

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Racial and Ethnic Disparities: States and Feds to the Rescue?

May 12, 2008

ANNE C. BEAL is assistant vice president for the Program on Quality of Care for Underserved Populations. The goal of the program is to improve the quality of health care delivered to low-income Americans and members of racial and ethnic minority groups and to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. The program builds on efforts to improve quality of care overall in the U.S., focusing on safety net institutions and other health care settings that serve large numbers of low-income and minority patients. Dr. Beal is dedicated to improving health care in the U.S., particularly for vulnerable patient groups such as children and minorities. Dr. Beal's research interests include social influences on preventive health behaviors for minorities, racial disparities in health care, and quality of care for child health. She serves on the advisory boards for many organizations, has been a reviewer for the Health Systems Research study section of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and was recently appointed as co-chair of the Healthcare Disparities Technical Advisory Panel for the National Quality Forum (NQF) Ambulatory Care Measures' Project. She is also chair of the Minority Health Council and member of the Public Health Council of NYS. Dr. Beal holds a B.A. from Brown University, an M.D. from Cornell University Medical College, and an M.P.H. from Columbia University.

CAYA LEWIS is the deputy staff director for health for the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee where she works on the public health portfolio including women's health and health disparities. Prior to working for the HELP Committee, Ms. Lewis was a senior policy analyst at the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation with the Race/Ethnicity and Health Care Program and the director of the Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program, which places minority college seniors in congressional offices to work on health policy issues. Earlier, she was a senior policy analyst at the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association and the director of the Health Division for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Ms. Lewis has served on numerous advisory committees, and was a Clinton and Bush administration appointee to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS from 2000-2003. She graduated with honors from Spelman College and from the University of Michigan School of Public Health with a master's of public health in health behavior and health education.

REBECCA SHIPP has served as a health policy advisor on the Republican staff of the Senate Finance Committee since 2003. Ms. Shipp's areas of responsibility include: the State Children's Health Insurance Program; disability policy, including the "Family Opportunity Act" and "Money Follows the Person;" and nursing home standards and quality, including "The Elder Justice Act." Additional areas of responsibility include: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and related programs, child welfare, foster care and adoption assistance programs. From 1994-2003, she worked with Sen. Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah), first as a research assistant, then as a legislative assistant, and most recently on the professional staff on the Senate Judiciary Committee's Health Unit. Prior to joining the staff of Senator Hatch, Ms. Shipp taught at the University of Iowa, Northeastern University and Boston College. She has a B.A. degree in English language and literature from the University of Virginia, an M.F.A. in creative writing from the Iowa Writer's Workshop and an M.A.T. from Boston University.

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BRUCE SIEGEL is a research professor in the Department of Health Policy at The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services. He is also on the faculty of the Department of Health Services Management and Leadership. As project director of two Robert Wood Johnson Foundation national programs, both housed at the Department of Health Policy's Center for Health Services Research and Policy, Professor Siegel is helping to guide innovation and to create replicable new initiatives such as *Expecting Success: Excellence in Cardiac Care*, developed to improve the quality of health care for minority Americans. In addition to his leadership on the Robert Wood Johnson initiatives, Dr. Siegel has been involved with The Commonwealth Fund, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the District of Columbia and others in research focused on the quality of health care, especially for underserved populations; health care disparities; the health care safety net; and issues related to hospital financing and patient flow. Prior to joining the George Washington faculty in 2002, Dr. Siegel was chief executive officer of Tampa General Healthcare. He has also served as president of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation and as the New Jersey commissioner of health. Dr. Siegel was a director of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and served as an advisor to the World Bank, where he helped Sierra Leone establish its first health plan. He holds an A.B. degree from Princeton University, an M.D. from Cornell University Medical College and an M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health.

BRIAN SMEDLEY is the research director and co-founder of The Opportunity Agenda, an organization that addresses barriers that keep people in the U.S. from achieving their full potential. He served most recently as a senior program officer in the Division of Health Sciences Policy of the Institute of Medicine (IOM), where he was study director for the IOM report, *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*. Previously, he served as study director for several other IOM reports: *Promoting Health: Intervention Strategies from Social and Behavioral Research*; *The Right Thing to Do*, *The Smart Thing to Do: Enhancing Diversity in the Health Professions*; and *The Unequal Burden of Cancer: An Assessment of NIH Research and Programs for Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved*. Dr. Smedley came to the IOM from the American Psychological Association (APA), where he worked on a wide range of social, health, and education policy topics in his capacity as director for public interest policy. Prior to working at the APA, he served as a congressional science fellow in the office of Rep. Robert C. Scott (D-VA), sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and as a postdoctoral research fellow in the Education Policy Division of the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, N.J. He was awarded the Congressional Black Caucus "Healthcare Hero" award in April 2002. He holds a Ph.D. in psychology from UCLA.