represents California's 32nd Congressional District, which includes portions of East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley. Prior to her election to the US House of Representatives, Representative Solis served eight years in the California state legislature. In August 2000, Representative Solis became the first woman to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award, for her pioneering work on environmental justice issues in California. Representative Solis' priorities in Congress include expanding access to affordable health insurance, protecting our environment, and improving the lives of working families. In 2003, she became the first Latina appointed to the powerful Committee on Energy and Commerce, where she is the vice chair of the Environment and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee and a member of the Health and Telecommunications Subcommittees. She is also a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources. In March 2007, Representative Solis was named a member of the newly created House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. Representative Solis is vice chair of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee and serves as a senior whip, as well as a regional whip for Southern California. She is serving her third term as the chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' Task Force on Health and the Environment.

**Madeline Sutton, MD, MPH
Team Lead, Minority HIV/AIDS Research Institute
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Dr. Madeline Sutton is a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist who is currently serving as the Acting Associate Director for the Heightened National Response to the HIV/AIDS Crisis among African Americans and the Team Lead for the Minority HIV/AIDS Research Initiative (MARI) in the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Her main research areas at CDC have been in the areas of racial/ethnic disparities in STDs, including HIV, women's health issues, and adolescent health issues. She maintains a faculty appointment at the Morehouse School of Medicine Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and provides clinical care to patients at the Oakhurst Community Health Center in Stone Mountain, GA. Prior to moving to Atlanta, GA to complete her CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service fellowship training, she completed her residency training at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School. She received her MD and MPH degrees from Columbia University and her BS from Georgetown University.

Michael Ward, MD

Researcher

**National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
National Institutes of Health**

Dr. Michael Ward, is a rheumatologist, and his research focuses on outcomes, or the results of treatments. He develops studies that test the effectiveness of new medications or therapies. Originally from Chicago, Dr. Ward went to medical school at the University of Illinois and then did his residency at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He was drawn to the research aspects of medicine, such as statistical issues, study design and outcome measures. He decided to get a master's of public health degree in epidemiology at the University of Michigan. After that, he accepted two fellowships, one at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina, and the other at Stanford University in California, where he later became an associate professor. Dr. Ward joined NIAMS because he was convinced it would be a great place for a rheumatologist and outcomes researcher. He wanted to get involved in collaborations that tackle broad health issues, like health disparities, behavioral research and the costs of disease. At NIAMS, Dr. Ward has to consider the whole patient--not just one clinical problem--in treatment since rheumatic diseases often involve multiple systems in the body. He treats patients at the NIAMS Community Health Center in Washington, DC.

Richard Allen Williams, MD

**President and Chief Executive Officer
The Minority Health Institute**

Dr. Richard Allen Williams was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware, the youngest of eight children. He received the MD degree from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, performed his internship at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center, internal medicine residency at the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center, and cardiology fellowship at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Dr. Williams has numerous publications and awards to his credit and is the author of *The Textbook of Black-related Diseases*, published by McGraw-Hill in 1975. This is a 900-page book that details medical conditions peculiar to African Americans; no other book of its kind has been written before or since, and it is widely considered the classic seminal work on the medical status of Blacks. Dr. Williams founded the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC) in 1974 and served as its president for 10 years. He also became the first chairman of the Board of Directors and started the *ABC Newsletter*. The ABC established the endowed Dr. Richard Allen Williams Scholarship for Black Medical Students in his honor in 1980. Dr. Williams then founded the Minority Health Institute in 1987; he is president and chief executive officer of the latter organization. Dr. Williams is a member of the National Minority Quality Forum's Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee.