

# HOSPITALS & HOUSING INVESTMENTS: NATIONAL AND MASSACHUSETTS-BASED APPROACHES

Thursday, December 7, 2017 • 8:30 AM to Noon  
Westin Copley Hotel, Essex Ballroom • Boston, Massachusetts

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Nineequa Blanding** is the Director of Health and Wellness at the Boston Foundation. In this role, she drives the development, implementation and evaluation of one of the Foundation's strategic priorities to address the health needs of the people of Greater Boston with a special focus on low-income people of color.

Prior to the Boston Foundation, Ms. Blanding held several significant progressive leadership positions with the Boston Public Health Commission. She was previously the Director of the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Obesity and Hypertension Demonstration Project, a three-year \$4.6 million Center for Disease Prevention and Control funded effort to develop effective strategies to address the inequities that contribute to the gap in these health outcomes among residents of color. Ms. Blanding later served as the Associate Director of the Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Division and most recently was the Associate Director of the Office of Health Equity at the Commission. She has over 11 years of experience in program planning, research and evaluation in academia, health care and local health department settings, including Mount Sinai School of Medicine and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Ms. Blanding also has years of research experience in neuroscience with notable researchers at Emory and Duke University, specifically focusing on the mechanisms underlying fear learning and memory and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The National Institutes of Health previously awarded her a post-baccalaureate training fellowship to examine the trauma-related risk factors for PTSD. She has co-authored several publications, including the examination of the effects of early life trauma as a risk factor for adult psychopathology.

Ms. Blanding received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Spelman College and a master's degree with honors in public health from Long Island University.

**Rachel Heller** has been Citizens' Housing and Planning Association's (CHAPA's) chief executive officer since 2016, after joining the agency as the director of public policy in 2012. Ms. Heller is responsible for providing strategic leadership and overseeing all activities of the organization. She works in partnership with the Board of Directors to articulate and execute CHAPA's mission. Ms. Heller previously worked as the director of public policy at the Alliance for Business Leadership, served as chief of staff to former Massachusetts State Senator Susan Tucker, and was the senior policy advocate at Homes for Families, a nonprofit advocacy organization working to end family homelessness. Ms. Heller holds a bachelor of arts degree in political science and peace studies from the University of Connecticut.

**Penrose Jackson** is the director of Community Health Improvement at The University of Vermont Medical Center. Prior to this role, Ms. Jackson served for thirteen years as the first executive director of the Church Street Marketplace, a pedestrian mall in Burlington, Vermont. Subsequent to that, she filled similar positions at the National Gardening Association and the Intervale Foundation. Her extensive community commitment includes board chair positions with Burlington City Arts, Champlain Initiative, Childcare Resource and Referral Center, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Ethan

Allen Homestead, First Night Burlington, Greater Burlington YMCA, Leadership Champlain, South Burlington Rotary Club, KidSafe Collaborative, Linking Learning to Life, Vermonters Taking Action Against Cancer, and Women Helping Battered Women.

A native of central New York State, Ms. Jackson graduated from the University of Vermont. From 2003-4 she participated as a fellow in the American Hospital Association's Health Forum fellowship, "Creating Healthier Communities." In 2011 she completed Saint Louis University's Certificate Program in Community Benefit. In 2013 she participated as one of a four-person fellow team in the National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health. In 2017 she won the first Community Leadership Champlain award from the Association for Community Health Improvement. Currently, she is a member of the national advisory council for the Association for Community Health Improvement, chairs the ECOS Project, and serves as president of the University of Vermont Alumni Association. Ms. Jackson lives and gardens in Hinesburg with her husband, Schuyler Jackson, and dog, Zim.

**George Kleb** is the executive director for Housing and Community Development at Bon Secours Baltimore Health System. Employed at Bon Secours since 1987, he is responsible for the overall administration, direction and operations of all housing programs of the Bon Secours Baltimore including rental housing management (729 units in service) and new housing development (299+ units currently in development). He also directs local system-wide community benefit reporting and compliance. He has been recognized as one of the chief architects of Operation ReachOut Southwest, an award-winning neighborhood revitalization initiative in southwest Baltimore that has resulted in more than \$115 million in capital improvements and \$20 million in grant funded programs to the neighborhoods surrounding Bon Secours Hospital since 1994.

