

## HEALTH SUMMIT 2010

### Key Speakers, Panelists and Participants

#### **Juno Duenas, Executive Director, Support for Families**

Juno is a parent, Executive Director of Support for Families in San Francisco, a Family Voices of California Council Member and a Family Voices Regional Field Coordinator for the Western Region.

#### **Rocio de Mateo Smith, Executive Director, Area Board 5 on Developmental Disabilities**

Rocio has worked over 25 years in the field of developmental disabilities with a special emphasis in early intervention and services to immigrant communities. She has been the Executive Director of Area Board 5 on Developmental Disabilities for the past 14 years. In this role, Rocio advocates for the service rights of people with developmental disabilities of all ages both at the individual and systemic levels. Prior to this position, she was the coordinator for developmental disabilities for Alameda County and, before that, was the Executive Director of Agency for Infant Development, a Fremont-based program for infants with disabilities and their families. Born and raised in Mexico City, Rocio attended Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico where she received a B.A. in mathematics. In the United States, she received a B.A. in psychology from California State University, Hayward and an MSW from U.C. Berkeley.

#### **David Maxwell-Jolly, Ph.D., Director of California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)**

On November 21, 2008, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed David Maxwell-Jolly, Ph.D., as director of the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). Home to the state's Medicaid program, called Medi-Cal, DHCS administers programs to support the vital health care needs of more than 6.7 million Californians annually. DHCS employs 3,000 staff and manages expenditures of more than \$40 billion in public funds. Maxwell-Jolly served as chief deputy director and director of the California Department of Child Support Services since 2005. In these positions, he guided the state's child support services programs and systems, including the California Child Support Automation System (CCSAS). From 2004 to 2005, Maxwell-Jolly was project director of CCSAS at the Franchise Tax Board. Prior to that, he was the CCSAS project leader at DCSS from 2002 to 2004, where he directed state and contract staff in the development of the statewide automated system and the state disbursement unit. Maxwell-Jolly previously served as a deputy secretary for the Health and Human Services Agency from 1999 to 2002. As deputy secretary, he provided budget and management oversight for 12 departments and one board under the agency. Maxwell-Jolly

earned a doctorate and master's degree in public policy analysis from the Frederick S. Pardee RAND Graduate School, a master's degree in public health from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Indiana University at Bloomington.

**Julia Mullen, Deputy Director, California Department of Developmental Services**

Julia Mullen, Ph.D., is Deputy Director of the Community Services and Supports Division of the California Department of Developmental Services. She enjoys being a member of teams who design and implement initiatives to individualize service delivery and develop community infrastructure for Californians with developmental disabilities. She is involved in the Department's new Prevention Program, as well as the Early Intervention Program, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, quality management, supported living service, and self-directed services initiatives.

**Carolyn Ramirez, Caseworker/Field Rep, Congresswoman Doris Matsui's Capitol Office**

Carolyn has an MA in Communication Studies with an emphasis on International and Intercultural Relations and a BA in Communication Studies with an emphasis on Interpersonal Communication. She has been with Congresswoman Matsui since April of 2009. Her responsibilities include working with organizations within the health and education field and assisting constituents with immigration, passport, and healthcare issues.

Prior to working for the Congresswoman, Carolyn held a part-time position at Lionakis (Architectural/Engineering/Structural/Interior Design firm) while finishing grad school, where she researched the 100-year history of the firm, interviewed shareholders, and contributed to re-vamping the Lionakis website, their centennial ceremony and much more.

Carolyn has lived in Sacramento for more than 8 years and truly enjoys the region.

**Laurie A. Soman, Senior Policy Analyst, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital**

Laurie Soman is a Senior Policy Analyst with Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, where she specializes in activities to improve the access of children with special health care needs to appropriate and timely health care. She directs the Children's Regional Integrated Service System (CRISS), a 14-county collaborative of family support organizations, pediatric hospitals and providers, and county CCS programs that aims to improve the effectiveness and family-centeredness of care for children with special health care needs. Laurie also directs the Alameda County Medical Home Project, which provides outreach, information and support to primary providers serving children with special needs.

### **Jean Ross, Executive Director, California Budget Project**

Jean M. Ross is the founding executive director of the CBP. Her prior professional experience includes serving as principal consultant to the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee; senior consultant to the Assembly Human Services Committee, where she staffed the California Legislature's Joint Select Committee on the Changing Family; and assistant research director of the Service Employees International Union in Washington, DC, where she was responsible for coordinating the union's research on tax, budget, and employment policy issues. Ms. Ross serves on the Board of the Washington, DC-based Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, the Advisory Committee of California's Franchise Tax Board, and the Board of the California Tax Reform Association. Ms. Ross is a frequent speaker on workforce and fiscal policy issues and has published numerous reports and articles on fiscal and economic policy issues. Ms. Ross graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and has a master's degree in city and regional planning with a concentration in regional economics from the University of California, Berkeley. Ms. Ross was selected as a senior fellow of the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Policy and Social Research in 2000-01.

### **Lyn Gage, Program Manager II, Department of Managed Health Care**

Lyn Gage is a Health Program Manager II in the Clinical and IMR Branch of the Department of Managed Health Care's Help Center. She manages a dedicated team to provide California consumers and health plans a means to resolve conflicts over needed medical care and to minimize potential delays in treatment. She currently represents the Department on several interagency and external health care policy committees and is regularly called upon by Department staff to provide expertise on a variety of clinical issues. Lyn is a Registered Nurse with 37 years of clinical experience.

