

SPEAKER BIOS

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Children's Health Coverage: What You Need To Know

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JOAN ALKER is the executive director at the Center for Children and Families and research associate professor at Georgetown University. Her work focuses on health coverage for low-income children and families, with an emphasis on Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Two of her most recent reports examine premium assistance options in Medicaid and CHIP and the nation's progress covering children. She has authored numerous reports and studies on a range of issues including Medicaid waivers, child and family coverage, premium assistance and is the principal investigator of a multi-year study on Florida's Medicaid program. A frequent speaker and commentator, Ms. Alker has over twenty years of experience working on issues affecting low-income families. She holds a master of philosophy in politics from St. Antony's College, Oxford University and a B.A with honors in political science from Bryn Mawr College.

CATHY CALDWELL is currently the director of the Bureau of Children's Health Insurance (Alabama's CHIP) with the Alabama Department of Public Health. She has over fifteen years of state government service with the Bureau of Children's Health Insurance, directing the statewide program known as ALL Kids, providing healthcare coverage to over 85,000 children. She has served or is currently serving on numerous national committees related to children's health insurance coverage as well as healthcare reform implementation, including the Agency for Health Research and Quality National Advisory Committee Subcommittee on Children's Healthcare Quality Measures, the National Collaborative for Innovation in Quality Measurement Advisory Panel (NCINQ MAP) and the Medicaid and CHIP Data Analytics Learning Collaborative. Ms. Caldwell received a Masters of Public Health, Maternal and Child Health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2000 and a B.S. in psychology from Auburn University at Montgomery in 1998.

ROBIN RUDOWITZ is an associate director for the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, a major initiative of the Kaiser Family Foundation. The Commission functions as a policy institute and forum for analyzing health care coverage and access for the low-income population and assessing options for reform. Ms. Rudowitz, who has been with the Commission since August 2004, identifies policy opportunities for the Commission, develops and oversees some of the Commission's research, and develops and writes Commission publications. Her work focuses on Medicaid financing issues. Prior to coming to the Commission, Ms. Rudowitz was a senior manager at The Lewin Group, a health policy and management consulting firm, where she worked on a wide variety of health policy and delivery issues related to safety-net providers, Medicaid payments and the uninsured. Ms. Rudowitz has also spent time working on budget and health policy issues at the federal, state and local levels of government. From 1999 to 2001 she served as the medicaid director in the Office of Legislation at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Prior to that, she worked for the District of Columbia's Chief Financial Officer, overseeing funding for the District's Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and public health programs. She also worked at the Congressional Budget Office preparing estimates for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program through the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and before that for the Ways and Means Committee for the New

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York State Assembly. Ms. Rudowitz was educated at Cornell University where she earned her undergraduate degree and a master's in public administration.

ROB STEWART is a principal analyst at the Congressional Budget Office. Since 2007, he has worked on both the baseline forecast and the cost of legislation related to Medicaid and CHIP. Among his responsibilities has been estimating the cost of legislation to reauthorize CHIP in 2009 and estimating the cost to Medicaid and CHIP of the Affordable Care Act. From 2003 to 2007 he was the director of the Low Income Populations Division in the HHS Office of Health Policy, where he worked on a variety of issues related to public programs and private insurance. From 1995 to 2003, he was an analyst in the Office of Health Policy, where he worked on issues related to Medicaid and CHIP, including section 1115 waivers, CHIP implementation, and Medicaid data issues.