



HEALTHY CITIES.  
BETTER LIVES.

# THE 2018 NEW YORK MATERNAL MORTALITY SUMMIT

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## Hosts

The New York Academy of Medicine  
New York State Department of Health  
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Healthcare Association of New York State  
Greater New York Hospital Association  
American College of Obstetricians and  
Gynecologists (ACOG), District II

## With Support from

Merck & Co., Inc. to advance the goals of Merck for Mothers

**Wednesday, February 14, 2018**

**10:00 AM–4:30 PM**

## AGENDA

10:00 AM-10:30 AM

Hosack Hall  
Main Floor

### MORNING OPENING

**Judith A. Salerno, MD, MS**

President, The New York Academy of Medicine

**Howard Alan Zucker, MD, JD, FAAP, FCCM, FACC, FAHA**

Commissioner, New York State Department of Health

**George Askew, MD, FAAP**

Deputy Commissioner of Health, New York City  
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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10:40 AM-12:15 PM

Hosack Hall  
Main Floor

### MORNING PLENARY

**Systems and Policies Driving Black Maternal Health Inequities**

**Joia Crear-Perry, MD, FACOG**

Founder & President, National Birth Equity Collaborative

**Maternal Deaths in the United States:  
Why Is It So Hard to Account for Them?**

**William Callaghan, MD, MPH**

Chief, Maternal and Infant Health Branch,  
Division of Reproductive Health, Centers for  
Disease Control and Prevention

**New York State Data & Progress**

**Marilyn A. Kacica, MD, MPH**

Medical Director, Division of Family Health,  
New York State Department of Health

**New York City Data & Progress**

**Lorraine Boyd, MD, MPH, FAAP**

Medical Director, Bureau of Maternal,  
Infant and Reproductive Health, New York City  
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

**Q&A**

**MODERATOR:**

**Judith A. Salerno, MD, MS**

President, The New York Academy of Medicine

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**12:15 PM-1:00 PM**

Library Reading Room  
3rd Floor

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**LUNCH**

**1:00 PM-2:15 PM**

Hosack Hall  
Main Floor

**PLENARY PANEL**

**MODERATOR:**

**Jo Ivey Boufford, MD**

Vice-Chair, NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council; Clinical Professor of Global Public Health, College of Global Public Health, New York University

**PANELISTS:**

**Mary D'Alton, MD**

Co-Chair, ACOG District II Safe Motherhood Initiative; Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center

**Lorraine Ryan, BSN, MPA, Esq**

Senior Vice President, Legal, Regulatory and Professional Affairs, Greater New York Hospital Association

**Loretta Willis, RN, BS, CCM, CPHQ**

Vice President, Quality Advocacy, Research, and Innovation, Healthcare Association of New York State

**Claudia Boykins, MPS, MBA**

Engagement and Policy Director, Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership

**Eleni Z. Tsigas**

CEO, Preeclampsia Foundation

**Chanel L. Porchia Albert**

Founder/Executive Director, Ancient Song Doula Services

**Lauren J. Tobias, MPA**

Director, Division of Family Health, New York State Department of Health

**Deborah L. Kaplan, DrPH, MPH, R-PA**

Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health, Division of Family and Child Health, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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**2:30 PM-3:45 PM**

**AFTERNOON WORKGROUPS**

**Workgroup 1**

Room 20  
2nd Floor

**WORKGROUP 1:**

**Quality Improvement in Hospital Practice Reforms**

**WORKGROUP CO-CHAIRS:**

**Wendy Wilcox, MD, MBA, MPH, FACOG**

Chairperson, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health, NYC Health + Hospitals, Kings County

**Helena Grant, RN, BSN, CNM, MS, LM, CICP**

Director of Midwifery, OBS/GYN Services, NYU School of Medicine, NYC Health and Hospitals, Woodhull Affiliate Division

**FACILITATOR:**

**Christa R. Christakis, MPP**

Executive Director, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists District II

