

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
Information Forum: Adolescent Health Care in Connecticut
June 21, 2011
Panel Biographies

NON STATE AGENCY

SHERYL RYAN, M.D.

Dr. Sheryl Ryan is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics, and the Chief of the Section of Adolescent Medicine, Department of Pediatrics at the Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, CT. Prior to her arrival in New Haven in 2005, she was an Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Director of Training in the Division of Adolescent Medicine and the Director of Adolescent Services at University of Rochester School of Medicine in Rochester, NY.

Dr. Ryan received her BS at Boston College in 1976 and here MD at Yale University School of Medicine in 1982. She completed her residency at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and completed her training in Behavioral and Ambulatory Pediatrics at Cooper Hospital in Camden, New Jersey.

Currently, she serves as Director, Health & Wellness Center, New Haven Job Corps. In New Haven, CT and the Medical Director at Hillhouse, Career & Hamden High Schools in the School Based Health Centers.

Dr. Ryan is certified with the American Board of Pediatrics and is a member of the CT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

ARIC SCHICHOR, M.D.

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Director: Division of Adolescent Medicine
University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics
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EDUCATION:

1971-1975 School of Medicine
 University of California at Davis
 M.D.

1969-1971 Brain Research Institute
University of California at Los Angeles
Graduate Student, Neurosciences

1965-1969 Brandeis University
Waltham, Massachusetts
B.A., Chemistry

TRAINING:

1977-1978 Chief Resident, Pediatrics
Residency Program in Social Medicine
Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center
Bronx, New York

1975-1977 First and Second Year Resident in Pediatrics
Residency Program in Social Medicine
Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center
Bronx, New York

MARY ALICE LEE, Ph.D.

Mary Alice Lee is a Senior Policy Fellow with Connecticut Voices for Children, a non-profit public education and advocacy organization that conducts research and public policy analysis to promote the well-being of Connecticut's children, youth, and families. Dr. Lee directs the study of enrollment trends and children's health services in Connecticut's HUSKY Program (Medicaid managed care and SCHIP). This work builds upon the performance monitoring Dr. Lee directed when she was the Assistant Director of the Children's Health Council, an independent oversight council established by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1995 to monitor the impact of Medicaid managed care on children's health care and to ensure access to health care services for all children in Connecticut.

Dr. Lee is a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Nursing and is certified as a nurse-midwife by the American College of Nurse-Midwives. In 1995, Dr. Lee received a doctoral degree in epidemiology from Yale University, with a focus on maternal and child health policy. Dr. Lee is also a member of the faculty of the Yale University School of Medicine Department of Epidemiology and Public Health.

DEBORAH POERIO, APRN, MS, FNP-C, President/CEO

Ms. Poerio worked in private and public health pediatric practices until she was hired in 1993 by Manchester Memorial Hospital (MMH) to administer its first School Based Health Center (SBHC) in East Hartford Middle School. Following the transition of the SBHC from MMH to Integrated Health Services (IHS), Ms. Poerio has proven her ability to create, operate, expand, and sustain new health care facilities, citing 7 SBHC sites currently located in East Hartford.

Ms. Poerio is committed to maximizing the future potential for IHS, and has developed relationships and collaborations within the community that serve to sustain and enhance the program's mission.

A strong proponent of community collaborations, Ms. Poerio has served as the President of Connecticut Association of School Based Health Centers (CASBHC) and the President of East Hartford's ChildPlan and serves as a Board member for East Hartford's School Readiness Council.

Currently, Ms. Poerio serves as the Vice President for CASBHC as well as their Government Affairs Liaison; Co-Chairs the Medicaid Managed Care Council's Quality Assurance Subcommittee; is on the Medicaid Managed Care Council as well as the Patient Centered Medical Home Model Committee.

Integrated Health Services, Inc. and the Connecticut Association of School Based Health Centers were able to champion precedent-setting state legislation that now allows reimbursement from private insurers of covered health care services received in SBHCs statewide, and has the distinction of being the first state in the country to have such legislation.

JAY E. SICKLICK, J.D.

Deputy Director, Center for Children's Advocacy, Inc.
Director, Medical-Legal Partnership Project
Hartford, Connecticut

Jay Sicklick began as a staff attorney at the Center for Children's Advocacy and the Medical-Legal Partnership Project director in April 2000. Prior to this appointment, he served on the faculty of the University of Connecticut School of Law, where he held the position of Assistant Clinical Professor of Law, teaching lawyering skills, and social welfare law. Mr. Sicklick also served as a senior staff attorney at the Legal Aid Society's Bronx Neighborhood Office for six years, as well as a private practitioner in Boston. He currently holds the positions of Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Connecticut School of Law, where he teaches courses in legal ethics and professional responsibility, Clinical Instructor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

Mr. Sicklick is a graduate of Colgate University and Boston College Law School.

