



# University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

## SPEAKERS

### Keynote Speakers

**Sara W. Gardner, MPH**, is the Executive Director of the Fund for Public Health in New York. Under Ms. Gardner's leadership, FPHNY develops public-private partnerships that launch and expand programs promoting public health in New York City. Ms. Gardner has twenty-five years of progressive and diverse experience as a leader, manager, technical advisor, and evaluator of public health and development programs. Before coming to the Fund, Ms. Gardner served as Vice President of Programs with EngenderHealth, providing leadership and oversight of their global and field programs. While with EngenderHealth, she also served as the Director of Global Programs, where she was responsible for EngenderHealth's global program initiatives including Family Planning, HIV/AIDS, Maternal Health, Men as Partners, Quality Improvement, Informed Choice, and Research & Development. Prior to joining EngenderHealth, she worked in Egypt with Environmental Quality International. Ms. Gardner is a former Peace Corps volunteer, having served two years in Honduras.

**Carlene Pavlos** is the Director of the Bureau of Community Health and Prevention at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), a position she has held since August 2013. As the Bureau Director she oversees the Divisions of Violence and Injury Prevention, Prevention and Wellness, and Primary Care and Health Access as well as the Occupational Health Surveillance Program and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program. These Divisions and Programs include the Department's work in the areas of violence prevention and services, suicide prevention, child fatality review, unintentional injury prevention, school and adolescent health, health access, nutrition and physical activity, tobacco control and prevention, and chronic disease prevention. In addition, the Bureau is responsible for implementing the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund, a first of its kind initiative with the goal of linking clinical and community interventions to address serious, prevalent health conditions in order to impact health care costs. Previous to this position, Ms. Pavlos served as the Director of the Division of Violence and Injury Prevention since its inception in 2002. Prior to her work at the Department, Ms. Pavlos worked within the state's trial court providing education and training initiatives addressing violence against women, substance abuse, and organizational development and management skills. Ms. Pavlos brings to her work extensive experience with incarcerated women, a population at particular risk for violent victimization and its associated health impacts. Ms. Pavlos holds a B.S. from Lafayette College and a Masters of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School.

## Speakers

**David A. Kindig** is Emeritus Professor of Population Health Sciences and Emeritus Vice-Chancellor for Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Medicine. He currently is Co-Chair of the IOM Roundtable on Population Health Improvement and Co-directs the Wisconsin site of the [RWJF Health & Society Scholars Program](#). He was an initial Co-PI on the RWJF MATCH grant under which the County Health Rankings were developed and was the Founder of the RWJF Roadmaps to Health Prize. From 2011 to 2013 he was Editor of the [Improving Population Health](#) blog.

He received a B.A. from Carleton College in 1962 and M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago School of Medicine in 1968. He completed residency training in Social Pediatrics at Montefiore Hospital in 1971. He was Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1980-1985, Director of Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center (1976-80), Deputy Director of the federal Bureau of Health Manpower (1974-76), and the First Medical Director of the National Health Services Corps (1971-73). He was National President of the Student American Medical Association in 1967-68.

In 1996 he was elected to the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences. He served as Chair of the federal Council of Graduate Medical Education (1995-1997), President of the Association for Health Services Research (1997-1998), and as Senior Advisor to Donna Shalala, Secretary DHHS from 1993-95.

**Mary Pesik** is the Chronic Disease Prevention Unit Supervisor in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health. In this position Mary is responsible for overall grant direction, administration and reporting for the State Public Health Actions for Heart Disease, Diabetes, Obesity and School Health grant and other related programs. In this role, Mary is working to align partners, activities and funding across the diabetes, heart disease and stroke, and, nutrition, physical activity and obesity program areas for greater impact on health outcomes. Mary has been with the Division of Public Health for 16 years and working in Public Health for 26 years. Prior experience includes serving as the Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Program Director, WIC Breastfeeding Coordinator, Nutrition Manager/Consultant at a non-profit agency and WIC Director/Nutritionist.