**Workgroup 2**

Library Reading Room  
3rd Floor

**WORKGROUP 2:**

**Women's Wellness, Preconception Care and Other Unfinished Business**

**WORKGROUP CO-CHAIRS:**

**Rose Duhan, MPH**

CEO and President, Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS)

**Roberta A. Holder-Mosley, BAN, RN, MSN, CNM, LNC**

Director, Nurse-Family Partnership, Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

### **Workgroup 3**

Hosack Hall

Main Floor

#### **FACILITATOR:**

**Lauren J. Tobias, MPA**

Director, Division of Family Health, New York State  
Department of Health

#### **WORKGROUP 3:**

**Community-based Interventions**

#### **WORKGROUP CO-CHAIRS:**

**Nevillene White**

Public Health Representative III, New York State  
Department of Health Bureau of Women Infant and  
Adolescent Health

**Chanel L. Porchia Albert**

Founder/Executive Director, Ancient Song Doula Services

#### **FACILITATOR:**

**Deborah L. Kaplan, DrPH, MPH, R-PA**

Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Maternal, Infant and  
Reproductive Health, Division of Family and Child Health,  
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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4:00 PM–4:30 PM

### **CLOSING PLENARY**

#### **WORKGROUP REFLECTIONS PANEL**

#### **MODERATOR:**

**Mary D'Alton, MD**

Co-Chair, ACOG District II Safe Motherhood Initiative  
Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, New  
York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center

#### **Workgroup Representatives**

#### **CALL TO ACTION AND NEXT STEPS**

**Jo Ivey Boufford, MD**

Vice-Chair, NYS Public Health and Health Planning  
Council; Clinical Professor of Global Public Health,  
College of Global Public Health, New York University

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## **ABOUT THE SPEAKERS & PANELISTS**

### **GEORGE L. ASKEW, MD, FAAP**

**Deputy Commissioner, Division of Family and Child Health,  
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

Dr. George Askew is a pediatrician, who has spent the vast majority of his professional career dedicated to addressing the health and wellbeing of young children and their families. He is the Deputy Commissioner of Health for the Division of Family and Child Health and formerly served as the first Chief Medical Officer for the Administration for Children and Families in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Additionally, he is the founder of Docs for Tots, a pediatrician-led child advocacy organization that helps doctors advocate beyond their clinical practices on behalf of our youngest children.

### **JO IVEY BOUFFORD, MD**

**Vice-Chair, NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council;  
Clinical Professor of Global Public Health, College of Global Public Health,  
New York University**

Jo Ivey Boufford, M.D., is immediate past President of The New York Academy of Medicine and, effective January 1, 2018 she is Clinical Professor of Global Public Health at the College of Global Public Health at New York University where she is also Professor of Public Service, Health Policy and Management at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at New York University School of Medicine. She served as Dean of the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University from June 1997 to November 2002. Prior to that, she served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from November 1993 to January 1997, and as Acting Assistant Secretary from January 1997 to May 1997. While at HHS, she was the U.S. representative on the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) from 1994–1997. She served in a variety of senior positions and as President of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), the largest municipal system in the United States, from December 1985 until October 1989. She was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in 1992 and served on its Board on Global Health and Board on African Science Academy Development. She served two four year terms as the Foreign Secretary of the IOM between 2003 to 2011 and was elected to membership of the National Academy of Public Administration in 2015. She received Honorary Doctorate of Science degrees

from the State University of New York, Brooklyn, (1992), New York Medical College, (2007), Pace University, (2011) and Toledo University, (2012). She has been a Fellow of The New York Academy of Medicine since 1988 and a Trustee since 2004. Dr. Boufford attended Wellesley College for two years and received her BA (Psychology) magna cum laude from the University of Michigan, and her MD, with distinction, from the University of Michigan Medical School. She is Board Certified in pediatrics.

