

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Health Care Behind Bars: A Key to Population Health?

August 1, 2014

JACQUELINE CRAIG-BEY is a supervisor at a domestic violence safe house, and assists Roach Brown, the host of the radio show “Crossroads,” in finding guests for the show. She also advocates for inmates and former inmates, victims of domestic violence and the children of domestic violence victims. Recently, Ms. Craig-Bey assisted Roach Brown with obtaining health care coverage for the youngest victim of domestic violence in the District of Columbia. She worked at the University of District of Columbia (UDC) School of Law for seven years as the school’s first paralegal. Ms. Craig-Bey managed seven clinical programs and assisted professors, deans and students with curriculum, case law and research and writing. She has spent over 20 years of her life in prison, but after her last stint in prison, she “decided to change her life around and be the mother, niece, aunt, wife and friend that she was capable of being all along.” Ms. Craig-Bey is graduate of Antioch School of Law’s paralegal program. She continued her education at Marist College, where she received a bachelor’s degree in business administration.

SHARON LEWIS is the statewide medical director for the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC). As the senior clinician, she is responsible for ensuring constitutional level- and cost-efficient inmate physical health care, as well as administrative oversight for clinical programs, including utilization and quality management, medical reprieves, and clinical policy. With over 20 years’ experience in the health care and managed care industry, Dr. Lewis has expertise in regulatory compliance, utilization, quality, and risk management. She served as the regional medical director for Prudential and Aetna, overseeing administration of health care benefits for up to 1.2 million enrollees. From these experiences, she developed the first “Summary of Healthcare Benefits” for the GDC, which provides a framework for ‘Constitutional Healthcare’, and has been recognized as a model for other state correctional departments. Dr. Lewis received her bachelor’s degree from Howard University, a medical degree from Meharry Medical College, and post-graduate training at the University of Texas. Dr. Lewis is board certified in pediatrics and is a fellow in the American Academy of Pediatrics, a diplomat of the American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review, a member of the American College of Physician Executives, certified in health care quality and management.

STEVE ROSENBERG is the president of Community Oriented Correctional Health Services (COCHS). Mr. Rosenberg has more than 40 years of experience providing technical assistance and directing projects that increase access to health care for the most vulnerable populations in the nation. He founded COCHS in 2006 to develop a public health approach to serving the population of people who cycle through jails, and to connect them to community-based health care. Mr. Rosenberg is a specialist in health care policy and finance with expertise in Medicaid and correctional health.

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DEBRA ROWE is executive director of Returning Citizens United, Inc., (RCU). In this capacity she performs daily advocacy and support services on behalf of pre- and post-incarcerated residents of the District of Columbia. Ms. Rowe has over 20 years of experience in the development, administration and implementation of programs for reentry populations. She came to RCU in 2008; she has a longstanding connection with the community served by the organization, beginning at the time of her own incarceration from 1988 until 1991. Her interactions with the population during that time exposed her to the wide range of health and social ills that impacted the pre and post incarcerated population, and that sparked in her a need to advocate for this population, and ensure the receipt of available care and resources. Soon after her incarceration, she met the late Gertrude T. Hunter, a retired physician and national reentry pioneer, and Dr. Hunter became her mentor and helped her to prepare her for better opportunities. Ms. Rowe holds a master of human services degree, and is a nationally certified correctional health care professional.

ASHER TURNEY is the state medical director for Centurion of Tennessee, which is a joint venture between Centene Corporation and MHM Services. He has over 10 years' experience in community-based and correctional health care, and public health. Prior to joining Centurion, Dr. Turney served as the CEO of a non-profit, community-based health center in rural Alabama. His operational interests are in health inequalities, health policy, the use of technology in health systems, and the health of vulnerable worker populations. Dr. Turney began his medical career at Meharry Medical College, then completed an internship and participated in Harvard's neurosurgery program at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Later, he completed a preventive medicine residency with a subspecialty in occupational medicine at Meharry Medical College. He is board certified in urgent care medicine by the American Academy of Urgent Care Medicine and in occupational medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine. Dr. Turney also earned an MBA from Emory's Goizueta Business School and an MS in public health from Meharry's School of Graduate Studies. Also, he is a graduate of the certificate program from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy.