

## Speaker Biographies

### “Community Coalitions: Pursuing Better Quality Health Care One Locality at a Time”

April 15, 2011

**JAMES CHASE** is president of Minnesota Community Measurement, a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the health of the community by publicly reporting information on health care quality. Mr. Chase has more than 20 years of experience in health care management. He has been a faculty member since 1989 with the ISP Health Administration program at the University of Minnesota. He is the board chair of the Network of Regional Healthcare Improvement, a group of leading regional health initiatives working to improve the quality and value of health in their communities. He also serves as the board chair of Apple Tree Dental, a special needs dental provider based in Minnesota and is a board member of the Institute of Clinical Systems Improvement.

**CAROLYN CLANCY, M.D.**, was appointed director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) on February 5, 2003, and reappointed on October 9, 2009. Her major research interests include improving health care quality and patient safety and reducing disparities in care associated with patients' race, ethnicity, gender, income, and education. As director of AHRQ, she launched the first annual report to Congress on health care disparities and health care quality. Prior to her appointment, Dr. Clancy was director of AHRQ's Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research. She is a general internist as well as a health services researcher. Following clinical training in internal medicine, Dr. Clancy was a Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. Before joining AHRQ in 1990, she was also an assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at the Medical College of Virginia. Dr. Clancy holds an academic appointment at the George Washington University School of Medicine (clinical associate professor, Department of Medicine) and serves as senior associate editor for the journal *Health Services Research*. She serves on multiple editorial boards, including *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Annals of Family Medicine*, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, and *Medical Care Research and Review*. Dr. Clancy is a member of the Institute of Medicine and was elected a Master of the American College of Physicians in 2004. In 2009, she was awarded the William B. Graham Prize for Health Services Research. She is a graduate of Boston College and the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

**ROBERT GRAHAM, M.D.**, is research professor of health policy at George Washington University and director of the Aligning Forces for Quality (AF4Q) National Program Office in Washington. His previous appointment was as professor of family & community medicine and public health sciences at the University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine. He also held the Robert and Myfanwy Smith Endowed Chair in the Department of Family & Community Medicine. Dr. Graham has previously been associated with the discipline of family medicine as the executive vice president/CEO of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the head of the Academy's Foundation, and the administrative officer of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. In addition to his activities in family medicine, he has held a number of leadership responsibilities in the federal health sector, including administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, during which time he held the rank of rear admiral in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, and served as an assistant surgeon general. He also served in senior positions at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Health Resources Administration, and the Health Services and Mental Health Administration. He also served as a professional staff member of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Health. Throughout his career, Dr. Graham has written and spoken extensively about a number of critical topics in health policy, such as health care reform and the need for universal coverage, federal health workforce policy, and the organizational characteristics of effective health systems. Dr.

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Graham's contributions and expertise in health policy have been recognized by his election to the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, and his selection as board chair of the bipartisan Alliance of Health Reform. His current areas of interest are leadership development, organizational change and universal coverage for health insurance.

**DAVID KENDRICK, M.D.**, is the principle investigator and CEO of the MyHealth Access Network of the Greater Tulsa area, a Beacon Community. MyHealth is focused on improving health in the greater Tulsa area by implementing a community-wide infrastructure for health care information technology. Dr. Kendrick is an associate professor of internal medicine and pediatrics and the Kaiser Chair of Community Medicine at the University of Oklahoma's School of Community Medicine (SCM). In addition, he serves the university's Health Sciences Center as the assistant provost for strategic planning and the chief of the Division of Community Medical Informatics. In these roles, Dr. Kendrick is focused on developing and implementing health care IT to support community health improvement. Prior to joining the SCM faculty, he was a medical director for Archimedes, Inc. Early in his medical training, Dr. Kendrick created a software system to facilitate patient care transitions between health care providers. This product became the launching pad for a medical software company that continues to provide telemedicine, electronic medical record, patient portal and distance education services to patients and providers worldwide. He is also currently principle investigator of the Doc2Doc Study, a cluster randomized controlled trial of the use of electronic systems to coordinate the care patients receive as they move through the healthcare system. Dr. Kendrick holds degrees in chemical engineering, medicine, and public health; he is a practitioner of internal medicine and pediatrics.

**ANNE WEISS** is a senior program officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, where she directs the foundation's Quality/Equality Health Care Team. Ms. Weiss joined the foundation in 1999, after a distinguished career in health care policy at both the federal and state level. She served as senior assistant commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, where she directed the state's oversight of the quality of care delivered by health care providers and health plans, and was also responsible for the state's hospital indigent care programs. During her tenure, the department worked with physicians and hospitals throughout the state to issue New Jersey's first report card on health care quality. Ms. Weiss also served as executive director of New Jersey's blue-ribbon health reform panel, the Essential Health Services Commission, where she directed implementation of a subsidized health benefits program for the working uninsured. Previously, she spent 10 years in Washington, D.C., as professional staff member of the Senate Committee on Finance and as a senior examiner with the Office of Management and Budget. She also has served as a program analyst in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, was a member of the steering committee of the National Academy for State Health Policy, and served on the board of the National Association of Health Data Organizations. Ms. Weiss received her M.P.P. from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and a B.A. in history and political science from Wellesley College.