**LORRAINE BOYD, MD, MPH, FAAP**

**Medical Director, Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health,  
Division of Family and Child Health, New York City Department of Health  
and Mental Hygiene**

Dr. Lorraine Boyd is the Medical Director for the Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health in the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (NYCDOHMH), Division of Family and Child Health. She holds a medical degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a MPH from the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. Dr. Boyd practiced academic/clinical neonatology for 22 years after completing a neonatal-perinatal medicine fellowship at NY Presbyterian Medical Center. Dr. Boyd co-directs the Bureau's Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review and Steering Committees, the Merck for Mothers Severe Maternal Morbidity Project and participates in other projects to improve women's and infant health.

**CLAUDIA BOYKINS, MPS, MBA**

**Engagement and Policy Director, Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership**

Claudia Boykins is Engagement and Policy Director at the Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership. She manages the Maternal Intentions Program and the Maternal Intentions Consortium. Before joining NMPP, she led an engineering technology project for Boston Scientific Corporation involving the FDA-regulated manufacture of medical devices used in women's healthcare. She was also the Director of Social Entrepreneurship and Business Services for the National Urban League, a Research Fellow for University of Oxford, and a Policy Advisor on the South African Government Foresight Project. She holds BS and MPS degrees from Cornell University and an MBA from the University of Cape Town.

**WILLIAM CALLAGHAN, MD, MPH****Chief, Maternal and Infant Health Branch, Division of Reproductive Health,  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Dr. Callaghan provides scientific leadership to a group dedicated to research and public health surveillance in the areas of maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. He has been an author on numerous peer-reviewed papers and has provided technical assistance to states engaged in the review of maternal deaths. Dr. Callaghan received his medical degree from the Ohio State University, completed residency in OB/GYN at Akron City Hospital, and practiced general OB/GYN in Western North Carolina for 14 years. He subsequently took a second residency, Preventive Medicine, at the University of South Carolina and earned his MPH degree from that institution.

**CHRISTA R. CHRISTAKIS, MPP****Executive Director, American College of Obstetricians and  
Gynecologists District II**

Christa Christakis is the Executive Director of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, District II a private, voluntary, non-profit organization representing 4,000 board certified physicians who practice obstetrics and gynecology. Christa is responsible for all office administrative and financial functions of the District II office, specializing in membership, medical education, communications and legislative relations.

Previously to joining ACOG, Christa served as the Senior Director of Quality and Research Initiatives at the Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS) where she formulated strategies for quality-related regulatory and legislative initiatives that impact HANYS' member institutions.

Prior to joining HANYS, Christa served as the Director of Government Affairs for ACOG District II and has served on several community boards. She received her Masters of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy (MPP) from the University at Albany's Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy.

**JOIA CREAR-PERRY, MD****President, National Birth Equity Collaborative**

Dr. Crear-Perry is the Founder and President of the National Birth Equity Collaborative. Most recently, she addressed the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urge a human rights framework to



improve maternal mortality. Previously, she served as the Executive Director of the Birthing Project, Director of Women's and Children's Services at Jefferson Community Healthcare Center and as the Director of Clinical Services for the City of New Orleans Health Department where she was responsible for four facilities that provided health care for the homeless, pediatric, WIC, and gynecologic services within the New Orleans clinical service area. Dr. Crear-Perry continues to work to improve access and availability of affordable health care to New Orleans' citizens post the Hurricane Katrina disaster of 2005. After receiving her bachelor's trainings at Princeton University and Xavier University, Dr. Crear-Perry completed her medical degree at Louisiana State University and her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Tulane University's School of Medicine. She was also recognized as a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. A proud recipient of the Congressional Black Caucus Healthcare Hero's award, Dr. Crear-Perry currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Community Catalyst, National Medical Association, and the New Orleans African American Museum. She is married to Dr. Andre Perry and has three children: Jade 24, Carlos 21, and Robeson 7.

