

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

“Helping 125 Million Americans: Improving Care for Chronic Conditions”

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DAVID CUTLER has an impressive record of achievement in both academia and the public sector. He is currently the Otto Eckstein professor of applied economics in Harvard’s Department of Economics and Kennedy School of Government, and associate dean of the faculty of arts and sciences for social sciences. He served as assistant professor of economics at Harvard from 1991 to 1995, was named John L. Loeb associate professor of social sciences in 1995, and received tenure in 1997. Professor Cutler served on the Council of Economic Advisers and the National Economic Council during the Clinton Administration and has advised the presidential campaigns of Barack Obama, John Kerry and Bill Bradley. Among other affiliations, Professor Cutler has held positions with the National Institutes of Health and the National Academy of Sciences. Currently, he is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research and a member of the Institute of Medicine. He is author of *Your Money Or Your Life: Strong Medicine for America’s Health Care System*, published by Oxford University Press. Professor Cutler earned a Ph.D. in economics from M.I.T. and an A.B. from Harvard College.

ROBERT GRECZYN is president and chief executive officer of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC), the state’s largest health insurer. Mr. Greczyn joined the company in 1998, bringing 20 years of leadership experience in health care and a solid understanding of the North Carolina health care market. He was named president in 1999 and became CEO in April 2000. Greczyn serves on the board of trustees for BCBSNC and the board of the national Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. He is chairman of the board of directors for The Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH), an alliance of the nation’s leading health plans working on simplifying health care transactions. Also, Mr. Greczyn is campaign chair of Be Active North Carolina, a grassroots physical fitness campaign designed to help North Carolinians live healthy and active lifestyles. He also chairs the Research Triangle Regional Partnership, the UNC School of Public Health’s “Carolina First” Campaign Committee, and has been named to the board of directors and executive committee for North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry (NCCBI). Greczyn earned a M.P.H. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a B.A. in psychology from East Carolina University. He also completed the executive program in health care finance management at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

KENNETH THORPE is executive director of the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease Advisory Board. He is the Robert W. Woodruff professor and chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management in the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. Previously, he was Vanselow professor of health policy and director of the Institute for Health Services Research. Prior to joining the faculty at Emory, Dr. Thorpe was professor of health policy and administration at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, associate professor and director of the Program on Health Care Financing and Insurance at the Harvard University School of Public Health and assistant professor of public policy and public health at Columbia University. He also served as deputy assistant secretary for health policy in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services during the Clinton administration. In this capacity, he coordinated all financial estimates and program impacts of President Clinton’s health care reform proposals for the White House. He also directed the administration’s estimation efforts in dealing with Congressional health care reform proposals during the 103rd and 104th sessions of Congress. As an academic, he has testified before several committees in the U.S. Senate and House on health care reform and insurance issues. Professor Thorpe received his Ph.D. from the Rand Graduate School, a M.A. from Duke University and his B.A. from the University of Michigan.