Mr. Kleb received his bachelor of arts degree in 1982 from Western Maryland College and a certificate in housing and community development from the University of Maryland in 1998. He lives in Reisterstown, Maryland with his wife Tina and their four children.

**Joe Kriesberg** is the president and chief executive officer of the Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations (MACDC). He first joined MACDC in 1993 as vice president and served in that capacity until he became president in July 2002. He oversees the agency's advocacy work with public and private sector entities, its capacity building work with members, its long-term strategic planning, collaborations and partnerships, and internal operations. He has launched several innovative new programs at MACDC, including the Community Investment Tax Credit, the Mel King Institute for Community Building, the GOALs Initiative, the biennial MACDC conventions and the Community Development Innovation Forum. During his tenure Joe has helped to pass many important bills through the Massachusetts Legislature, including the groundbreaking Insurance Industry Community Investment Act (1998), the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (2000), the Small Business Technical Assistance Program (2006), a comprehensive anti-foreclosure law (2007), a new law to help preserve "expiring-use" affordable rental communities (2009) and the Community Investment Tax Credit (2012). Joe serves on the board of several state and national organizations, serves as chair of the National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations (NACEDA), is frequently asked to speak on community development issues and trends here and around the country, and writes about these issues for the MACDC website. Joe also periodically teaches as a visiting lecturer at Northeastern University's Center for Urban and Regional Policy. Prior to working for MACDC, Mr. Kriesberg worked for eight years on energy and environmental issues for nonprofit organizations in Washington, DC and Boston, MA.

Mr. Kriesberg has a bachelor of arts degree from Binghamton University in the state of New York, and a juris doctor degree from Northeastern University in Boston. He is a member of the Massachusetts Bar. He lives in Boston, MA, with his wife, Dina Brownstein, and their two children, Joshua and Michael.

**Monica J. Mitchell, PhD**, is the senior director of Community Relations and a professor of Pediatrics within the Division of Behavioral Medicine and Clinical Psychology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. In her roles, Dr. Mitchell leads efforts to advance community engagement, community outreach, community giving and employee volunteerism. Through her leadership, Cincinnati Children's provides community health outreach and education to more than 25,000 children and families each year across the region. Dr. Mitchell also leads the institution's community investment efforts as it partners on community development, workforce, and community health initiative. In her work, Dr. Mitchell consults and collaborates with

numerous non-profit organizations to advance translational research, training and leadership development, and evidence-based programs in the community.

Dr. Mitchell is nationally known for her pediatric and community-based research. Her current and past work has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Health Research Service Administration. She has published more than 40 articles, as well as numerous abstracts, reports and book chapters. Dr. Mitchell serves on local advisory committees and boards, including the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Gabriel's Place, ACDC, YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, and the Youth Commission of Cincinnati. Dr. Mitchell has received several awards and honors for her community leadership and service.

**Shari Nethersole, MD**, is the executive director for Community Health at Boston Children's Hospital. In her role, she oversees the hospital's community mission to improve the health and well-being of children and families in its local community. Dr. Nethersole and her team work closely with community partners, community health centers, and city and state agencies to develop partnerships, programs and services designed to improve health outcomes and reduce disparities. They also advocate at the city and state level for child health priorities. In addition to her work in the community, Dr. Nethersole continues to see primary care patients and supervise residents in the hospital's primary care center.

Dr. Nethersole received her undergraduate degree from Yale University and her medical degree from Harvard Medical School. She completed her pediatric residency at Boston Children's in 1986. She joined the Office of Community Health as medical director in 2004 and took over its leadership as executive director in 2013.

**Joan Quinlan, MPA**, is the vice president for Community Health at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). She has also led the MGH Center for Community Health Improvement (CCHI) since 1995. In her current capacity, Ms. Quinlan leads the hospital's efforts to fully integrate community health into all of its missions including patient care, teaching and research, and to engage with local underserved communities to address challenging community-identified public health problems. She is the hospital co-lead for the Substance Use Disorders Initiative, the leading clinical initiative of MGH's most recent strategic plan. The need for this initiative, which focuses on the opioid epidemic, was identified through the Community Health Needs Assessment, conducted by CCHI and now required by the Affordable Care Act. Under Ms. Quinlan's leadership, MGH won the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Spencer Foreman Award for Outstanding Community Service in 2011 and the Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service from the American Hospital Association.