Her love is her family; health equity is her passion; maternal and child health are her callings.

**ROSE DUHAN, MPH**  
**CEO and President, Community Health Care Association of**  
**New York State (CHCANYS)**

Rose Duhan is the current CEO and President of the Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS). Ms. Duhan has worked extensively on health care policy inside and outside of government at both the state and local levels. Prior to coming to CHCANYS, she served as the Assistant Secretary for Health and the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health in the Office of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, where she assisted with development and implementation of the Governor's health and behavioral health agenda. At the local government level, she worked for Albany County in the Department of Management and Budget, designing and implementing long term care system reform. Ms. Duhan's experience also includes statewide policy development and advocacy for the New York Health Plan Association (HPA) and the Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS).

**MARY D'ALTON, MD**

**Co-Chair, ACOG District II Safe Motherhood Initiative;**

**Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at New York–Presbyterian/  
Columbia University Medical Center**

Mary D'Alton, MD, is Chair of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at New York–Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center. Specializing in maternal–fetal medicine, Dr. D'Alton's practice focuses on patients with high-risk pregnancies due to complex maternal or fetal conditions. She serves as co-chair of ACOG District II's Safe Motherhood Initiative, which works to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity in New York State. At NYP/Columbia, she has led the development of its Mothers Center, which provides multidisciplinary care to pregnant women with surgical and medical complications, including heart disease, neurologic disease, placental disorders, a history of cancer, and chronic conditions requiring expert management.

**HELENA GRANT, RN BSN, CNM, MS, LM, CICP**

**Director of Midwifery, OBS/GYN Services, NYU School of Medicine,  
NYC Health and Hospitals, Woodhull Affiliate Division**

Helena A. Grant is the Director of Midwifery at New York University School of Medicine/Woodhull Medical Center Affiliate Division's Obstetric and Gynecological service. As a Certified Nurse Midwife, she has cared for and empowered the lives of women and families for over 20 years. Helena is also a Professor of Nursing at Concordia College where she teaches the Spiritual and Cultural Concepts of Nursing course and has also been the lead Professor for Women's Health and Obstetrics. Helena is a current member of the New York City Department of Health's Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Wholistic Review Committee.

Helena received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing with a minor in Theology from Georgetown University, her Master's degree in Midwifery Education from the State University of New York at Downstate, and an Integrative Professional Coaching Certification from the Ford Institute. Helena is a member of the American College of Nurse Midwives where she serves on the Board Composition Task Force. Helena is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

**ROBERTA A. HOLDER-MOSLEY, BAN, RN, MSN, CNM, LNC**  
**Director, Nurse-Family Partnership, Bureau of Maternal,  
Infant and Reproductive Health, New York City Department of Health  
and Mental Hygiene**

A Brooklyn native, Roberta did her undergraduate and graduate work at Simmons College and Columbia University obtaining undergraduate and graduate degrees in nursing and advanced maternal nursing and midwifery respectively.

She served as a Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service Corps as a National Health Service Corps Volunteer from 1978, provided full range midwifery services in East and Central Harlem until July 1984. During this time, Roberta became the first Certified Nurse-Midwife in the state of New York to be granted hospital admitting and delivery privileges at Harlem Hospital, independent of a physician.

From 1985 until she retired in 2008, Roberta was administrator working within HRSA for both MCH programs as well as Federally Qualified Health Centers.

Roberta began the second phase of her careers as Deputy Director of the NYC Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) with the NYC DOHMH and was appointed Director on February 8th, 2012.

