

## CT Health Intern Academy 2012

### Breaking into Health: Tapping into Skills and Experience

#### Speaker Biography

##### James W. Cox-Chapman, MD, Chief Medical Officer

In 1997 after 13 years in medical practice, Dr Cox-Chapman, with two colleagues, founded ProHealth Physicians. He has served as Chief Medical Officer of ProHealth since the inception of the organization. As Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Cox-Chapman launched disease management programs in diabetes, asthma, and depression. In addition he is responsible for initiating ProHealth's risk management program. Dr. Cox-Chapman, MD is a practicing internist, board certified in internal medicine and geriatrics.

Dr. Cox-Chapman received a BA from Williams College and an MD degree from Temple University. He lives with his wife and two children in Hartford, CT

##### Ellen Andrews, PhD Executive Director of the CT Health Policy Project

Ellen Andrews has been Executive Director of the CT Health Policy Project ([www.cthealthpolicy.org](http://www.cthealthpolicy.org)) from its inception in 1999. The Project is a non-partisan, non-profit organization working to improve affordable, quality health care for every Connecticut resident. The Project publishes regular policymaker issue briefs, conducts research on Connecticut health policy needs, hosts issue briefings at the Capitol and webinars with health care experts, coordinates a multi-state Health Policy Steering Committee for the Council of State Governments/Eastern Region, publishes CT Health Notes, an electronic newsletter of timely health care issues in Connecticut, and the CT Health Notes Blog with updates on

state health policy ([www.cthealthblog.org](http://www.cthealthblog.org)). Ms. Andrews serves on over a dozen regional, state and local health policy committees, councils and boards. Ms. Andrews' prior experience includes positions as Connecticut state legislative staff on health policy, non-profit health care advocacy, prenatal educator at a New Haven community health center, and academic teaching and research. She holds a PhD in Human Genetics from Yale University where she is on the faculty in the School of Nursing. She is also a Board member for Dwight Hall at Yale.

John Clark, Director of the Budget and Financial Analysis Division of the CT Office of State Comptroller

John Clark is Director of the Budget and Financial Analysis Division of the CT Office of State Comptroller. The division performs the state's accounting and financial reporting functions. The division is responsible for posting, analyzing and reporting state expenditures and receipts by fund and account category inclusive of federal and other funding sources. The division computes and reports direct and indirect costs associated with major state programs, publishes two of the comptroller's annual financial reports, and is responsible for the management of the state's real and personal property for insurance and accounting purposes. John joined the Comptroller's Office in 1990. Previously he worked as a Senior Budget Analyst for the CT General Assembly's nonpartisan Office of Fiscal Analysis for seven years. In that position, he drafted fiscal notes outlining the financial impact of pending legislation and maintained agency budgets. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a Master's Degree in Economics/Public Finance from Georgetown University.

### James Stirling, CEO of Stirling Benefits, Inc

James Stirling is CEO of Stirling Benefits, Inc., employing 45 associates in Milford, CT. The firm designs health programs and adjudicate medical claims for self-funded health plans. Self-funded programs bypass the usual insurance company offerings with the sponsoring group taking responsibility for routine and predictable claims. Clients include 20,000 retired public school teachers, the Connecticut Municipal Employees Health Insurance Plan administered for the State Comptrollers' office, municipalities, Boards of Education and 200 smaller businesses.

James was Chairman of the Washington D.C. based Society of Professional Benefit Administrators, and served on the Sustinet "Medical Home" committee and a Ct HealthFirst task force. He is an elected member to the Amity Board of Education, chairs the Amity Finance Committee and co-chairs the Milford Chamber of Commerce Legislative Task Force. He lives in Bethany, CT with a multi-generation family including his spouse, four daughters, mother-in-law and grandmother-in-law.

### Rev. Bonita Grubbs, Executive Director of Christian Community Action

Rev. Bonita Grubbs has been Executive Director of Christian Community Action since December 1988.

Prior to that, she was employed as Assistant Regional Administrator in Region V (Northwest Connecticut) for the Department of Mental Health within the State of Connecticut. She has served as a board member of the Greater New Haven Community Loan Fund, board member of International Festival of Arts and Ideas, a member of the Judicial Review Council for the State of Connecticut. Interim Pastor of Christian Tabernacle Baptist Church on Hamden, Connecticut, president of the CT Coalition to End Homelessness, Co-chair, Steering Committee of New Haven's Fighting Back Project, member of

the Board of Trustees Mercy Center in Madison, Connecticut, Connecticut Center for School Change, the Quinnipiac Bank & Trust Company and Dwight Hall at Yale University. Present board and voluntary involvements include: board member of the Hospital of Saint Raphael and chairperson of its Mission Effectiveness Committee, the Connecticut Voices for Children, the Connecticut Housing Coalition, and the Community Economic Development Fund She has also served as a Lecturer in Homiletics at Yale Divinity School. Rev. Grubbs holds an undergraduate degree in Sociology and in the Afro-American Studies from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts.

