



# **Eleventh Annual Summit on Health Disparities/ CBC Health Braintrust Meeting & Awards Dinner**

April 28–29, 2014

## **Biographical Sketches**

### **Ola Akinboboye, MD, MPH, FACC, FACP, FAHA**

Dr. Akinboboye is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, NY. He is also the Medical Director of Laurelton Heart Specialist P.C., in Laurelton, Queens, NY. Dr. Akinboboye was on the faculty of Columbia University from 1995 to 2000 as Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine. He obtained a Master of Public Health Degree from the School of Public Health at Columbia University in 1998. He also received a Masters degree in Business Administration from Columbia Business School in 2001. He is board certified in internal medicine, cardiology, hypertension, cardiac CT sleep medicine and nuclear cardiology. He is Past President of the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC). Dr. Akinboboye is Chair of ABC's Continuing Education Committee and Co-chair of examination drafting committee and member of the Board of the Certifying Board of Nuclear Cardiology. Dr. Ola Akinboboye has received numerous awards. He was selected by Castle Connolly as one of America's Top Doctors in the New York Metro area from 2005 to 2010. He was recognized by New York Magazine as one of New York's best heart doctors (2006-2008) and on the cover of the Network Journal (2/2008) as one of the Best Black Doctors in the New York tri-state area. He received a humanitarian award from the College of Medicine at University of Ibadan in Nigeria in 2005 for his ongoing efforts to spread expertise in the techniques of cardiopulmonary resuscitation in Nigeria. He also received an award from the Association of Black Cardiologists for his dedicated service as a board member from 1999 to 2005.

### **Michelle Albert, MD, MPH**

A graduate of Haverford College, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Harvard School of Public Health, Dr. Michelle Albert completed her residency and chief residency in Internal Medicine at Columbia University in New York and Cardiovascular Fellowship at the Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA, where she was an Associate Professor in Medicine and Director of Behavioral and Neurocardiovascular Cardiology. Recently, Dr. Albert transitioned to Howard University, Washington, DC, where she is the Vivian Beaumont Allen Endowed Chair and Professor of Medicine. She is the Chief of Cardiovascular Medicine and Director of Cardiovascular Research. Dr. Albert is also an Adjunct Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Dr. Albert has served as the Vice-President of the Association of Black Cardiologists, and currently serves on their Board. She is the Chair of the AHA Executive Database Steering Committee and serves on the AHA Science Advisory and Coordination Committee as well as the AHA Executive Steering Committee of the 2012 Women's Triennial Health Tracking Study in CVD and Stroke. Dr. Albert's research focuses on the molecular and genetic epidemiology of hemostasis, thrombosis and inflammation. Dr. Albert

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has received several research awards and including the Brigham and Women's Hospital Minority Faculty Development Award, the Learner Cardiovascular Young Investigator Award, the Nikki Harris Family Cardiovascular Research Award, and the Herbert Nickens Epidemiology Award from the Association of Black Cardiologists.

### **Salvatore Alesci, MD, PhD**

Dr. Salvatore ("Salvo") Alesci is Vice President, Scientific and Regulatory Affairs, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. He joined PhRMA in December 2011. In his role, Dr. Alesci leads PhRMA's science advocacy and engagement efforts, serving as key source of expert input on science and medicine policy issues. He also serves as internal scientific advisor to the PhRMA Foundation. Dr. Alesci brings to PhRMA over ten years of combined academia/government/industry experience, with multi-disciplinary expertise. Prior to joining PhRMA, Dr. Alesci was Vice President and Franchise Integrator, Women's Health and Endocrine at Merck & Co., where he was responsible for overseeing all activities to optimize outputs of drug candidates to achieve "*proof-of-concept*" in early development. Before his tenure at Merck, Dr. Alesci served in a number of Translational Medicine leadership roles at Wyeth and Pfizer Inc., covering multiple therapeutic areas and diverse drug portfolios. In addition to his experience in pharmaceutical R&D, Dr. Alesci spent eight years in research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), where he did his post-doctoral training and held a number of positions. Dr. Alesci has authored over fifty scientific publications and chaired and presented at national and international meetings. He is the recipient of two Special Acts of Service Awards by the US Department of Health and Human Services, and a NIH Fellow Award for Research Excellence (FARE). Dr. Alesci received his M.D. (*cum laude*) and a Ph.D. in Experimental Endocrine and Metabolic Sciences from the University of Messina, School of Medicine (Italy), where he also completed his post-graduate clinical training in Endocrinology. Between 2000 and 2001, he completed a Research Fellowship in Rheumatology, Immunology and Allergy at Georgetown University.

### **Salim Al Nurridin**

Salim Al Nurridin is the Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare Consortium of Illinois (formerly known as the Southside Health Consortium). As a founder of the organization, he has worked for the past 22 years to advocate for quality healthcare services. Under his leadership, the Consortium began with three employees, and to date, has more than 130 employees. He is an activist for humanity and brings "*passion*" to everything he touches. His service includes participation with the following organizations and causes: Roseland Community Hospital, Carver Area High School LSC, Chicago Asthma Consortium, Greater Roseland Area Planning Commission, Roseland Medical District, Health and Medicare Policy Research Group, Illinois Public Health Association, Cook County Illinois State Committee on Abuse & Neglect, National Association of Healthy Start, National Rainbow Coalition/Operation P.U.S.H., Southside Help Center, Nehemiah Recovery Initiative, Southland Ministerial Health Network, Roseland Cease Fire, Illinois Juvenile Justice Initiative, Neighborhood Recovery Initiative (NRI), Sickle Cell Association, (CPS) Safe Passage, Illinois County Care, Secretary General for Mosque of Umar, Inc., and Governor Quinn's Muslim American Advisory Council. He also served as the Chair for the Facility Health Board of the Chicago Department of Public Health/Roseland Health Center. Salim is an alumni of Roosevelt University, Lutheran School of Theology and Olive-Harvey College.