**MARILYN A. KACICA, MD, MPH**  
**Medical Director, Division of Family Health,  
New York State Department of Health**

Dr. Kacica is the Medical Director of the Division of Family Health at the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and a Clinical Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University at Albany School of Public Health. Dr Kacica leads the New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative, the Maternal Mortality Review Initiative and participates in policy, program planning and evaluation for the Title V program addressing the needs of NY's maternal and child health populations She serves on the Executive Committee of the National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives, the Executive Committee of the March of Dimes Big 5 State Prematurity Initiatives and is an Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs Board Member. Dr. Kacica received her medical degree from the St. Louis University School of Medicine, her pediatric training at the Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis, served as a Fellow in Infectious Diseases at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital and completed a Preventive Medicine Residency and obtained her Master's in Public Health from the State University of New York at Albany and NYSDOH joint program.

**DEBORAH L. KAPLAN, DRPH, MPH, R-PA**

**Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health, Division of Family and Child Health, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

Deborah Kaplan has served as the Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene since 2003. The Bureau is dedicated to improving and reducing inequities in maternal, infant and reproductive health outcomes through program, policy and research initiatives. The Bureau applies a sexual and reproductive justice and racial justice framework to our work, and strives to fully engage community partners to move this work forward. Dr. Kaplan has over thirty years public health experience in clinical care, health education, program and policy development, and program leadership. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of CityMatCH, the National Organization of Urban MCH Leaders. Dr. Kaplan received her training as a Physician Assistant at Johns Hopkins University, holds a Masters in Public Health from Hunter College, and a Doctor in Public Health from the City University of New York School of Public Health.

**CHANEL L. PORCHIA ALBERT**

**Founder/Executive Director, Ancient Song Doula Services**

Chanel L. Porchia Albert is the founder of Ancient Song Doula Services a reproductive health organization focused on providing resources and full spectrum doula services to women of color and marginalized communities. Her work within infant and maternal health has led her across the globe to Uganda where she has served as a maternal health strategist in rural war torn areas to address the lack of resources to birthing mothers, she is a certified lactation counselor, midwifery assistant and vegan chef and has served on various advisory boards throughout the country. Currently, she serves as a consultant for the NYC Department of Health in Mental Hygiene engaging providers in birth justice and serves on the advisory board at Ariadne Labs at Harvard Medical School. When she is not teaching or facilitating workshop you can find her spending time with her six children.

**LORRAINE RYAN, BSN, MPA, ESQ**

**Senior Vice President, Legal, Regulatory and Professional Affairs,  
Greater New York Hospital Association**

Lorraine Ryan is Senior Vice President, Legal, Regulatory and Professional Affairs for the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA). Ms. Ryan is responsible for oversight of GNYHA clinical regulatory and professional affairs activities, including all quality improvement initiatives and supervision of quality improvement staff. Ms. Ryan is also responsible for monitoring and educating the membership on federal and state regulatory requirements related to clinical, operational and quality issues and accrediting body standards. Additionally, Ms. Ryan provides consultation to member hospitals on risk management, medical staff and credentialing issues. Ms. Ryan is currently serving as the co-project director for the NYS Partnership for Patients. Prior to joining GNYHA, Ms. Ryan held senior hospital administration and management positions and worked as associate counsel in a medical malpractice firm. Ms. Ryan holds a law degree from New York Law School, a Masters in Public Administration from New York University, and a Bachelors of Science, Nursing Degree from Fairfield University, Fairfield Connecticut.

**JUDITH A. SALERNO, MD, MS**

**President, The New York Academy of Medicine**

Judith A. Salerno, MD, MS is the President of The New York Academy of Medicine. A physician executive and one of the nation's pre-eminent leaders in health and health care, Dr. Salerno most recently served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Susan G. Komen™, the world's largest breast cancer organization. She also served as the Leonard D. Schaeffer Executive Officer of the IOM, Deputy Director of the National Institute on Aging at the NIH, and Associate Chief of Staff at the VA Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Dr. Salerno is a board-certified physician in internal medicine and holds an MD degree from Harvard Medical School and a Master of Science in Health Policy from the Harvard School of Public Health.