She received two degrees from Yale University---a Master of Arts in Religion and a Master of Public Health. She received an honorary degree from Albertus Magnus College in 2001. She was ordained to the Christian Ministry within the American Baptist Church in November 1987.

Victoria Veltri, JD, LLM State Healthcare Advocate State of Connecticut Office of the Healthcare Advocate

Victoria Veltri, JD, LLM, is the state's Healthcare Advocate in the Office of the Healthcare Advocate. Since becoming Acting Healthcare Advocate in January 2011 and then sworn in as the Healthcare Advocate in April 2011, Ms. Veltri has overseen OHA in its mission to: assist health insurance consumers with managed care plan selection; educate consumers about their health care rights; directly assist health insurance consumers with filings of complaints and appeals, and; pursue other health care activities. Ms. Veltri has extensive legal experience in health care advocacy and in legislative policy. Upon joining the Office of the Healthcare Advocate in April 2006, Ms. Veltri began her work as legal advisor to the staff, legal advocate for consumers and legislative liaison.

Prior to joining the OHA, Ms. Veltri was a staff attorney at Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc. (GHCLA), where she directed GHCLA's systemic health-related advocacy, and helped to lead statewide collaborative efforts to preserve and improve Medicaid, State-Administered General Assistance and other benefit programs.

Since her arrival at OHA, Ms. Veltri has managed OHA's legislative agenda, which has resulted in, among other items:

- Legislation requiring that OHA's contact information be listed on denial letters issued by insurers
- Legislation preventing the unwarranted rescission, cancellation or limitation of a health insurance policy (P.A. 07-113, a joint effort of OHA, the Office of the Attorney General and the Insurance Department)
- Creation of a state law definition of medical necessity in insurance policies and extending the period for the filing of external appeals (P.A. 07-75, a joint effort with the Office of the Attorney General);
- An agreement allowing OHA to participate in insurance rate review hearings for individual and small group health insurance policies;
- The elimination of an outdated rule requiring a three-day acute hospital stay for patients seeking medically necessary residential care for mental health disorders;
- Providing technical assistance and support for numerous pieces of legislation.

Ms. Veltri also advises the staff on legal issues arising in individual consumer cases and in systemic matters related to managed care issues including improper billing practices and patterns of denials. She participated in negotiations over the final language of the Mental Health Parity and Equity Addiction Act of 2008. She's represented OHA in administrative proceedings challenging health insurance rate hikes.

Ms. Veltri successfully obtained a \$396,400 grant under the Affordable Care Act that provided substantial resources for OHA to assist more Connecticut residents and designated OHA as Connecticut's office of health insurance consumer assistance. She represents the office at the Medical Assistance Program Oversight Council and is a member of the State's Exchange Planning Committee, the Sustinet Cabinet and the Health Information Technology Exchange Board of Directors.

A graduate of the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry, Ms. Veltri also holds a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from Western New England College School of Law and a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from New York University School of Law.

Amy D. Gagliardi, Community Health Center Inc.

Amy D. Gagliardi has been involved in Maternal and Child Health for over 25 years working in clinical care, management, research and policy. She presently oversees perinatal care services at Community Health Center Inc. a federally qualified health center in Connecticut and chairs the Woman's Health Committee of the Connecticut State Medicaid Council.

She has written on topics which include perinatal depression, breastfeeding, prenatal care, health insurance, oral health during pregnancy and has presented at multiple state and national venues. Ms. Gagliardi is a board certified lactation consultant and has a graduate degree in community psychology. She lives in Connecticut with her husband Peter and their four children, Peter, Lily, Aurora and Faith.

Kevin Galvin, The Small Business for a Healthy Connecticut

Kevin has been a Connecticut Small Businessman for thirty years. Kevin owns and operates Connecticut Commercial Maintenance a Hartford based service business that currently employs four people.

Kevin Galvin is the founding chair of the Small Business for a Healthy Connecticut . Kevin is best known for his efforts as an advocate for the interests of small business in the reform of health care systems. He and his coalition also played a role in the passage of Connecticut's SustiNet health care reform plan in 2009. Galvin participated in the national health care reform debate that culminated in the passage and signing of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in March 2010.

Along with being a leader in the advocacy movement here in Connecticut, Kevin has attended meetings at The White House, Congress and Dept of Treasury to discuss Health Care Reform at a National level and advocate for Connecticut's businesses.

Kevin has been interviewed on MSNBC TV, Bloomberg Radio and has been interviewed by dozens of national press outlets.