### **Sonja L. Banks**

Sonja L. Banks is the President and Chief Operating Officer for the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc. She is primarily responsible for the administrative activities of the organization which serves over fifty-five sickle cell community based organizations throughout the United States. Ms. Banks is an accomplished management professional with over 17 years of

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executive level experience and an established background in nonprofit leadership and operations. Prior to her current position, Ms. Banks served at St. Vincent's Health System in Birmingham, Alabama. While at St. Vincent's Health System, she served as Director of Community Services, Outreach and Adult Indigent Services. Her previous professional experience also includes leadership roles within the United Negro College Fund, United Way of Central Alabama and City of Birmingham.

### **Enrique Caballero, MD**

Dr. 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. Dr. Caballero developed the Joslin Latino Diabetes Initiative that was launched in the summer of 2002 and that 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 LookAhead Program and the Diabetes Education Study, all sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. He is the principal investigator in studies assessing vascular abnormalities in obese Hispanic children, adolescents and young adults. He is also principal investigator in a study assessing biological, psychological, social and cultural factors influencing adherence to treatment in Latinos with diabetes.

### **U.S. Senator Ben Cardin**

Senator Ben Cardin believes government has a duty to improve the lives of all Americans. From expanding access to health care to boosting job growth to making homeownership affordable to improving the environment, Senator Cardin is a recognized leader with a record of legislative success. First elected to the U.S. Senate in 2006, he was re-elected in 2012. Senator Cardin currently serves on the Finance, Foreign Relations, Environment and Public Works, and Small Business committees. The Washington Post has said Ben Cardin has a “command of issues, proven integrity, formidable intellect and an unstinting work ethic.” Senator Cardin believes access to quality, affordable health care is a right. He was a strong supporter of the *Affordable Care Act*, which will provide more than 30 million uninsured Americans with health coverage. In the wake of the death of a 12-year-old Marylander from an untreated tooth infection, he successfully fought to get a guaranteed dental benefit included in the Children's Health Insurance Program. As a member of the Small Business Committee, Senator Cardin has championed legislation to permanently raise the surety bond guarantee limit from \$2 million to \$6.5 million and adjust it for inflation. He also has been a strong defender of the federal workforce. He believes that federal workers have already made a significant contribution to reducing the deficit with a pay freeze and does not believe they should shoulder the burden of deficit reduction alone. He also is a strong champion of protecting our air and water. He has introduced legislation to restore the health of America's great water bodies – including the Chesapeake Bay. And, he has fought for funding to improve America's aging water infrastructure system, which would create thousands of new jobs. In the Senate, Ben Cardin brings the expertise he developed while serving in the House of Representatives. Known for his command of pension and health care legislation, many of his financial proposals have been enacted into law, including: increasing the amount Americans can save for retirement and expanding Medicare to include preventive benefits.

### **Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen**

The Honorable Donna M. Christensen is serving her Ninth Term as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the U.S. Virgin Islands. She is the first female physician to serve as a Member in the history of the U.S. Congress, the first woman to represent an offshore

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Territory, and the first woman Delegate from the U.S. Virgin Islands. She serves as an Assistant Minority Whip in the Democratic Caucus. In the 113th Congress, Congresswoman Christensen serves on the Committee on Energy and Commerce; its Subcommittees on Health, on Energy and Power and on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade. She is the first Delegate to Congress to serve on this exclusive committee. Delegate 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; Member of the Steering Committee of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus; Member of the Congressional Rural Caucus; Member of the Friends of the Caribbean Caucus; a Member of the Congressional National Guard and Reserve Caucus as well as many other caucus' and taskforces. Congresswoman Christensen earned a Bachelor of Science in 1966 at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. She earned an M.D. (Doctor of Medicine) in 1970 from George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. She began her medical career in the Virgin Islands in 1975 as an emergency room physician. She served as staff physician at the Maternal & Child Health program, Medical Director of the Nesbitt Clinic in Frederiksted, Director of the Frederiksted Health Center, Director of Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning, served as the Medical Director of the St. Croix Hospital and rounded out her medical career as the Territorial Assistant Commissioner of Health and as the Acting Commissioner of Health. She maintained a private practice in family medicine from 1975 until her election to Congress in 1996.

### **Craig Emmitt Cole, MD**

Dr. Craig Cole is a board certified Hematologist at the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Dr. Cole completed his undergraduate degree at Michigan State University and his doctoral degree at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. He began his post-doctoral training in Internal Medicine and Hematology/Oncology at the University of Michigan Health System. He has had the opportunity to do post-fellowship laboratory research in the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center of Medicine at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. This opportunity then led to a Staff Lectureship at the University of Michigan concentrating primarily on clinical research in multiple myeloma. Dr. Cole then became an attending hematologist at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, Wisconsin for 9 years. While in Wisconsin, he expanded his research interest to include multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, therapeutic apheresis, and myelodysplasia; participating as the onsite primary investigator for over 21 clinical trials. He has published and presented his research at the American Society of Hematology and the American Society for Apheresis national meetings. Dr. Cole served as affiliate faculty at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse before returning to the University of Michigan as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Hematology/Oncology focusing in multiple myeloma and general hematology.