STATE AGENCIES

RICKA WOLMAN, M.D. (Department of Children and Families)

Dr. Wolman is currently Director of Pediatrics at DCF. Prior to joining DCF she was Associate Medical Director at the March of Dimes where she was involved in Participatory Research exploring issues of Genomics and Minority Populations. She also served as Medical Director of Maternal and Child Health for the State of Maine where in addition to her responsibilities for the Federal Title V grant and CSHCN programs she was involved in the development of prevention and screening strategies addressing a wide array of programs. These included, to name a few; asthma detection, teen pregnancy prevention, obesity surveillance and prevention, child morbidity and mortality review, and injury prevention. Dr. Wolman is a board certified pediatrician who completed both a fellowship in General Pediatrics and her masters of public health at Johns Hopkins University. At DCF she is working to ensure that children and families served by the Department have access to quality, comprehensive health services. This includes access to providers familiar with the unique needs of this very vulnerable population and a monitoring system which ensures that children receive care consistent with EPSDT and Bright Futures guidance. Activities include a community-based stakeholder driven pilot project focused on the development of a Regional Medical Home for children and families in DCF's care.

CHERYL RESHA, Ed.D., R.N. (Department of Education)

Dr. Cheryl Resha is Education Manager for the Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education at the Connecticut State Department of Education. Cheryl provides oversight to all of the programs related to:

- Child and school nutrition and feeding programs, such as the National School Lunch Program; the Summer Food Programs and Child Care Food Programs;
- School Health/ School Nursing Programs;
- Health and Physical Education Programs;
- Mental Health Programs;
- Before and After School Programs;
- Family Involvement and Engagement Activities;
- Coordinated School Health and Wellness Programs; and
- Adult Education.

Prior to this role, Cheryl served for almost 10 years as the state school nurse consultant at the Connecticut State Department of Education. In this role, Cheryl advocated for school health programs; promoted best practices and public policy in school health; and worked closely with other state and community agencies for the advancement of children and youth's health and well-being. Cheryl is also active nationally, working with the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) to revise the *2005 School Nursing: Scope and Standards* and has served as the NASN representative on the American Nurses Association's *Congress of Nursing Practice and Economics*.

Prior to working in state government, Cheryl worked in a variety of pediatric settings include schools, and public health and in-patient settings. Cheryl received her bachelors and masters degrees in nursing and her doctorate degree in Educational Leadership.

ROSA M. BIAGGI, M.P.H., M.P.A. (Department of Public Health)

- May 2009 Present **Health Services Section Chief, Family Health Section
State Maternal and Child Health Title V Director**
State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, Hartford, CT
- Responsible for the Division's strategic planning; contract development and budgeting; program development, implementation, and evaluation; internal and external reporting; staff supervision; and coordination and collaboration with other units within the Department, other governmental agencies, and non-governmental organizations.
 - Responsible for ensuring fiscal and programmatic accountability of the following units within the Family Health Section 1) School Adolescent Health Unit; 2) Primary Care Prevention; 3) Epidemiology; 4) Child & Youth Special Health Care Needs; 5) Early Childhood Partners; and 6) Immunizations Program.
 - Supervise staff responsible for needs assessments, literature reviews, and community assessments that lead to the adoption of potentially successful program models for dissemination to contractors for the development of new program models and curricula.
 - Responsible for a large number of routine and Ad-hoc reports on program budgets, finances, and accomplishments to internal departmental requests, other state agencies, the Legislature, or the Federal government.
 - Approve the development and use of social marketing materials and campaigns designed at the contractors' level that promote prevention and care services.
- June 2005 May 2009 **Director of Health Services Division (Chief, AIDS and Chronic Diseases Sec.)**
State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, Hartford, CT
- October 2001 June 2005 **Public Health Services Manager (Director, AIDS and Chronic Diseases Div.)**
State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, Hartford, CT
- June 1997 October 2001 **Program Coordinator**
Hispanos Unidos, Inc., New Haven, CT
- June 1993 May 1997 **Health Educator**
Hispanos Unidos Contra el SIDA/AIDS, Inc., New Haven, CT
- Education: Master of Public Administration, 2001**
Major: Health Care Management
University of New Haven, West Haven, CT 06516

Master of Public Health, 1997

Major: Health Education and Promotion

Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT 06519

Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education, 1986

University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, P.R. 00936

ROBERT W. ZAVOSKI, M.D., M.P.H. (Department of Social Services)

Dr. Zavoski is the Medical Director of the Connecticut Department of Social Services, home of many health care programs including Connecticut's Medicaid Program. Among many projects, he is working to provide practice alternatives to managed care and improve the Department's collaboration with Medicaid providers.

Before joining DSS, Dr. Zavoski served as Medical Director of a community health center serving Connecticut's poorest community where he was an author of a federal grant to improve healthcare access for Hartford's uninsured. Previously, Dr. Zavoski directed the Primary Care Center at Connecticut Children's Medical Center and before moving to Connecticut was in private practice in Washington, PA.

From 1993 through 2007, Dr. Zavoski served the Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics in several capacities, including Chapter President from 2003 – 2007 and as Government Liaison Committee Chair. In advocating for children and pediatricians, Dr. Zavoski helped lead the Academy's successful advocacy of Connecticut's stricter teen-aged driving laws, improved Medicaid rates, a ban on public smoking, and the Keep Kids Safe license plate program.

Dr. Zavoski is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, New York Medical College, Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, and completed a pediatric residency and chief residency at the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters. He lives on a small farm in West Simsbury, CT with his wife Martha Steeves, a pharmacist and author, and their daughter, Kate.