



CalAIM Housing Community Supports

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Speaker Biographies

Kara Carter, MBA, MSc, is senior vice president of strategy and programs at the California Health Care Foundation, where she develops strategies, provides overall guidance, and leads the program teams in the development, execution, and assessment of CHCF's work. In this role, Carter provides thought leadership and support to CHCF's grantmaking programs and priorities, as well as CHCF's program-related investments and its learning and impact functions.

Before joining CHCF, Carter was a partner at McKinsey & Company's San Francisco and London offices. She was a leader in McKinsey's Medicaid practice in the US, and supported public and private sector health systems in the US, UK, and Europe to improve quality, access, and affordability.

Before joining McKinsey, Carter worked for UK-based philanthropic institutions on a broad range of topics related to poverty and community action. She received a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, a master's in social anthropology from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a master's in business administration from the London Business School. Carter currently serves on the UC Davis Health National Advisory Board.

Margot Kushel, MD, is a professor of medicine at University of California San Francisco (UCSF), and division chief of the Division of Health Equity and Society and director of the UCSF Action Research Center for Health Equity and the UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative. She is a practicing general internist at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital.

Kushel's research focuses on the causes and consequences of homelessness, with the goal of preventing and ending homelessness and ameliorating the effects of homelessness on health. She is the principal investigator of the California State Study of People Experiencing Homelessness (CASPEH) and of multiple NIH studies, including the HOPE HOME Study, a longitudinal cohort study of homelessness in older adults and a study of advance care planning in permanent supportive housing. Kushel serves on the board of Housing California and the National Homelessness Law Center and the Steinberg Institute. She is a member of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness. She speaks at a local, state, and national level

about issues of homelessness, and she frequently provides testimony to legislative bodies. Kushel received her AB from Harvard College and her MD from Yale, and she completed residency, chief residency, and fellowship in internal medicine at UCSF.

Susan Philip, MPP, was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom as the deputy director of Health Care Delivery Systems at the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in March 2021. She is responsible for oversight of three divisions: Managed Care Operations; Managed Care Quality and Monitoring; and Integrated Systems of Care. Her areas of responsibility include the oversight, monitoring, and contract administration of California’s Medi-Cal managed care program, Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), the California Children Services (CCS) program, and Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waivers programs. She is also responsible for driving key initiatives under California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), including Community Supports and Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH).

Prior to her appointment, Philip served in a variety of roles in the health care sector including in leadership positions for over 25 years. For a decade, she served in consulting roles at Milliman and Booz Allen Hamilton, working with a diverse group of state, federal, and private sector clients on driving improvements and transformation in the health care delivery system through value-based and quality initiatives. Earlier in her career, she served in policy development and analysis roles as director for the California Health Benefits Review Program, at the University of California, Office of the President, and as policy analyst for the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission in Washington, DC.

In her volunteer time, Philip has served on boards including a federally qualified health center working with the LBGQT community as well as people experiencing homelessness. She is currently on the board of directors of SafeHouse, which provides transitional housing and support services for survivors of trafficking. Philip has an AB in economics and English from Columbia University, and a MPP in health policy and nonprofit studies from Georgetown University’s McCourt School of Public Policy.

Michelle Schneidermann, MD, is director of CHCF’s People-Centered Care team, which works to ensure that Californians – particularly those enrolled in Medi-Cal – receive responsive, comprehensive, and coordinated care that supports their health and well-being. She leads CHCF’s efforts in maternity care, end-of-life care, and the care of populations with complex behavioral health and medical conditions.

Prior to joining CHCF, Schneidermann served as a medical director of Alameda Alliance for Health, where she provided clinical support and oversight with a focus on care coordination and

special projects. In this role, she led efforts to build and expand programs such as the Health Homes Program and Whole Person Care within the Alliance.

Before that, Schneidermann spent more than 14 years as a clinical professor and physician leader at UCSF. In addition to being a primary care doctor and hospitalist at San Francisco General, she was medical director of the Inpatient High User Care Management Program and founding medical director of the San Francisco Medical Respite and Sobering Center.

She currently serves as a commissioner for Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless, a program of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency. Schneidermann received her medical doctorate from the Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University.

Dhakshike Wickrema, MCP, was appointed deputy secretary of homelessness at the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency by Governor Gavin Newsom in March 2022. Wickrema has more than 18 years of experience in addressing homelessness in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Most recently, she served in the Office of Los Angeles City Council District 10, where she was senior deputy for homelessness and housing. She has also served as senior deputy for homelessness and mental health in Los Angeles County, where she supported efforts in 2017 to pass Measure H, which funds housing and services to prevent and end homelessness in Los Angeles. Wickrema has also worked at Shelter Partnership, a nonprofit focused on public policy and advocacy related to homelessness and affordable housing, and for the World Bank's Poverty Alleviation, Health Services, and Social Development sectors. She earned a master of city planning degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Cheryl Winter, MPH, LCSW, brings to her work a deep knowledge of supportive housing, homeless services, and healthcare integration with significant experience in cross sector partnerships, Medicaid benefit design and implementation, and provider capacity building. As the associate director of CSH's California Policy Team, Winter supports the Housing Community Supports Advisory Committee, a statewide group of over 50 organizations who are dedicated to improving the effectiveness of the Housing Trio and working to ensure equitable access and positive health and housing outcomes for Californians experiencing homelessness. Winter's work focuses on the integration of supportive housing services with health and behavioral healthcare systems, promoting the inclusion of people with lived expertise into state policy and program design efforts, and Medi-Cal policy analysis and implementation. Over the past 13 years, Winter has worked with hundreds of housing and homeless service providers as they navigate Medicaid/Medi-Cal contracts, billing, and service delivery.

Prior to focusing on California policy, Winter served as a CSH consultant providing technical assistance to communities working to expand access and ensure program fidelity to quality

supportive housing. Her work focused on healthcare partnerships, systems analyses, and innovative service funding opportunities that grow the pipeline of supportive and affordable housing projects, develop cross-system efficiencies, and enable providers to gain the tools they need to deliver quality supportive housing services. Prior to joining CSH, Winter worked as the director of integrated health for Pathways to Housing DC, where she managed programming that integrated supportive housing, primary care, and behavioral health services for people exiting chronic homelessness with complex needs. Winter is a licensed independent clinical social worker and holds master's degrees in public health and social work from Washington University in St. Louis.