

## **“Health Reform and the Health Care Safety Net: Challenges and Opportunities”**

*Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*

July 9, 2010

8:30am-12:30pm, UIC School of Public Health Auditorium

### **Speaker Biographies**

**Richard Sewell, MPH**, is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Health Policy and Administration division at the UIC School of Public Health. He is President of Sewell and Associates, a management and health policy consultant group in Chicago and Co-Director of the Emergency Management and Continuity Planning Program at UIC. He is a leader in the Health Information Exchange planning efforts in MTA 14 and serves as a lead health planner in efforts across Illinois, including the CMAP’s GoTo 2040 Plan and the State Health Improvement Plan. Richard is on the Board of Directors of Health and Medicine Policy Research Group.

**Michael T. McRaith** is the Director of the Illinois Department of Insurance. Prior to his appointment, Director McRaith worked fifteen years in private practice as an attorney in Chicago. Director McRaith represented national and regional financial institutions, including insurers, in finance-related litigation.

He serves as President of the Board Of Directors for the [Illinois Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan](#) (a high risk health insurance pool). He supervises the State’s [Senior Health Insurance Program](#) (SHIP), and has actively participated in developing, drafting and advocating for statewide and national health insurance modernization.

On behalf of the State of Illinois and the NAIC, McRaith has been privileged to testify before numerous committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, as well as the President’s Anti-Trust Modernization Commission. View all [Federal Written Testimony](#). McRaith serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for the AIDS Foundation Of Chicago and serves on Board of Directors for the American Foundation For Suicide Prevention, Chicago Chapter.

McRaith received a Bachelor Of Arts Degree from Indiana University and received a law degree from Loyola University School Of Law In Chicago.

**Julie Hamos** was appointed Director of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services in April 2010. Previously, she was the elected State Representative of the 18th District since 1998.

In the General Assembly, Julie was Chair of the Mass Transit Committee, the Housing and Urban Development Committee and the Aviation Committee. Julie was appointed to the Governor’s Illinois Housing Task Force, Child Support Advisory Committee, the Interagency Council on Early Intervention and the Legislative Audit Commission. In June 2004, Julie was selected as a fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. She has been named “top legislator” by over 50 organizations, and was named “25 Women to Watch” by *Crain’s Chicago Business* in 2007.

Long before seeking public office, for over 20 years Julie championed public interest policies and community issues. After receiving her law degree in 1975 from George Washington University in Washington, DC, she became the first staff attorney for a newly formed subcommittee of the powerful U.S. House Ways & Means Committee. In 1977, she moved to Springfield, Illinois, with the purpose of creating the first organization to advocate for issues affecting low-income and working families before the Illinois legislature. Later she became legislative and political action director for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME Illinois), working on policy issues affecting working men and women.

From 1981 to 1984, Julie served as legislative counsel and policy advisor to then-State’s Attorney Richard M. Daley, and later as director of the child support division. In 1988, Julie founded Julie E. Hamos & Associates, a public policy and community relations consulting firm.

**Claudine Swartz** is the Assistant Vice President for Policy for the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems. Claudine Swartz has over 16 years of policy and advocacy experience in the healthcare, education, and energy sectors. Ms. Swartz joined the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (NAPH) in 2007 as the Assistant Vice President for Policy. Ms. Swartz comes to NAPH from the University of California Health System where she focused on state and federal legislative policies affecting the university's five academic medical centers, including financing and biomedical research. Previously, Ms. Swartz worked in the business sector as an advocate for Sempra Energy and also in the nonprofit sector developing policy solutions for K-12 education. Ms. Swartz holds a B.A. from Boston College and a Masters in Public Policy from the University of California Berkeley.

**William T. Foley** currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCHHS), the third largest public health system in the country.

Prior to joining the CCHHS, Mr. Foley served as a Managing Director for Huron Consulting while also serving as the Interim CEO at Natividad Medical Center, the county hospital of Monterey County, CA. He led a \$35M turn around of that organization.

From 2001 to 2006, Mr. Foley served as CEO of Mokena, IL-based Provena Health, a Catholic health system that includes six hospitals, nursing homes, long term care facilities, and home care agencies; leading a \$60M turn around of that system.

Previously, Mr. Foley served in several system and hospital CEO positions around the country.

Mr. Foley, who has a Masters Degree in Health and Hospital Administration from Xavier University, has over 36 years of hospital administration and healthcare leadership experience.

**Philippe Largent**, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Illinois Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA), has led IPHCA's state and federal advocacy efforts to expand the reach of Federally Qualified Health Centers (often referred to as Community Health Centers) since 1997.

Mr. Largent brings more than eighteen years of experience to his role as the lead advocate and strategist for the Illinois community health center network. Mr. Largent began his career as a staff analyst for House Speaker Michael Madigan.

Among Mr. Largent's accomplishments at IPHCA is enactment of the Community Health Center Expansion Act. The act provides state grants to health centers to expand existing clinical sites, and develop new clinic sites or services in medically underserved areas. The program has provided \$50 million in grants since 2001 and is responsible for tens of thousands of Illinois residents having access to high quality, affordable primary health care. The expansion act, coupled with a doubling of the federal community health center program during the Bush administration, is credited with dramatically increasing the number of patients served by Illinois health centers. In 2000, Illinois health centers were the health care home for 411,000 patients; today IPHCA members treat over 1.2 million patients annually.

In 2007, Mr. Largent received the Betsey K. Cooke Grassroots MVP award from the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) in recognition of his efforts on behalf of health centers nationally.

**Linda Rae Murray, MD, MPH** is the Chief Medical Officer of the Cook County Department of Public Health in the Cook County Health & Hospitals System. She practices as a general internist at one of the County's south side community health centers, and is an attending physician in the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at Stroger (Cook County) Hospital. Dr Murray is an adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois School of Public Health (Occupational & Environmental Health and the Health Policy & Administration Departments). She plays a leadership role in many organizations including NACCHO's (National Association of City & County Health Officers) Health Equity & Social Justice Team, and serves on the board of the Chicago based Health and Medicine Policy Research Group.

Dr. Murray has spent her career serving the medically underserved. She has worked in a variety of settings including a Workers Clinic in Canada, Residency Director at Meharry Medical College, and Bureau Chief for the Chicago Department of Health under Mayor Harold Washington. More recently Dr. Murray served as Medical Director of the federally funded health center, Winfield Moody, serving Cabrini Green Public Housing Project in Chicago. Dr. Murray served as Chief Medical Officer - Primary Care for the twenty three primary care and community health centers comprising the Ambulatory & Community Health Network of the Cook County Bureau of Health Services, one of the largest public health systems in the nation.

Dr. Murray is the immediate past-President of Health and Medicine Policy Research Group and is the President-Elect of the American Public Health Association.

**Roberta Rakove** is the senior vice president for government affairs at Sinai Health System. Sinai Health System is one of the largest private providers of health care for low income patients in Illinois. Ms. Rakove recently completed a two year term as chairman of the government affairs committee for the National Association of Public Hospitals and serves on the federal policy committee for the Premier Hospital Alliance. She is the disproportionate share hospital representative on the Illinois Hospital Association's advocacy committee and also serves on the government affairs committee for the 340b coalition, Safety Net Hospitals for Pharmaceutical Access. In 2009, Ms. Rakove was chosen as the Illinois recipient for the American Hospital Association's Grassroots Champion advocacy award. She received her MPH from the University of Illinois School of Public Health in 1975.