### **Edwin Park, Senior Fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities**

Edwin is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, a non-partisan, non-profit research organization based in Washington D.C. that analyzes fiscal policy and government policies affecting low- and moderate-income individuals and families at both the federal and state levels.

His primary areas of expertise include Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicare and approaches to expand health insurance coverage to the uninsured at the federal

level. He also analyzes tax policies related to health care, state regulation of the private health insurance market, and issues related to prescription drugs.

He has testified before Congress, been interviewed by media outlets such as National Public Radio and CNBC, and has been cited in numerous publications including the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times and the San Francisco Chronicle.

Prior to coming to the Center in 2001, he served as the health policy advisor for the National Economic Council at the White House. He also has worked as a Medicaid professional staff member for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee and as an attorney in private practice specializing in health law.

He has a J.D. from Harvard Law School and an A.B. in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University.

### **Joan E. Crook, Program Director, CARE Parent Network**

Joan's journey through the world of healthcare and social services began when her second child, Alex, was born. He was unexpectedly born 10 weeks early with severe, life threatening medical conditions. He had surgery at five hours old to save his life and then spent most of his first year in Intensive Care at Children's Hospital Oakland undergoing 12 additional surgeries.

During his first few years, Alex's care included 9 different pediatric medical specialists, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Feeding Therapy, to name a few. He had care from all three major pediatric hospitals in the Bay Area. Services were also used from the Regional Center of the East Bay, Medically Vulnerable Infant Program, the school district, California Children Services, CARE Parent Network, home based services and center-based services. Joan learned the value of being a care coordinator, an advocate and a collaborative partner with professionals.

Prior to this career, Joan was a Market Research Manager in High Technology. She has an undergraduate degree in business and an MBA from the University of Santa Clara.

### **Jessica Lehman, Lead Community Organizer, Community resources for Independent Living**

Jessica serves as Lead Community Organizer for Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL), an independent living center based in Hayward, California, that provides resources and advocacy for people with disabilities. She has built the Disability Action Network, a group of people with disabilities who are fighting for change in the community, on issues including affordable and accessible housing, attendant programs, and health care.

Jessica also works as Project Director for Disability Rights at Generations Ahead, an organization that brings diverse communities together to expand public debate on genetic technologies and promote policies that protect human rights.

Previously, Jessica opened and directed the Prince George's County, Maryland office of ACORN, a national grassroots organizing group of low-income people who fought successfully for affordable housing, neighborhood safety, and other issues. Jessica is a graduate of Stanford University, where she studied health policy and wrote an honors thesis on the meaning and function of disabled community.

An alumna of California's Youth Leadership Forum from 1993, Jessica is active in planning future YLFs. As Co-Chair of the National Disability Organizing Workgroup of the Justice for All Action Network, she has put together a monthly Organizer's Forum to share ideas and resources about organizing the disability community. Jessica plays power soccer and was a member of the U.S. national power soccer team, which won the first-ever power soccer World Cup in Japan in 2007.

### **Rosa Valledor, Parent-to-Parent Mentor, CARE Parent Network**

Ms. Valledor is a mother of two young children on the autism spectrum. She has been an advocate for families with children with disabilities for four years; writing letters to State Legislators about how to improve the service and education systems for children and families with disabilities, helped organize conferences and workshops for parents to learn more about their child's disability, and co-facilitating a support group for parents with children with disabilities. She is a 2007 graduate of a program called "Partners in Policymaking," organized by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to develop and foster advocacy among parents and establish relationships with State Legislators. Rosa is also a board member of Congreso Familiar, Inc. a non-profit organization, dedicated to educating and encouraging parent leaders with children who have disabilities within the Spanish speaking community. She has been a parent-to-parent mentor to parents who have had a recently diagnosis child for the past four years for the CARE parent network.

### **Marty Omoto, Founder and Director, California Disability Community Action Network**

Marty Omoto is the founder and Director of the California Disability Community Action Network (CDCAN), an organization connecting, organizing, and empowering people with disabilities, veterans, and people with other special needs to advocate on their own behalf. More than 55,000 people receive the weekly CDCAN news reports, and its Town Hall Telemeetings, have reached thousands with information on issues such as housing, transportation, support services, special education, employment, access rights and more.

In addition to founding CDCAN, Marty's career includes a number of other firsts. He was the first area coordinator for Special Olympics in the Monterey area; the first legislative representative for the powerful AARP in California; among the first members of a task force to increase access to community colleges for persons with developmental disabilities; and, a founding board member of the Community Technology Foundation of California.

Marty served as Senior Consultant to the California State Assembly and Legislative Director for the California Association of UCP Affiliates. He has directed numerous agencies and coalitions serving people with low incomes, the elderly, veterans, people of color, and people with disabilities.

Marty has participated on numerous Governing Boards and Advisory Committees, including Paratransit (Sacramento - President and Vice President); Resources for Independent Living; Asian Pacific Islander Disability Coalition, and the Governor's Olmstead Advisory Committee since its creation in 2005.

Marty attributes his passion for advocacy to his late sisters, one of whom had developmental and physical disabilities and the other who was the mother of a child with special needs. He is most proud that two of his three adult children also work on behalf of people with disabilities.

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