**Karen Timberlake** is Director of the Population Health Institute at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and an Associate Professor in the Department of Population Health Sciences. The UW Population Health Institute advances health and well-being for all by promoting evidence-based approaches to health policy and practice at the local, state, and national levels. She has recently been a co-facilitator with John Toussaint, MD, of the Wisconsin Statewide Value Committee, a coalition of private and public sector health care



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leaders seeking to improve health care quality, improve health, and reduce unnecessary health care expenditures. Karen is facilitating the Population Health and Payment Models workgroups that have been established under Wisconsin's State Health Innovation Plan development process.

Karen served as Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services from 2008 through 2010. Before joining DHS, Karen served as the Director of the Wisconsin Office of State Employment Relations and was an assistant attorney general with the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

## Panelists

**Kurt Eggebrecht** currently serves as Director and Public Health Officer for the City of Appleton Health Department. Prior to his appointment in Appleton he worked nine years as Manager of Health Promotion Services at the Medical College of Wisconsin. In this role he developed and managed the worksite health promotion programs for Johnson Controls Inc. US operations. During this time Kurt also served as an active Board member and then President of the Wellness Council of Wisconsin. Before joining the Medical College, Kurt worked eight years for the Milwaukee Health Department where he developed and coordinated the City of Milwaukee Management Wellness Program.

Kurt currently co-chairs the Fox Valley Health Improvement Coalition and serves on the Boards of WALHDAB, WPHA, the Fox Valley Board of Family Services, Inc. He also serves on the Advisory Committee of the Leading Indicators for Excellence (LIFE Study) and the Advisory Board of the UW Population Health Institute.

Kurt received his undergraduate training at the University of WI-LaCrosse and his Masters degree from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville VA.

**Julie Whitehill Hladky**, MPH is the System Director of Community Benefit & Outreach at Ministry Health Care. Ms. Hladky has worked for Ministry Health Care since May 2013. She directs the community health improvement work of Ministry Health Care's 15 hospitals and oversees the reporting of all system community benefit contributions.

From 2011 - 2013 she was staff to a statewide project in Wisconsin: *CHIPP (Community Health Improvement Plans & Processes) Infrastructure Improvement Project* (funded by the Wisconsin Partnership Program). In this position, Ms. Hladky worked with the state hospital and public health associations and other key stakeholders to develop a model for community health improvement for

Wisconsin, based on national best practices and meeting the requirements of both hospitals and health departments.

Ms. Hladky has worked in a variety of public health programs: statewide tobacco prevention and control, HIV/AIDS prevention education, public health preparedness and at a local public health department. In her position as county health officer, she worked collaboratively with the local hospital, United Way and other partners to implement the first community health improvement process in the community.

Ms. Hladky holds a Bachelor's Degree in sociology and anthropology from Carleton College (MN) and a Master's in Public Health Administration from the University of Minnesota.

**Mike Wallace** joined Fort HealthCare as President & Chief Executive Officer in June 2006. Mike came to Fort HealthCare from Trinity Regional Health System, Rock Island, Illinois and Bettendorf, Iowa. Previously, he was the Chief Executive Officer at Lucas County Hospital, Chariton, Iowa. He also held similar positions while employed with HealthSouth Corporation, serving as Chief Executive Officer of two hospitals in Phoenix, Arizona.

Mike is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, where he received a Master of Health Administration degree. He received his Bachelor's degree from DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana. Mike has achieved Fellow status with the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) and is Board certified in HealthCare management. He is a two time winner of the ACHE Regents Award-Early Career Healthcare Executive, and is a past winner of the Iowa Hospital Association Young Executive Achievement Award.

Mike was recently appointed to the Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) Board of Directors, and is currently serving as chair elect on the Wisconsin Hospital Association Board. Mike is also a member of the Wisconsin Public Health Council, the Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative Board, and Fort Atkinson Rotary Club.