### **Jaime A. Davidson, MD, FACP, MACE**

Dr. Jaime A. Davidson is a Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, Touchstone Diabetes Research Center at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, in Dallas, Texas. In addition to having being a member of the Publications Committee for the American Diabetes Association (ADA), Dr. Davidson has been on the editorial boards of several publications and he is presently in the Editorial Board of the Journal of Diabetes and the Journal of the Mexican Society of Nutrition and Endocrinology. He has published numerous book chapters and over 150 articles in English, French and Spanish for US, Latin American, and European journals and has presented at national and international associations and symposia. Dr. Davidson is a lifetime member of the International Diabetes Federation and a member of the Task Force on Epidemiology. He has served the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on several positions, including the Translation Advisory Committee as well as the

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Latino Advisory Board. He was a member of the National Diabetes Advisory Board and National Institutes of Health and an advisor to the US Food and Drug Administration on endocrinology and metabolic diseases. He also served as an advisor to the Texas Department of Health Services. Prior to that position he chaired the Texas Diabetes Council. Dr. Davidson is a recipient of numerous awards and honors and he holds the current honorary consul post to the consulate of Costa Rica. He was inducted to the Mexican Academy of Medicine and in 2008 the American College of Endocrinology elected him as a Master of the College.

### **Christopher E. Ervin**

Christopher E. Ervin is active in community-centered work and an advocate for health, wellness and social justice. Recently he served as program manager for the “Dare To Forget The Box”, a \$3.6 million initiative of United Way of Atlanta. He has served as director of development for a community-based nonprofit whose focus is HIV/AIDS prevention, education and treatment for those with mental health and substance concerns. Trained in Emergency Medicine at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, Mr. Ervin has been a Fellow of Morehouse Faculty Development Program, Fellow of the Institute of HIV Prevention Leadership and the Black AIDS Institute’s African American HIV University. In addition, Mr. Ervin serves as a principal with WFG Equity, a health equity consulting firm in Atlanta. Mr. Ervin has significant experience implementing strategic plans of nonprofit organizations including grant development, establishing partnerships and collaborations, program implementation, and social media initiatives. He has held several administrative and leadership roles in national organizations, hospital emergency departments and community-based organizations. Mr. Ervin’s community-based activities include having served as Chair of the State of Georgia’s Region 3 Planning Board of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases. He is on the board of The Action Not Words Project Inc., a service organization based in Atlanta. He also serves as a member of the All Healer’s Mental Health Alliance, the Georgia HIV Prevention Community Planning Group, and both the Atlanta and National Female Condom Coalition. He has served on several committees of Metropolitan Atlanta Ryan White Planning Council and other local and regional coalitions.

### **Icilma V. Fergus, MD**

Icilma V. Fergus, MD is the Director of Cardiovascular Disparities at Mount Sinai Medical Center. Prior to that she served as Chief of the Division of Cardiology at Columbia University Harlem Hospital Center beginning in April 2007 and Director of Non-Invasive Cardiology of New York Hospital Queens from 1999-2006. Her current academic appointment is Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, New York. She is a Barnard and SUNY Downstate graduate. She completed her residency and Chief residency at Albert Einstein Medical Center. Dr. Fergus completed her cardiology fellowship at Weill Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Fergus is board certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiology. Dr. Fergus has authored numerous articles related to heart disease and congestive heart failure in peer-reviewed journals and is a co-author in the new book entitled “Cardiovascular Disease in Ethnic Minorities”. Her current research interests involve cardiovascular disparities, hypertension and diastolic dysfunction as well as heart disease in women. She has been an investigator in several clinical trials including a NHLBI sponsored trial evaluating acute ischemia in young women entitled “VIRGO” and a DOH sponsored grant for Harlem Healthy Eating and Living.

### **Traci Ferguson, MD, MBA**

Dr. Traci Ferguson is Vice President of Clinical Services at WellCare Health Plans, Inc. with strategic oversight of utilization management and clinical policy for over 2.9 million Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries in 18 states. Dr. Ferguson obtained her B.S. in Chemistry magna cum laude from Georgetown University and earned her Doctorate of Medicine from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Graduating with honors at the top of her class, she was inducted

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into the country's premier medical honor society, Alpha Omega Alpha. Dr. Traci Ferguson completed her internal medicine residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Subsequently, she served as both a faculty member and clinical instructor at the University of Maryland Medical Center and at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. As a board certified Internal Medicine physician, Dr. Ferguson worked in hospital medicine actively involved in various hospital quality initiatives and process improvement projects before transitioning to medical management in 2010. Dr. Ferguson is a published author and most recently contributed to the American College of Physician Executives' 2013 publication entitled *Lessons Learned: Stories from Women in Medical Management*. In 2013 Dr. Ferguson was nominated to serve on The Johns Hopkins University Leadership Forum at the request of the University President. Dr. Ferguson was a distinguished member of the inaugural graduating class for Howard University's Executive MBA program in 2013. While at WellCare, Dr. Ferguson is known for her dedication, commitment and passion to serve the most vulnerable members of society and works tirelessly to ensure everyone has access to quality and effective healthcare.

