Health Reform in 2019: Exploring Paths to Healthcare Access & Implementing Medical Cannabis in Missouri

Friday, October 25, 2019
Hilton Garden Inn
Conference Center
Columbia, Missouri
7:30 AM—3:30 PM

7:30 AM  Registration and Breakfast Buffet
8:45 AM  Welcoming Remarks
9:00 AM  Health Reform in 2019: Exploring Paths to Health Care Access
Missouri Health Insurance Innovation Task Force
Amy Hoyt, MO Department of Insurance
Transforming Missouri Medicaid: An Update
Kirk Mathews, MO HealthNet
10:00 AM Health Reform Panel
Finish Line Project
Brian Colby, MO Budget Project
Show-Me ECHO
Rachel Mutrux, Show-Me ECHO
Health Coverage Legislation and Advocacy in Missouri
Shawn D’Abreu, Missouri Health Care For All
Healthcare for Missouri Ballot Initiative
Jessica Hembree, Health Forward Foundation
Curated/Moderated Q&A
11:30 AM Lunch
12:00 PM Luncheon Keynote
Coverage in Crisis: The Erosion of Job-Based Coverage and the Future of Our Healthcare Debate
Noam Levey, LA Times Washington Bureau
1:00 PM Implementing Medical Cannabis in Missouri
Medical Marijuana: A Physician’s Perspective
Lucas Buffaloe, M.D., MU Health
Missouri Medical Marijuana Regulatory Program Update
Lyndall Fraker, MO Department of Health and Senior Services
Clinical Perspectives on Medical Marijuana
Jane Drummond, MO Hospital Association
3:30 PM Closing Remarks
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Amy Hoyt is Health Insurance Counsel at the Missouri Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, where she works on issues related to health insurance and healthcare policy. She has nearly 20 years of experience in the public sector, focusing on health insurance, health policy, health information technology, Medicaid, and legislative policy and procedure.

Her previous work experience includes the University of Missouri Center for Health Policy, MO HealthNet (Missouri’s Medicaid Agency), the Missouri House of Representatives Research Office, and the Missouri Department of Social Services.

Ms. Hoyt holds a J.D. from the University of Missouri School of Law and a B.A. from Truman State University.

As Chief Transformation Officer, Kirk Mathews, along with Director Todd Richardson, are lead in the effort to transform MO HealthNet. The mission of the agency is to become a best-in-class Medicaid program that cares for Missouri’s most vulnerable in a manner that is financially sustainable.

In 1997 Kirk founded one of the nation’s first hospitalist practice management companies, Inpatient Management Inc. (IMI). From its start-up in 1997 until it was sold in 2011, Kirk served as CEO and Chairman of the Board while launching and managing dozens of hospitalist programs serving hospital clients in 19 different states. During this time Kirk was active in the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) and served as the only non-physician member of its Public Policy Committee. In 2010, he chaired the sub-committee charged with writing the SHM position paper on the Accountable Care Organization portion of the ACA.

Following the sale of IMI, Kirk provided consulting services to one of the nation’s leading hospitalist consulting firms, and launched an executive recruiting firm, returning to his earliest professional roots in healthcare recruiting. His recruiting experience and accomplishments led him to be recognized as a national leader in the recruiting industry. His book, A Practical Guide to Hospitalist Recruitment and Retention, was published by HCPRO Inc.

In 2014, Kirk successfully ran for State Representative and served four years in the Missouri General Assembly, successfully sponsoring several pieces of legislation. He began his current role as Chief Transformation Officer for MO HealthNet in May of 2019.

Kirk serves as an Elder and worship leader in his church, enjoys spending time with his family, all sports, and investing in real estate. Kirk has a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and an M.B.A., both from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri where he was also captain of the football team and later inducted into their athletic Hall of Fame.

Brian Colby is the Vice President for Government Affairs for the Missouri Budget Project. The Missouri Budget Project (MBP) seeks to improve the lives of all Missourians by informing public policy decisions through objective research and analysis of state budget, tax and economic issues.

Brian serves as the representative for MBP in the Missouri state capitol.