Mike and his wife, Kristin, reside in Fort Atkinson and have two daughters.

Mike's interests include his family, golf, biking, travel, good coffee and micro beers.

## **Facilitators**

**Dr. Tim Bartholow, VP and Chief Medical Officer.** Dr. Tim Bartholow is the VP and first Chief Medical Officer at WEA Trust. Before joining the Trust, Dr. Bartholow served as the Wisconsin Medical Society's Chief Medical Officer for five years. In this role, he focused on physician and community engagement to promote change in the delivery and payment of health care. Prior to joining the Society staff in November 2008, Dr. Bartholow spent 16 years caring for patients at the Prairie Clinic in Sauk City, Wis., where he was one of 12 clinical owners and on EMR since 2003. He believes that organized and carefully articulated physician feedback is essential for systems to serve the goal of best care. In the late 1990s, he served as medical director for an independent physician association with 2 sided risk with more than 400 primary care providers, a precursor to ACOs. His grandmother taught him waste is immoral and ultimately reduces care for the people we serve.



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**Elizabeth Feder** is a Senior Health Policy Analyst at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. She directs the Evidence Based Health Policy Project, a knowledge-exchange that connects academic researchers with public and private sector policy-makers and decision leaders. She also conducts sponsored work on a range of projects that span public health and health care, including Health Impact Assessments and various policy-oriented program evaluations. Dr. Feder teaches this content with both public health and medical students.

Prior to joining the Institute in 2009, Dr. Feder served as an analyst at the Colorado Center on Law and Policy, where she provided extensive technical support for Colorado's appointed Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform. She has also conducted research on state options to finance health care reform and on the affordability of health care.

Dr. Feder earned a B.A. from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University. She was an associate professor at Colorado College for 12 years, where she taught Health, Disease, and Society, Women and Health, and Women and Public Policy, among other subjects. She has served as a public member of the Colorado Board of Medical Examiners; a Governor's appointee on the Colorado Pay Equity Commission; and a board member of Peak Vista Community Health Center, the Citizens' Committee for Public Health, and the Colorado Springs Consumer Health Initiative. Dr. Feder has held elective office, serving as Councilmember and Mayor Pro Tem on the Manitou Springs, Colorado, City Council from 2005 until May 2009. Now in Wisconsin, she serves on several professional and community boards.

**Theresa Mees, RN, BSN, MS**, began her position as Director of Quality at the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (WCHQ) in August 2012. In January 2015, Theresa was promoted to Chief Operating Officer. Immediately prior to joining WCHQ, she served as the director of quality and risk management at Beaver Dam Community Hospitals. Before coming to Wisconsin, Theresa spent more than 30 years at Immanuel St. Josephs -Mayo Health System of Mankato, Minnesota. She started as a staff nurse, worked as a certified infection control practitioner, directed patient care for Women's and Children's services, and ultimately served as the chief quality resources executive for the system's five hospitals and seventeen clinics. Theresa has also served on the board of evaluators for the Minnesota Council for Quality since 2005 and is certified as a Leadership Black Belt in Six Sigma.

***Rebecca Thompson, CPA, CFRE***, the founding Executive Director of the Wisconsin Community Health Fund, is an experienced Community Health Executive with over 15 years of leadership experience serving urban, mid-sized suburban and rural communities with connection to health care access and avenues for health improvement.

She has an Economics and Management degree from Albion College and began her career at Deloitte in Detroit, Michigan where she earned her CPA. After falling in love with her nonprofit health care clients, her career turned to the community health sector where she earned her Nonprofit Management Certificate Degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and Certified Fundraising Executive Certification. Currently, she is a second year MPH student in the new Executive Public Health Administration and Policy Program at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health.

Rebecca is passionate about growing resources, leading teams and bringing stakeholders together to support opportunities where health may be strengthened or advanced.