### **Michael Flessner, MD, PhD**

Dr. Michael Flessner is currently the Director of the Inflammatory Renal Disease Program at the NIDDK. His responsibilities include management of a diverse research portfolio. This research includes HALT-PKD (clinical trials of treatments to slow loss of kidney function related to polycystic kidney disease, or PKD); CRISP (radiologic imaging research to improve the detection and monitoring of PKD progression); and the Interdisciplinary Centers for PKD Research. Dr. Flessner formed two new consortiums in 2013: the Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Pilot Trials Consortium comprising four centers and a data coordinating center (DCC) that are testing new CKD therapies for dosing and safety; and the Glomerulonephritis Consortium (CURE-GN), involving four centers and a DCC that is carrying out a longitudinal study of four types of glomerulonephritis in 2400 patients. In addition, Dr. Flessner is the project scientist for two Common Fund Projects: the TIME trial—a pragmatic clinical trial in dialysis patients and part of the Health Care Systems (HCS) Collaboratory; and the renal microphysiological system, which is an *in vitro* bioengineering method of testing drugs and toxins to simulate human conditions. He is also responsible for managing research on other inflammatory renal diseases, including lupus nephritis and diabetic nephropathy, renal transplantation, renal fibrosis, and chronic kidney disease. Dr. Flessner previously was Professor and John D. Bower Chair of Nephrology and Hypertension at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and Associate Professor of Medicine, Biophysics and Physiology at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. He received his MD from the University of Maryland in 1985 and his PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan in 1981.

### **Captain Althea Grant, PhD**

Captain Althea Grant is Chief of the Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch in the Division of Blood Disorders within National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She received her PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Emory University. Captain Grant joined CDC in 2002 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer assigned to the Women's Health and Fertility Branch in the Division of Reproductive Health. In 2007, she became the Team Leader of the Epidemiology and Surveillance Team in the Division of Blood Disorders. In 2010, she was promoted to the position of Chief of Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch in the same division. She conducts, develops, and oversees epidemiologic research and surveillance programs in several areas of blood disorders including hemophilia, deep vein thrombosis, sickle cell disease, thalassemia, and hemochromatosis. Captain Grant is a recognized national leader championing public health programs for hemoglobinopathies such as sickle cell disease and thalassemia. She served as CDC's Project Director for the RuSH program, the first population-based public health

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surveillance system for sickle cell disease and thalassemia conducted in collaboration with NIH/NHLBI. In 2009, she received a Commendation Medal from the US Public Health Service in recognition for developing programs to improve the health of individuals affected by sickle cell disease. In 2009 and 2011, Captain Grant served as U.S. Representative on behalf of the State Department for the 1st and 3rd UN World Sickle Cell Days. She and her team have and continue to collaborate on projects promote improved identification and management of hemoglobinopathies globally including countries such as in Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, and Brazil.

### **Omar Hasan**

Omar Hasan, MBBS, MPH, MS, FACP, is Vice President for Improving Health Outcomes at the American Medical Association where he is responsible for leading a transdisciplinary team in developing and implementing the AMA's national strategy for improving health outcomes and curbing cost growth for a select group of high-impact medical conditions. Previously, he spent more than a decade practicing internal medicine and leading quality improvement and patient safety initiatives across diverse healthcare settings. Omar is fellowship trained in health services research and healthcare quality improvement and holds master's degrees in healthcare management and policy and clinical epidemiology from Harvard University.

### **Christopher S. Holliday, PhD, MPH**

Christopher S. Holliday, PhD, is the Director of Population Health within the IHO area of the American Medical Association. In this role, Dr. Holliday leads efforts to apply and spread evidence-based interventions targeting key social, environmental, and behavioral determinants of health, beginning with his work to help physicians identify and refer patients at risk for diabetes to community-based diabetes prevention programs. He also identifies public policy changes that reduce the leading causes of disease burden and promote healthy lifestyles and works with colleagues across the AMA to increase adoption of these policies. Prior to joining the AMA, Dr. Holliday served as the Director of the National Center of Excellence on the Social Determinants of Mental Health at the Adler School of Professional Psychology where he was responsible for generating and disseminating knowledge on the influence of social conditions on public mental health. Before joining Adler, he served as CEO of Communities Joined in Action, a national organization of 200 community health access and care-coordination coalitions in 44 states. In addition, Dr. Holliday held various leadership roles at the DeKalb County Board of Health in Georgia, including Director of the Center for Community Health Transformation and Director of Community Health and Prevention Services. He received his Master of Arts and PhD degrees in psychology from Georgia State University, his Master of Public Health degree from Emory University, and his BA degree in psychology from Northwestern University.

### **Charles D. Howell, MD, AGAF**

Charles D. Howell, MD, AGAF is chair of the Howard University Department of Internal Medicine. As chair, Dr. Howell is responsible for overseeing all academic, clinical, and research activities of the department, as well as directing a new interdisciplinary viral hepatitis program that will work to reduce the burden of hepatitis in the Washington metropolitan area. Prior to becoming chair of the department, Dr. Howell served as a professor of medicine and director of hepatology research at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Howell's clinical interests include management of chronic liver diseases, particularly hepatitis B and C, primary biliary cirrhosis and autoimmune hepatitis. Dr. Howell has had a long-standing interest in racial disparities in chronic hepatitis C treatment, and was an investigator in the NIDDK VIRAHEP-C study. He was Principal Investigator in patient oriented research to study Racial Disparities in Liver Diseases (sponsored by the NIDDK) and another study of Ribavirin Pharmacokinetics and HCV treatment outcomes.