**LAUREN J. TOBIAS, MPA**

**Director, Division of Family Health, New York State Department of Health**

Lauren is the Director of the Division of Family Health in the New York State Department of Health and NYS' Title V Director. The Division of Family Health works with partners to improve and promote maternal, infant, child, adolescent

and family health. In addition to this role, Lauren has served in several other state positions including in the Office of Health Systems Management and in the Office of Health Insurance Programs. She has also worked in the nonprofit sector on policy and advocacy related to health and social services. Lauren earned her Master's degree in Public Affairs and Policy with a concentration in women's health policy from the Rockefeller College of the State University at Albany and a Bachelor's degree from Muhlenberg College.

## **ELENI Z. TSIGAS**

### **CEO, Preeclampsia Foundation**

Eleni Z. Tsigas is the CEO of the Preeclampsia Foundation and member of the Board of Directors for Preeclampsia Foundation Canada. As a two-time preeclampsia survivor herself, Eleni is a relentless champion for the improvement of patient and provider education and practices and for the catalytic role that patients can play in research beyond just serving as "subjects."

She has served as a technical advisor to the World Health Organization (WHO) and participated in the Hypertension in Pregnancy Task Force created by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists to develop the national guidelines introduced in 2013, as well as similar task forces in California and Florida. Eleni also serves on behalf of the Preeclampsia Foundation as a voting member of the Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care, the Patient Advisory Board of IMPROVED (IMproved PRegnancy Outcomes via Early Detection), Ireland, and the Technical Advisory Group and Knowledge Translation Committee for PRE-EMPT (funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) and PRECISE studies. Eleni is frequently engaged as an expert representing the consumer perspective on preeclampsia at national and international meetings, and has been honored to deliver keynote addresses for several professional healthcare providers' societies.

Eleni has collaborated in numerous research studies, has authored invited chapters and papers in peer-reviewed journals, and is the Principal Investigator for The Preeclampsia Registry.

## **WENDY WILCOX, MD, MBA, MPH, FACOG**

### **Chairperson, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health, NYC Health + Hospitals, Kings County**

Dr. Wilcox is Chairperson of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health at NYC H+H/Kings County and Associate Clinical Professor of

Obstetrics and Gynecology at Downstate Medical Center. Dr. Wilcox completed her residency training at Long Island College Hospital. She earned a BA in Biomedical Ethics from Brown University, medical degree from SUNY Upstate Medical Center, MPH from Columbia University and MBA from Wagner College. Her academic interests in reducing disparities in severe maternal morbidity and mortality and improving patient safety are reinforced by her concurrent work with the Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health at NYCDOHMH.

**LORETTA WILLIS, RN, BSN, CCM, CPHQ**  
**Vice President, Quality Advocacy, Research & Innovation,**  
**Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS)**

Loretta Willis is a registered nurse with more than 35 years of healthcare experience. As Vice President Quality Advocacy, Research and Innovation at HANYS, Ms. Willis provides strategic direction, planning, coordination, and oversight for development and execution of the association-wide quality and patient safety-related advocacy agenda and the supporting initiatives to assist HANYS members to meet their quality and safety goals.

Her nursing experience includes medical/surgical nursing, maternal/child, infection control, and long-term care. As part of her maternal/child experience, Ms. Willis achieved her graduate board certifications as an international board certified lactation consultant (IBCLC), and a board certified childbirth educator (ACCE).

Ms. Willis is a graduate of Russell Sage College in Troy, New York and is a board certified case manager (CCM), and a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ).

**NEVILLENE WHITE**  
**Public Health Representative III, New York State Department of Health**  
**Bureau of Women Infant and Adolescent Health**

Nevillene White is the contract manager for the Adolescent Health Unit within the Division of Family Health at the New York State Department of Health. Nevillene received her undergraduate degree in Education and African American Studies from the University at Albany. She manages over 22 of the Comprehensive Adolescent Prevention Pregnancy grants awarded across the state. In addition to her role as contract manager, she is the lead on the Health Equity team for the Maternal and Child health services block grant. Her role as team lead is to focus the department's efforts to increase health equity by

ensuring that all strategies implemented include a health equity lens. Nevillene works on the National MCH Workforce Development Center's Equity Team. Prior to assuming her current position, she worked for the Bureau of Immunization and New York State AIDS institute. Ms. White brings over 23 years of experience working in the field of public health.

