



NIHCM  
FOUNDATION

## *Filling in the Cracks:*

# *Public and Private Strategies to Extend Health Insurance to Children and Families*

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### PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

(In order of appearance on the program)

**NANCY CHOCKLEY, MBA** is the founding President and CEO of the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) and NIHCM Foundation, and has led the organizations since their inception in 1993, steering them through one of the most interesting decades of health care policy. She has spearheaded NIHCM Foundation's work in obesity, pharmaceuticals, prevention, children's health and the uninsured. Ms. Chockley is a national voice in the health care arena and has been featured on many broadcasts such as ABC World News Tonight, NBC News, BBC and CNN, and in numerous print outlets such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post*. Ms. Chockley received her M.B.A. in 1983 and her BA, with Distinction in Economics, in 1980 from the University of Virginia. Prior to founding NIHCM, Ms. Chockley was a principal in the Strategy Practice of Mercer Management Consulting where she had worked with a variety of industries, including health care and pharmaceuticals, since 1985. Her experience spans the areas of business strategy development, best practices benchmarking and strategy implementation.

**KATHRYN KUSHNER, MA**, is a Program Manager at NIHCM Foundation. Ms. Kushner manages two grants with the Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), where she is responsible for research and policy analysis of issues related to maternal, child and adolescent health. She is also currently participating in a research project with the Centers for Studying Health System Change, supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), investigating health information exchanges (HIEs). Ms. Kushner joined NIHCM Foundation in September 2004 after receiving her Master's degree in Public Policy from the George Washington University with a focus on women's health policy. Ms. Kushner worked for Women in Government as a Project Consultant compiling a state-by-state report card on access to cervical cancer screening. While pursuing her Master's degree, Ms. Kushner worked for a health policy consulting firm as a Communications Assistant and as a Graduate Intern for a Washington, D.C. based women's and children's policy research organization. Ms. Kushner attended Villanova University in Villanova, PA and graduated with a BA cum laude in Political Science in 2002.

**SUSAN DENTZER** is a health correspondent with The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). She leads a unit, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which is dedicated to providing in-depth coverage of health care, health policy and Social Security. Ms. Dentzer and the unit have provided coverage on various topics including

war related brain injury, schizophrenia and prescription drug importation, and are the recipients of numerous awards such as the Award for Excellence in Health Care Journalism, the CINE Golden Eagle, the Gracie Allen and Gabriel awards, and the Robinson Electronic Media Award.

Prior to joining The NewsHour, Ms. Dentzer was chief economics correspondent and economics columnist for U.S. News & World Report, and prior to that a senior writer covering business news at Newsweek. Ms. Dentzer's has also appeared as a regular analyst or commentator on ABC's Nightline, CNN and The McLaughlin Group. She was a former Nieman Fellow, a U.S.-Japan Leadership Program Fellow, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the International Rescue Committee, the Board of Directors of the Global Health Council, and the Board of Directors of the Japan Society of New York. She chairs the advisory board of the California Health Benefits Review Committee and is a member of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research. A graduate of Dartmouth, Ms. Dentzer earned an honorary Master of Arts degree from Dartmouth and an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Muskingum College (New Concord, Ohio). She is a member of the Board of Overseers of Dartmouth Medical School and was the first woman ever to serve as Chair of Dartmouth's board (2001-2004).

**GABRIELA A. GARCIA** is a health policy analyst at the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (the NGA Center). Her major professional interests have included: public health, chronic disease prevention, disease management, mental health, maternal and children's health. Ms. Garcia has been employed by the NGA Center since 2004.

Prior to NGA, Ms. Garcia worked as: a research assistant, a legislative correspondent, and a staff assistant to US Senator Robert F. Bennett advising on social policy including K-12 and higher education policies, health care, welfare, and the arts; as staff for US Congressman Pat Toomey; an Area Coordinator for the Office of Residential Life at Dartmouth College; a legislative intern and researcher for the Utah State Legislature. Ms. Garcia attended Dartmouth College, graduating with a major in American Government and International Government with a concentration in International Trade relations and a minor in Religion. Her publications include *Creating Healthy States: Building Healthy Schools*.

**KEITH EVANS, MBA**, is the Staff Vice President of Business Development for WellPoint, Inc.'s Under 65 Individual Business Unit. Previously, Mr. Evans served as Staff VP of WellPoint's Individual Underwriting Strategy and Planning Department and before that, as WellPoint's Director of Individual Product & Service Innovation and as Director of Finance in the Individual and Small Group Division.

Before joining WellPoint, Mr. Evans held a number of management positions at Aramak Services, a multi-billion dollar service company, including Managing Director, Business Planning and Analysis, and Director, Business Planning and Analysis. He earned his MBA from Columbia Business School with a dual concentration in Finance and Marketing in May 1989 and graduated from St. Joseph's University with a Bachelor's of Science in Accounting in 1985.

**DAVID PIZZI, RN, MPA**, is director of Health Care Reform in the Public Policy Unit of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida (BCBSFL). In this capacity, Mr. Pizzi assists in the development of corporate public policy positions and strategies on federal, state and local health care issues. He is also responsible for thought leadership on health care policy, participates in groups that assess and develop strategic plans to address issues of importance to the company, and represents the company's public policy positions by interacting with various audiences including business decision makers, opinion and community leaders, regulatory and government officials, non-profit health care organizations, special interest representatives, reporters, business coalitions, and health policy research organizations. He serves on the board of directors of the Florida Community Health Action Information Network (CHAIN) and is a member of their Health Policy Committee. Mr. Pizzi was previously a senior policy analyst for the same unit.

Prior to joining BCBSFL, Mr. Pizzi worked with the Health Services Policy Research Group (Newark, DE) and, as a registered nurse, worked in pre-hospital emergency, critical care, specialty care and home health care settings in provider, educator and administration roles. He earned his Master of Public Administration, specializing in Health Care Policy and Management, from the University of Delaware Graduate School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy and his Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Services Management, Minor in Health Policy from the University of Delaware, and an Associate in Science Degree in Nursing from Delaware Tech.

**MICHAEL S. HUTTON, PhD, MFT**, is senior policy analyst for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida (BCBSFL) and the grants manager for The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida. Mr. Hutton has crafted policy response to the issue of the uninsured, is creating the first statewide searchable internet database of safety net services ([www.forfloridashealth.com](http://www.forfloridashealth.com)), and is conducting research on the uninsured. In his role as grants manager, he has overseen 133 grants, is working to strengthen Florida's safety net through evidence-based practices, is overseeing research into program effectiveness, and is convening safety net providers statewide to compare and contrast best practices.

Prior to joining BCBSFL, Mr. Hutton was a private consultant and psychotherapist where he was widely recognized as an expert in family therapy, couples therapy, and psychotherapy with adolescents. His clinical experience includes working with substance abuse and alcohol abuse populations, and severe mental illnesses in adults. He has been on the faculty of Naropa Institute, John F. Kennedy University, and was Core Faculty at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, where he was chair of the Global Program and headed the Council for Sustainability. He was the clinical director of Youth and Family Services (Redwood City, CA), chair of the California Child, Youth and Family Coalition, and has conducted research and written extensively on psychotherapy with children, family systems, transpersonal psychology, and ecopsychology. Mr. Hutton currently serves on the Florida Covering Kids & Families Coalition and the Board of Editors of The Journal of Transpersonal Psychology. He earned his bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College, and his Master's and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco. He holds a Marriage and Family Therapy license with the State of California.