## **Theresa Hughes**

Theresa Hughes, CEO and Founder of Wings for Life and Hughes Healthcare Disparities Group, is a healthcare economist dedicated to creating sustainable public and political awareness programs that will reduce disparities of viral hepatitis (HBV and HCV) epidemic in underserved communities. Ms. Hughes is the architect of the nationally recognized “Central Valley Break the Silence on HCV” Summit held October 2012, in which Wings for Life partnered with California State University, Fresno (CSUF) and the American Liver Foundation (ALF) to identify issues and potential solutions related to HCV in the Central Valley’s underserved communities. Wings for Life/Hughes Healthcare Disparities Group also collaborated with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS), one of the nation’s largest correctional healthcare systems, to develop the *Correctional Health as a Public Health and Fiscal Crisis* at three CDCR’s facilities and four counties in California’s Central Valley. The program has potential to (1) build a sustainable partnership between CDCR and underserved communities; (2) broaden CDCR/CCHCS’ policy and criteria regarding inmates seeking or being referred for HCV tests; (3) develop HCV education program for community based organizations, public and private healthcare providers, CDCR/CCHCS’s medical staff, custodial staff, and inmates that will increase awareness of HCV and increase numbers of HCV tests; and (4) develop a surveillance and demographic profile of HBV and HCV in underserved communities and corrections, which allows improved management of care by age, gender, race/ethnicity and by zip code, neighborhood, or yard/cell block. Ms. Hughes is a charter member of the San Francisco Hepatitis C Task Force, the Board of Directors of the California Hepatitis Alliance, and former President of the Board of Directors for STAND! Against Domestic Violence.

## **Michael H. Kim, MD**

Michael H. Kim, MD is a Professor of Medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and serves as the Director of the Arrhythmia Service for the Cardiovascular Institute of the Rhode Island, Miriam, and Newport Hospitals. He is also the Director of the Electrophysiology Fellowship Program at Brown. He is a graduate of Princeton University and the University of Rochester School of Medicine. All of his postgraduate training (Internal Medicine, Chief Resident Medicine, Cardiology/Electrophysiology) was completed at the University of Michigan Hospitals. Dr. Kim has authored or co-authored over 170 publications in peer-reviewed medical journals (papers and abstracts). He is on the editorial board for the Journal of the American College of Cardiology and the Journal of Cardiac Electrophysiology. His clinical and research interests focus on atrial fibrillation, catheter ablation, cardiovascular outcomes, quality of care, health economics, device based therapies, and arrhythmias in general. He is a national expert in atrial fibrillation disease management strategies and in cardiovascular outcomes with a perspective on arrhythmias.

## **Howard K. Koh, MD**

Dr. Howard K. Koh serves as the 14th Assistant Secretary for Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Dr. Koh oversees 12 core public health offices, including the Office of the Surgeon General and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, 10 Regional Health Offices across the nation, and 10 Presidential and Secretarial advisory committees. The Office of Assistant Secretary for Health implements an array of interdisciplinary programs relating to disease prevention, health promotion, the reduction of health disparities, women’s and minority health, adolescent health, HIV/AIDS and chronic infectious diseases, vaccine programs, fitness, sports and nutrition, bioethics, population affairs, blood supply, research integrity and human research protections. As the Assistant Secretary for Health, Dr. Koh is dedicated to the mission of creating better public health systems for prevention and care so that

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all people can reach their highest attainable standard of health. Dr. Koh previously served as the Harvey V. Fineberg Professor of the Practice of Public Health and Associate Dean for Public Health Practice at the Harvard School of Public Health. He has published more than 250 articles in the medical and public health literature. Dr. Koh graduated from Yale College and the Yale University School of Medicine. He has earned board certification in four medical fields: internal medicine, hematology, medical oncology, and dermatology, as well as a Master of Public Health degree from Boston University. Dr. Koh has earned numerous awards and honors for interdisciplinary accomplishments in medicine and public health, including the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Award for National Service, the Distinguished Service Award from the American Cancer Society, and the Drs. Jack E. White/LaSalle D. Leffall Cancer Prevention Award from the American Association for Cancer Research and the Intercultural Cancer Council.

### **William Lawson, MD**

Dr. Lawson is currently Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Howard University College of Medicine. Dr. Lawson was the Chair of the Section of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences of the National Medical Association. He is a past president of the Black Psychiatrists of America. He has over eighty-five publications involving severe mental illness and its relationship to psychopharmacology, substance abuse, and racial and ethnic issues. He has a long standing concern about ethnic disparities in mental health treatment, and has been an outspoken advocate for access to services of the severely mentally ill. Dr. Lawson was named as one of “America’s Leading Black Doctors” by Black Enterprise Magazine, was the Andrea Delgado Honoree and Lecturer for the Black Psychiatrists of America, received the Jeanne Spurlock Award from the American Psychiatric Association, received the E.Y. Williams Clinical Scholar of Distinction Award from the Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Section of the National Medical Association, a Multicultural Workplace Award from the Veterans Administration for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of diversity and multicultural understanding, was named as a national mentor by the National Alliance of the Mentally Ill and has received numerous awards for excellent teaching. He is on the Scientific Advisory Boards of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance.

### **Jeremy A. Lazarus, MD**

Jeremy A. Lazarus, MD, a psychiatrist in private practice in Denver, was elected 167th president of the American Medical Association in June, 2012, and now serves in AMA leadership as Immediate Past-President. He was only the third psychiatrist elected AMA president, and the first since 1939. Born and raised in Chicago, he attended a high school named for the AMA’s 49th president, Nicholas Senn, MD. He graduated from Northwestern University and received his medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine. A seeker of consensus, Dr. Lazarus has served as president of the Arapahoe County Medical Society, the Colorado Psychiatric Society and the Colorado Medical Society. He was speaker of the American Psychiatric Association assembly and, for many years, vice-speaker and speaker of the AMA House of Delegates. Widely published on issues of ethics, economics and managed care, his most recent book is *Entering Private Practice: A Handbook for Psychiatrists*. Possessed of a competitive, persistent spirit, he has taken part in 13 marathons and 13 triathalons, and has a lifetime love of music and the arts. He has sung in and directed chorale groups, and performs with a folk music band. A clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine, he also teaches at the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine.

