

**Primary Care Case Management: An Option for Connecticut Medicaid
Legislative Forum
Tuesday, March 27, 2007**

Speakers

**Brenda McCormick
Office of MaineCare Services**

Ms. McCormick is currently serving as the Director of the Division of Health Care Management which is responsible for quality management including the PCCM program, pharmacy program, prior authorization, and long term care patient assessment. Prior to this position, Ms. McCormick was responsible for the quality management unit and led the effort to implement Primary Care Case Management for the MaineCare Program. She also served as the Director of provider and consumer relations and has held several other positions in the MaineCare Program over a period of about 20 years.

**Vern Smith, PhD
Health Management Associates**

Dr. Smith's expertise is in state and federal health policy, with an emphasis on Medicaid and Medicare reforms. He has extensive experience analyzing and developing health reform proposals, administering programs and representing state agencies with federal and national organizations. At Health Management Associates, Dr. Smith assists state agencies in managed care, long term care and understanding the impact of economic trends and welfare reform on Medicaid enrollment. Dr. Smith has authored reports on Medicaid and SCHIP enrollment trends, the impact of welfare reform on Medicaid, the use of Medicaid as a source of financing in state health programs, and exemplary practices in Medicaid primary care case management programs. He has spoken on these issues before many national and state audiences, including testimony before the U.S. Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee.

Charles Willson, MD
East Carolina University

Chuck Willson MD considers himself foremost a pediatrician and child advocate. He received a BA from Princeton University and an MD from the University of Virginia. His residency in Pediatrics at North Carolina Memorial Hospital (UNC-Chapel Hill) was completed with a year as Chief Resident in 1980.

Chuck enjoyed private practice pediatrics for 19 years before joining the faculty at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. He is a Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and serves as director for Health Promotion and Policy Development for the Health Sciences Division. He is also co-director for the Center for Children with Complex and Chronic Conditions. He has helped teach first year courses in medical ethics and physician leadership/advocacy.

An enthusiastic advocate for serving the less fortunate citizens of our state, Dr. Willson has been actively involved in the development of a unique, physician-led primary care case management model for NC Medicaid patients. He serves as the Medical Director for the Community Care Plan of Eastern Carolina, serving over 100,000 patients in 27 counties across eastern NC.

Patricia Baker
CT Health Foundation

Ms. Baker is the founding President & CEO of the Connecticut Health (www.cthealth.org), the state's largest independent, non-profit grantmaking foundation dedicated to improving the health of the people of Connecticut through systemic change, program innovation and health policy analysis. Prior to joining CHF in 1999, the Wayne State University and University of Wisconsin alumnae served as the National Program Director for the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, and as Director of Connecticut Government Programs at Oxford Health Plans. The longtime women's health advocate also served as Executive Director of Planned Parenthood of Connecticut and Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.

Jamey Bell, JD
Greater Hartford Legal Assistance Association

Jamey Bell has been a staff attorney at Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc. for almost 25 years, concentrating on legal issues affecting the well-being of low-income families, including health care access, education and protection from abuse and neglect. For the past 7 years she has been lead counsel in class action litigation to require the Dept. of Social Services to provide adequate dental care to low-income families on Medicaid. She also regularly represents and lobbies for health care consumers in the HUSKY A program. Attorney Bell has a B.A. from the University of Michigan and a J.D. degree from Northeastern University School of Law.

Richard Blumenthal, JD
Connecticut Attorney General

First elected in 1990, Richard Blumenthal is serving an unprecedented fifth term as Attorney General. Blumenthal's aggressive law enforcement for consumer protection, environmental stewardship, labor rights and personal privacy, has helped reshape the role of state attorneys general nationwide -- and recover hundreds of millions of dollars for Connecticut taxpayers and consumers each year. His advocacy has forced reforms in the health insurance industry to assure critical health care coverage and lower pharmaceutical drug prices. He has worked relentlessly to eradicate corruption in state government and make state contracting accountable, fair, honest and transparent. He graduated from Harvard College (Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude), and Yale Law School, where he was editor of the Yale Law Journal.

Angelo Carrabba, MD
CT State Medical Society

Dr. Carrabba was installed as the 169th President of the Connecticut State Medical Society on September 28, 2006. Dr. Carrabba, a graduate of the University of Guadalajara and the New York Medical College Fifth Pathway, specializes in obstetrics and gynecology in Rocky Hill. He completed his Residency training at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center where he is also currently President of the Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Medical and Dental Staff. He is also an Assistant Clinical Professor at the UConn School of Medicine.

Kevin Lembo, MPA
CT State Health Care Advocate

Kevin P. Lembo, MPA leads the Office of the Healthcare Advocate for the State of Connecticut – advocating for patients and their families in their dealings with the health insurance industry and other aspects of the healthcare delivery system. Appointed by Governor M. Jodi Rell in December 2004 and confirmed by the legislature, Lembo is serving his first 4-year term as head of this small, independent state agency that helps untangle the complexities of the health care system for all Connecticut residents. Kevin has an extensive background in government and healthcare. Most recently, he worked 6 years for the Connecticut State Comptroller, Nancy Wyman, on issues as diverse as GAAP, the Rainy Day Fund, healthcare and health insurance as it relates to state employees, retirees, municipalities, non-profits and small businesses.

Jeanne Milstein
CT State Child Advocate

Appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the General Assembly as Connecticut's Child Advocate, **Ms. Milstein** is a strong public voice when children in need have no one to speak on their behalf. The Office of the Child Advocate oversees the protection and care of Connecticut's most vulnerable and youngest citizens and advocates for their well being. Prior to her appointment as Child Advocate, Ms. Milstein was Director of Government Relations for the Department of Children and Families and Legislative Director for the Connecticut Commission for Children. Earlier she was responsible for child care in the Connecticut Department of Human Resources and served as Executive Director of the Women's Center of Southeastern Connecticut and Legislative Director of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women.

Commissioner Michael Starkowski
Department of Social Services

Michael Starkowski is a 31-year public servant who rose through the ranks at DSS and was named its Deputy Commissioner in 1993. As Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Starkowski managed state government's largest agency budget and was directly responsible for the critical areas of public health care financing and contracting with hundreds of non-profit and for-profit human service entities. As Commissioner, Starkowski manages approximately 2,000 employees and an annual budget of over \$4.3 billion, delivering a wide variety of human services to children, families, adults, people with disabilities and the elderly. Mr. Starkowski joined the Department of Social Services after graduating from Central Connecticut State University with a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1974.

Rob Zavoski, MD
Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Robert Zavoski is the President of the Academy of Pediatrics in Connecticut and former Chair of its Government Liaison Committee. During his tenure, Dr. Zavoski led efforts to reestablish children's health care access in response to Medicaid service cuts in the 2001 state budget enacted by Connecticut's General Assembly. Dr. Zavoski serves as Medical Director of Community Health Services, Inc, a federally qualified community health center serving Connecticut's poorest community, where he supervises CHS' Departments of Adult Medicine, Behavioral Health, Pediatrics, Podiatry, and Women's Health.