From 1990 to 1995, she was the administrative director for the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program. She has also been the advisor on Woman's Issues to Governor Michael Dukakis and the executive director of 9to5, the Organization for Women's Office Workers. She is a graduate of Boston College and the Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government where she received a master's of public administration.

**Frank Robinson, PhD**, has been the vice president of Public Health & Community Relations for Baystate Health since 2015. In this role, Dr. Robinson is responsible for integrating clinical and community care to better serve vulnerable people and populations across the spectrum of diversity and create healthier communities. In leading Baystate's efforts to expand the definition of health to include economic opportunity; access to education, nutritious food and culture; safe neighborhoods; and other underlying essentials of a person's and a community's ability to thrive, Dr. Robinson focuses on building community partnerships to achieve large-scale health improvements, including resource development, health education and equity initiatives, and community benefits. Dr. Robinson also represents Baystate Health in Community Relations by building a shared agenda and common goals for community improvement with neighborhood, community and business representatives, and other key stakeholders.

Dr. Robinson joined Baystate Health in 1995, and for the past 20 years has simultaneously served as the Executive Director of Partners for a Healthier Community and the Director of Community Health Planning at Baystate Health. In his role at Partners for a Healthier Community, Dr. Robinson excelled in breaking down traditional non-profit sector silos and fostering innovative community responses to community problems.

Dr. Robinson has won several awards for his community work, including: 2008 Luminary Award, the highest public health honor and recognition granted by the City of Springfield; 2009 Rebecca Lee Award by Harvard School of Public Health and Massachusetts Department of Public Health, in recognition of his commitment to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities and improve health within communities of color in Springfield; 2010 Lemuel Shattuck Award by the Massachusetts Public Health Association, a statewide award in recognition of Dr. Robinson's distinguished public health prevention service to the Commonwealth; 2013 Power Couple of the Year Award (won jointly with his wife, Dora Robinson); and 2014 Annual Human Relations Award by the National Conference for Community and Justice. Dr. Robinson has served as adjunct faculty at various colleges including University of Massachusetts at Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences; Springfield College School of Social Work; Western New England College Criminal Justice Program; and Westfield State College Sociology Department. He earned his doctor of philosophy degree in public health - community health education from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA; his master of arts degree in community psychology from Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA; and his bachelor of arts degree in psychology from State University of New York, Oswego, NY.

**Megan Sandel, MD, MPH**, is principal investigator with Children's HealthWatch, associate director of the GROW Clinic at Boston Medical Center, and associate professor of Pediatrics at Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health. She is the former pediatric medical director of Boston Healthcare for the Homeless, and is a nationally recognized expert on housing and child health. In 1998, she and other doctors at Boston Medical Center published the first of its kind, DOC4Kids report, a national report on how housing affected child health. Over the course of her career, Dr. Sandel has written numerous peer-reviewed scientific articles on this subject. In 2001, she became the first medical director of the founding site for medical-legal partnerships, Medical-Legal Partnership-Boston, and from 2007-2016, she served as the medical director of the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership.

Dr. Sandel served as principal investigator for numerous National Institutes of Health, Department of Housing and Urban Development, and foundation grants, working with the Boston Public Health Commission and Massachusetts Department of Public Health to improve the health of vulnerable children, particularly with asthma. She has served on national boards, including Enterprise Community Partners, and national advisory committees at American Academy of Pediatrics and CDC Advisory Committee for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention.

**Audrey Shelto** is president of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation. As a proven leader with 30 years of achievement in improving the delivery of health care and human services, particularly for low-income and vulnerable populations, Ms. Shelto assumed leadership of the Foundation in August 2013. She is widely recognized for her expertise in all aspects of health care and leads the Foundation's strategic agenda to broaden health coverage and reduce barriers to care through grants, research, and policy initiatives.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Ms. Shelto directed Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts' efforts to develop a demonstration program for those dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare. Previous positions at Blue Cross Blue Shield included senior vice president for Health and Wellness, where she led the development of a new member-centered model of provider-integrated health management designed to improve health care quality and affordability. Ms. Shelto's other professional experience includes positions as chief operating officer of Neighborhood Health Plan, executive director for the Boston Mayor's Advisory Committee on Health Care, associate commissioner of Massachusetts's Department of Mental Health, and assistant budget director for the Massachusetts Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

She holds a bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree in management of human services from the Heller School at Brandeis University.