### **Mary Marovich, MD**

Dr. Mary Marovich recently joined the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as the new Director of the Vaccine Research Program, where she leads the development and coordination of clinical and

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preclinical research on HIV vaccines. She comes to NIH from the U.S. Military HIV Research Program (MHRP), where she served as chief of vaccine research and development since 2005. Additionally, Dr. Marovich worked as the clinic director for MHRP's Rockville Vaccine Assessment Center, where she led multiple early-stage HIV and non-HIV vaccine clinical trials. She earned bachelor's degrees in biochemistry and chemistry at Illinois State University and a medical degree at Loyola University of Chicago-Maywood. In 1993, she completed a residency in internal medicine and clinical infectious diseases training at the University of Colorado and earned a diploma in tropical medicine and hygiene from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. Dr. Marovich was in the NIAID intramural research program studying immunology for her fellowship training from 1995-1999. She then went to the MHRP to launch a translational program in HIV vaccine development from 1999-2012. An Associate Professor of Medicine with the Uniformed Services University's department of medicine, Dr. Marovich has won several honors for academic and teaching excellence.

### **Edward L. Martinez**

Edward L. Martinez is an executive health care consultant with over 30 years of experience with a focus on organizations serving racially, ethnically, culturally and linguistically diverse populations. Mr. Martinez was Assistant Vice President with America's Essential Hospitals in Washington D.C., where he coordinated initiatives assisting member organizations in accessing resources for improving operations and responding to the health care needs of underserved, underinsured and uninsured populations. Prior to that position, he was Associate Director for Programs with the American International Health Alliance in Washington D.C., a USAID-supported organization that managed partnerships between U.S. health care systems and those in countries of the former Soviet Union, Central and Eastern Europe, and Latin America. In addition, Mr. Martinez served for over twenty-five years with the County of Los Angeles, where he managed one of the largest public hospitals in the U.S. as Executive Director of Los Angeles County and University of Southern California Medical Center. In 2011, Mr. Martinez was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Hospital Association Institute for Diversity in Health Management and served as 2013 Board Chair. He is also a Founding Member and past Board Member of the National Forum for Latino Healthcare Executives. Mr. Martinez has been a member of numerous national advisory groups addressing issues of health care quality, cultural and linguistic competence and disparities, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee on Minority Health; The Joint Commission's Technical Advisory Panel and Research Team Member for *Hospitals, Language, and Culture: Snapshot of the Nation* Project and Member of the Health Literacy Task Force; Health Research and Educational Trust's National Advisory Panel for Eliminating Disparities in Health Care and the Steering Committee for Hospitals and the Public's Health Initiative; American Medical Association's Ethical Force Oversight Body; Robert Wood Johnson *Hablamos Juntos* Initiative; The California Endowment/National Health Law Program National Coalition for Language Access in Healthcare; Biennial Conference on Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations; founding member, National Forum for Latino Healthcare Executives; and Program Advisory Council on Health Care for the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding. In addition to earning his B.A. Degree in Philosophy from St. John's College in California and a M.S. Degree in Political Science/Public Administration from California State University at Los Angeles, Mr. Martinez completed Public Hospitals/Pew Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Management at New York University and in Washington, D.C.

### **Barbara L. McAneny, MD**

Barbara L. McAneny, MD, a board-certified medical oncologist/hematologist from Albuquerque, N.M., was elected to the American Medical Association Board of Trustees in June 2010. Her

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many leadership roles have included president of the New Mexico Medical Society (NMMS), president of the Greater Albuquerque Medical Association, and president of the New Mexico Chapter of the American College of Physicians. Dr. McAneny was appointed by Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson to the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council from 2002 to 2006. She was a founding member of Oncology Circle, an organization of oncology practices using data to promote best practices. She has served on the board of directors of the Cancer Center Business Summit. She has championed numerous health-related issues including tobacco-use prevention, professional liability reform and emergency medical services (EMS). In 2012 Dr. McAneny was awarded a \$19.8 million grant from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation to test how oncology private practices can provide cancer patients better care at a lower cost. A recipient of a New Mexico Woman on the Move Award in 2005 and Woman of Influence Award in 2009, Dr. McAneny has been voted several times by her peers as *Albuquerque The Magazine's* "Top Doc" in her specialty. She co-founded Oncology Hematology Consultants Ltd. in 1987. A managing partner since 1999, she built New Mexico Cancer Center, which provides comprehensive outpatient medical and radiation oncology care and imaging at multiple sites, including several underserved rural areas. She also founded the New Mexico Cancer Center Foundation, which provides grants to patients to help with their nonmedical expenses and to health care professionals and patients for continuing education. Dr. McAneny graduated magna cum laude from the University of Minnesota in 1973, and with honors from the University of Iowa College of Medicine in 1977. She completed her residency in internal medicine at the University of Iowa in 1980 and her fellowship in hematology/oncology at the University of New Mexico in 2003.