**HOWARD ALAN ZUCKER, MD, JD, FAAP, FCCM, FACC, FAHA**  
**Commissioner, New York State Department of Health**

Dr. Howard Zucker is the New York State Commissioner of Health. A native of the Bronx, he completed training in pediatrics at Johns Hopkins Hospital, anesthesiology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, pediatric critical care medicine and pediatric anesthesiology at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and pediatric cardiology at Boston Children's Hospital.

He has held academic appointments at Yale, Columbia, Cornell and Albert Einstein medical schools, Georgetown law school, and NIH and as a research affiliate at MIT. Dr. Zucker has served as a White House Fellow, a Presidential Leadership Scholar, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health, Assistant Director-General of the World Health Organization, Institute of Politics Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School, and NYS First Deputy Commissioner of Health.

Dr. Zucker created the nation's volunteer Medical Reserve Corps run through the Surgeon General's office, designed a health literacy project for Afghan women, led a community peace index initiative through Massachusetts General Hospital, designed Space Shuttle experiments, participated on volunteer medical missions, and led many national and international public health projects. He ran the pediatric ICU and was a pediatric cardiologist and anesthesiologist at New York Presbyterian Hospital, and a pediatric anesthesiologist at Montefiore Medical Center.

He holds a BS from McGill, MD from George Washington University Medical School, JD from Fordham Law, LLM from Columbia Law and a postgraduate diploma from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is a member of the Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court. Since becoming Commissioner, he has led the team on Ebola, Legionella, Zika, fracking, environmental health, system redesign, and issues on national healthcare transformation.



## **PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Jo Ivey Boufford**, NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council / NYU

**Peter Schafer**, The New York Academy of Medicine

**Christa Christakis**, ACOG District II

**Mary D'Alton**, Columbia University / ACOG District II

**Sue Ellen Wagner**, HANYS

**Lorraine Ryan**, GNYHA

**Machelle Allan**, NYC H+H

**Marilyn Kacica**, NYS DOH

**Lauren Tobias**, NYS DOH

**Lorraine Boyd**, NYC DOHMH

**Deborah Kaplan**, NYC DOHMH

**Adriann Combs**, Winthrop Regional Perinatal Center

**Sascha Conterelli**, NYSALM

**Karen Jefferson**, NYSALM

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NYS PHHPC – New York State Public Health and Health Planning Council

NYU– New York University

ACOG – American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

HANYS – Healthcare Association of New York State

GNYHA – Greater New York Hospital Association

NYC H+H – NYC Health + Hospitals

NYS DOH – New York State Department of Health

NYC DOHMH – New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

NYSALM – New York State Association of Licensed Midwives



## **About the Academy**

The New York Academy of Medicine advances solutions that promote the health and well-being of people in cities worldwide.

Established in 1847, The New York Academy of Medicine continues to address the health challenges facing New York City and the world's rapidly growing urban populations. We accomplish this through our Institute for Urban Health, home of interdisciplinary research, evaluation, policy and program initiatives; our world class historical medical library and its public programming in history, the humanities, and the arts; and our Fellows program, a network of more than 2,000 experts elected by their peers from across the professions affecting health. Our current priorities are healthy aging, disease prevention, and eliminating health disparities.

## **Academy Fellows and Members:**

Join the New York Academy of Medicine Fellows Network group on LinkedIn for networking and discussions.

**Not yet a Fellow or Member?** Find out more about the benefits and application process at [NYAM.org/fellows](http://NYAM.org/fellows).

## **Support the Academy**

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