**Speaker Biographies**

Navigating the Health Insurance Landscape: 
What’s Next for Navigators, In-Person Assisters and Brokers?  
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Karen Pollitz, is a senior fellow at the Kaiser Family Foundation. Previously she served as Director of the Office of Consumer Support, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS). There, she directed the launch of initiatives including a network of state consumer assistance programs and the web site, www.healthcare.gov. From 1997 to 2010, she was a research professor at the Health Policy Institute at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. From 1993-1997, she served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Legislation at US DHHS. Before that, she worked as a health policy advisor to members of Congress, including Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D-WV), and Rep. Sander Levin (D-MI). She holds an M.P.P. from the University of California at Berkeley, and a B.A. with honors from Oberlin College.

Jodi Ray, is the project director and principal investigator for Florida Covering Kids and Families at the University of South Florida’s Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center for Healthy Mothers and Babies. The Chiles Center conducts regional, national and international service, research and educational programs to promote maternal and child health of underserved populations. Ms. Ray has been the recipient of three federal grants focused on enrolling children into health coverage. More recently Ms. Ray has received an award from The Department of Health and Human Services to provide Navigators across Florida to enroll consumers into the Federal Health Insurance Marketplace. Ms. Ray was the recipient of several awards for her work including a National Education in Children’s Health Outreach and Enrollment (ECHOE) Honor from HHS and Healthy Hero Award from the Amerigroup Foundation for education and communication coordination with the community partners during the Florida KidCare open enrollment period. Ms. Ray staff’s the Florida Covering Kids and Families State Coalition and is a member of the KidCare Coordinating Council and is currently working with the federal and state agency partners to increase enrollment and retention in Florida. Ms. Ray holds a Master’s Degree in Mass Communication from the University of South Florida and B.A. from Florida State University in Creative Writing.

Lisa Stein, vice president of Work and Family Supports, manages outreach and enrollment programs for multiple public-benefits programs such as SNAP (food stamps), health insurance and other income supports. She also oversees Seedco’s innovative EarnBenefits technology tool which streamlines eligibility determination and enrollment in multiple benefits programs and combines it with case management support through Seedco’s community-partner network. She manages key relationships with government agencies, foundations, and other strategic partners. She guides the expansion of Seedco’s national partner network and leads the effort to secure new benefits-access and work and family supports contracts. Ms. Stein has been responsible for implementing and managing Seedco’s grants to provide Navigator services in Georgia, the
Eastern Shore of Maryland and New York City. Prior to joining Seedco in April 2013, she held senior management positions at both community-based and national intermediary organizations. She received her MBA degree from Boston University with a Management Certificate in Non-Profit and Public Administration.

**Jennifer Tolbert**, is director of State Health Reform at the Kaiser Family Foundation where she heads an initiative to monitor state implementation of the Affordable Care Act with a particular focus on state efforts to establish health insurance marketplaces. Ms. Tolbert also directs research and policy analysis on issues of affordability of coverage for low-income populations and areas of intersection between Medicaid and the health insurance marketplaces, such as eligibility and enrollment and consumer assistance. In addition, Ms. Tolbert manages State Health Facts, a source for state-level data on over 600 key health topics. Prior to joining the Foundation, Ms. Tolbert served as the assistant vice president for policy at the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems and before that she worked in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the Department of Health and Human Services where she advised the Assistant Secretary on Medicaid and CHIP policy issues. Ms. Tolbert holds Masters’ degrees in Public Health and Social Work from the University of Michigan, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia.

**Jessica Waltman** is senior vice president of government affairs for the National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU). NAHU represents more than 100,000 health insurance agents, brokers and consultants nationwide. Jessica joined the staff of NAHU in 1999, and has led the association’s government affairs team since 2008. In her current position, Jessica coordinates NAHU’s legislative and regulatory efforts to advance the interests of professional health insurance producers before Congress and the Executive branch, state legislatures, state insurance departments, other regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations. Jessica also directs the administration of the Health Underwriters Political Action Committee (HUPAC) and NAHU’s annual Capitol Conference, a four-day meeting in Washington, DC comprised of educational sessions, political speakers and grassroots lobbying for NAHU members. Jessica is frequently asked to give presentations to NAHU chapters and other organizations about health reform and she serves as one of NAHU’s principal contacts with the media. She serves the insurance industry generally as an active member of the board of directors of the National Insurance Producers Registry. Jessica graduated *magna cum laude* from Drew University in 1996 with a B.A. degree in political science and non-fiction writing.