### **Donna Hubbard McCree, PhD, MPH, RPh**

Dr. Donna Hubbard McCree is currently on detail as the Acting Chief, Research and Evaluation Branch, Division of Violence Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. Her permanent role is Associate Director for Health Equity, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP), National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP), CDC in Atlanta, Georgia. Prior to accepting this position, she was Team Leader/Behavioral Scientist, Intervention Research Team, Prevention Research Branch, DHAP, NCHHSTP, where she led a 22-member multidisciplinary group of scientists including postdoctoral fellows and Commissioned Corp Officers charged with using the epidemiological and surveillance data to develop, conduct, and evaluate the efficacy of new and previously untested behavioral interventions for populations most at risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV. Dr. McCree has thirty-two years of experience in Public Health and Pharmacy. She completed the Doctor of Philosophy, *Delta Omega* (1997), and Master of Public Health (1987) degrees at The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland in Health Policy and Management with a specialty in Social and Behavioral Sciences. She also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Preventive Medicine with a specialty in sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevention at Emory University Rollins School of Public Health. Additionally, she holds a Bachelor of Science degree, *summa cum laude*, in Pharmacy from Howard University (1982) and is a registered pharmacist in the states of Maryland and Connecticut, and the District of Columbia. Her work has resulted in over 90 peer-reviewed publications and presentations at both international and national scientific meetings and she is the recipient of numerous awards.

### **Stephanie J. Monroe, JD**

Stephanie J. Monroe is Director of UsAgainstAlzheimer's **AfricanAmericanNetworkAgainst Alzheimer's** and President of the Wrenwood Group, a boutique Washington, D.C. government relations consulting firm. Stephanie has decades of Legislative and Executive branch experience, most recently as Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education. She

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began her service in the Executive Branch after a distinguished 25-year career on Capitol Hill. Regarded as a veteran political strategist, Ms. Monroe served as Chief Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions and for more than a decade, served as Chief Counsel and Staff Director for the Senate Subcommittee on Child and Families. She has been a guest lecturer on public policy, an adjunct lecturer at the University of Maryland's Graduate School of Public Policy, and a contributor on numerous articles addressing a variety of health and education issues.

### **Lydia Pan, PhD**

Dr. Lydia Pan is a Life Sciences consultant. She recently retired from Pfizer, where she had served as a Director of policy and public affairs for nearly seven years, providing science policy support for a range of issue areas including rare diseases, personalized medicine, diversity in clinical trials, global health issues and the R&D ecosystem of the future. As a biomedical research scientist, Dr. Pan spent over fourteen years leading a laboratory for osteoporosis and musculoskeletal disease therapeutic research within Pfizer Global R&D, supporting drug discovery programs that produced several clinical candidates and as well as development support for relevant candidates. Before joining Pfizer, Dr. Pan was a Staff Scientist at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York where she conducted research in skeletal biology and established a Molecular Biology Core Laboratory. She carried out postdoctoral research at Stanford University after earning a PhD in Biology from the University of California, San Diego and a Bachelor's degree from Yale University. Dr. Pan has co-authored more than 30 scientific publications and is listed as a co-inventor on several patents.

### **Louanner Peters**

Ms. Louanner Peters serves as the Executive Director of EntireCare Coordination a division of The HealthCare Consortium of Illinois (HCI). Ms. Peters is a well-known public policy expert in state government and national political circles who brings a wealth of leadership to HCI. Ms. Peters holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Louisiana State University and a Master's degree in Social Work from Jane Addams College of Social Work at University of Illinois at Chicago. Early in her career, Ms. Peters was the Executive Director of Flannery Senior Healthcare Center in Chicago IL. She has also served as deputy governor in the Office of the Governor where she provided oversight and supervision for the Illinois' Health and Social Services, Public Safety, Natural Resources, Historic Preservation and Capitol Development agencies in the areas of policy and program consistency and fiscal management. Additionally, Ms. Peters directed district offices for two members of Congress, both from the proposed geographic area, with over ten years on Capitol Hill. She also worked at the national office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on their Voter Empowerment Project. For over three decades, Ms. Peters has built an impressive resume of activism, public policy, political advocacy and fiscal management.

### **Gary A. Puckrein, PhD**

Dr. Gary A. Puckrein is President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Minority Quality Forum. The Forum is dedicated to improving the quality of health care 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 drug use, clinical laboratory values, health-care access points, and other data. The Forum employs these data resources to build web-based indexes and atlases that enable users to measure and forecast health status and disease prevalence in small geographic areas, evaluate the impact of specific interventions, and monitor changes in health outcomes. The Forum has also recently launched the Clinical Trial Engagement Network, the healthcare industry resource addressing a critical need in drug research – improving the representation of diverse populations, including African

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Americans, Asian Americans and Hispanics, in clinical trials. Dr. Puckrein is considered a preeminent authority on health information products and was the publisher of *American Visions* and *Minority Health Today*. Dr. Puckrein has served on numerous health-care advisory boards, including the National Advisory Board on Health Disparities for the Health Research and Educational Trust (American Hospital Association), the CLAS/Health Disparities Expert Panel (National Committee for Quality Assurance), and the Pharmacy Education Advisory Council (American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy). Between 1974 and 1992, Dr. Puckrein taught and lectured at Brown University, Rutgers University, Connecticut College, and Roger Williams College. Dr. Puckrein has received many awards and honors, including being named a visiting scholar and fellow at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and a visiting fellow at Princeton University. He was awarded doctoral and master's degrees in history from Brown University, and a bachelor's degree from California State University at Los Angeles.

### **Diana E. Ramos, MD, MPH, FACOG**

Dr. Diana E. Ramos is the Director for Reproductive Health, Los Angeles County Public Health Department, a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist and adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor at the Keck University of Southern California School of Medicine. Among Dr. Ramos' areas of expertise are health disparities, preconception/interconception health, contraception, and quality improvement. In Los Angeles County she has led several initiatives to improve the health of women including decreasing maternal morbidity and mortality by focusing on postpartum hemorrhage, cesarean section reduction, reducing cervical cancer and more recently maternal overweight/obesity. Dr. Ramos has written and contributed to numerous articles in obstetrics and gynecology and public health literature and has lectured locally, nationally, and internationally on a wide array of topics including preventive health and women's health. She has also contributed to the development of a fotonovela focusing on reducing cervical cancer and Public Service Announcements in Spanish to increase awareness of cervical cancer and what women can do to reduce their risks of acquiring cervical cancer. Recent awards Dr. Ramos has received include 2014 and 2013 Innovation in Public Health, Los Angeles County Award and 2013 Beverlee Myers California Public Health Leadership Award. Dr. Ramos received her BA in Communications, Arts & Science from the University of Southern California. She received her medical degree from the University of Southern California. She completed her residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center.

### **Elena V. Rios, MD, MSPH**

Dr. Rios is President and CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), representing 45,000 Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of the organization is to improve the health of Hispanics. Dr. Rios serves as President of NHMA's National Hispanic Health Foundation affiliated with the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, to direct educational and research activities. Dr. Rios also serves on the Campaign Against Obesity, Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield, Commission to End Health Disparities, Nurse Family Partnership, and the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda Boards of Directors, the Wellpoint Multicultural Task Force, Eunice Kennedy Schriver National Institute of Child Health and Development/NIH Diversity Task Force, and the National Quality Forum's National Priorities Partnerships Steering Committee. Dr. Rios has lectured and published articles and has received several leadership awards, including awards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Congressional Black, Hispanic, Asian and Native American Caucuses, American Public Health Association Latino Caucus, Association of Hispanic Health Executives, Minority Health Month, Inc., Hispanic Magazine, Verizon's First Pollin Community Service Award, and Amerigroup. Dr. Rios was appointed to the Minority Alumni Hall of Fame of Stanford University in October, 2006 and as a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine in

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2007. Dr. Rios earned her BA in Human Biology/Public Administration at Stanford University in 1977, MSPH at the UCLA School of Public Health in 1980, MD at the UCLA School of Medicine in 1987, and completed her Internal Medicine residency at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose and the White Memorial Medical Center in East Los Angeles in 1990, and her NRSA Primary Care Research Fellowship at UCLA Division of General Internal Medicine in 1992.

### **John Ruffin, PhD**

Dr. John Ruffin recently retired as the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In this role, he oversaw the NIMHD budget of approximately \$276 million. In addition, he provided leadership for the minority health and health disparities research activities of NIH which constitutes an annual budget of approximately \$2.8 billion. Dr. Ruffin is a well-respected leader and visionary in the field of minority health and health disparities. As an academician and a scientist, he has devoted his professional career to improving the health status of racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations. He has an impressive track record of developing and supporting programs to increase the cadre of minority scientists, physicians, and other health professionals, as well as attract a diverse group of researchers to the health disparities field. His success has been due, in large part, to his ability to motivate others, and his expertise in strategic planning, administration, and the development of numerous collaborative partnerships at various levels with public and private partners. The hallmark of his career has been his success in leading the transformation of the NIH minority health and health disparities research agenda from a programmatic concept to an institutional reality. Today, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) is leading the way in facilitating cross-agency collaboration among federal government agencies and private partnerships to integrate science, policy, practice and community efforts toward eliminating health disparities. As the NIH federal official for minority health disparities research, Dr. Ruffin has planned and brought to fruition the largest biomedical research program in the nation aimed at efforts to eliminate health disparities. Dr. Ruffin is a recipient of the Cura Personalis Award from Georgetown University Medical Center. He has also received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award for National Service, the Department of Health and Human Services' Special Recognition Award, and the U.S. Presidential Merit Award. Dr. Ruffin received a B.S. in Biology from Dillard University, a M.S. in Biology from Atlanta University, a Ph.D. in Systematic and Developmental Biology from Kansas State University, and completed post-doctoral studies in biology at Harvard University.

### **Coltrane Stansbury**

Coltrane Stansbury currently serves as Senior Diversity Analyst in Johnson & Johnson's Office of Diversity & Inclusion. In that role, he manages a portfolio of projects that support the company's global diversity strategy, including the Gateway to a Healthy Community initiative. He has spent the last fifteen years working in the field of community and economic development, helping to empower families, residents and businesses in some of the most distressed communities nationally. That work has included serving as a Senior Policy Advisor to then Mayor Cory Booker in the City of Newark, NJ and as a Presidential Management Fellow in the federal government. Coltrane has a BA from Hampton University as well as a Master of Public Policy from Rutgers University.

### **Robert A. Vigersky, MD**

Dr. Robert A. Vigersky is Professor of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland and an Active Duty Colonel in the United States Army Medical Corps. He is the Director of the Diabetes Institute at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Dr. Vigersky is a graduate of the 6-year Program in Liberal Arts and Medicine of

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Boston University where he was Valedictorian. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital and his Endocrine Fellowship at the National Institutes of Health. He spent 15 years in private practice serving as the Medical Director of the Diabetes Treatment Center at Georgetown University Hospital and the Washington Hospital Center. He was Washingtonian Magazine's "Top Doctor" in the Washington, DC area five times. Dr. Vigersky established the Diabetes Institute of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in 2000. He is currently on the Advisory Council of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Disease. He established The Endocrine Society's Clinical Practice Guideline program, which has now published 25 evidence-based guidelines in endocrinology. He has received numerous awards including the Legion of Merit for his contributions to Army medicine, the Distinguished Service Award from The Endocrine Society, and the Leadership Award of the Diabetes Technology Society. Dr. Vigersky was President of The Endocrine Society from 2009-2010. He has over 125 publications in endocrinology and diabetes.