Before joining MBP, Brian spent the previous seven years working with the Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance on health policy at both the state and national levels, advocating for the consumer and the underserved.

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Rachel Mutrux joined the MTN (Missouri Telehealth Network) in 2002. As director, Rachel is responsible for setting the strategic goals for MTN, managing the day-to-day operations, securing funding for telehealth and overseeing MTN budgets and grants.

Rachel advocates for legislative policy and has built a strong network of relationships to promote local, state, federal and international telehealth activities and policies.

Rachel is active in the national telehealth affiliation groups and presents locally, regionally and nationally on MTN projects such as Heartland Telehealth Resource Center (HTRC) and Show-Me ECHO.

Shawn D'Abreu (da-bre-uh) is the Policy Director for Missouri Health Care For All and founder of D'Abreu, Davis & Silk, a governmental affairs, public policy and advocacy training firm.

Shawn has over a decade of experience as a leader, governmental affairs professional, trainer and advocate at the state level. While Shawn is comfortable in the weeds of policy, he really enjoys opportunities to cultivate ideas, strategy and insights regarding how things work in government and how best to advance good public policy.

Jessica Hembree is a consultant to the Health Forward Foundation, a philanthropic organization focused on safety net health care, mental health, and developing healthy communities. In this role, Ms. Hembree is leading Health Forward’s involvement in the effort to expand Missouri’s Medicaid program through a 2020 ballot initiative.

Before assuming her consulting role, Jessica spent eleven years as Policy Director at Health Forward Foundation. In this role, she led the development and pursuit of Health Forward’s public policy agenda. Under her tenure, the foundation engaged in issues ranging from the development of a statewide oral health coalition to increasing the age of sale for tobacco products to supporting health insurance marketplace enrollment. In addition, Jessica supported Health Forward’s community partners in the pursuit of their policy goals. Through training, technical assistance, convenings, and grantmaking, Health Forward plays a significant role in supporting the policy and civic engagement activities of many Kansas City area nonprofits.

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Ms. Hembree previously served in advocacy roles at the National League of Cities and Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of American in Washington, D.C. She received her master’s degree in Public Affairs with a focus on health and health policy from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University.

Jessica is married to her high school sweetheart and the proud mother of three sons. In addition to her work and family life, Jessica enjoys crocheting, biking, walking, and participating in her book club.

Noam N. Levey is an award-winning national healthcare reporter for the Los Angeles Times, based in Washington, D.C. Over the last decade, he has reported on health reform from more than two dozen states around the country.

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and on global health from Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America.

Noam’s stories about the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, Medicaid and other healthcare issues regularly appear in newspapers nationwide, in addition to the Los Angeles Times. He has also been published in Health Affairs, the Journal of the American Medical Association, and Milbank Quarterly. Noam is a frequent speaker on health policy and politics and a regular guest on nationally broadcast public radio programs.

He is currently working on a book about health policy innovators who are charting a more hopeful path toward affordable, high-quality care.

Prior to joining the Times in 2003, Noam was an investigative reporter for the San Jose Mercury News in Silicon Valley. He has a degree in Middle Eastern history from Princeton University.

Dr. Lucas Buffaloe is an Associate Professor of Clinical Family and Community Medicine at the University of Missouri. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Medicine and has been a faculty member here since 2012. Dr. Buffaloe speaks regularly on topics including pain management and addiction medicine.

Lyndall Fraker completed his 4th and final term as a member of the Missouri House of Representatives in early January of this year. He was first elected in 2010 and served as Chairman of the Financial Institutions, Local Government and Utility Infrastructure committees.

Prior to his election to the House, he was elected Northern Commissioner of Webster County after completing a 17 year career in Wal-Mart management. The last seven of those years as store manager of his hometown store in Marshfield. Lyndall is a home builder and real estate developer in the Marshfield area.

Lyndall and his wife Melanie have two sons, one daughter and son-in-law, and two grandsons who all live in Marshfield.

Jane Drummond has served as the General Counsel and Vice President of Legal Affairs for Missouri Hospital Association (MHA) since 2014. She provides a full range of legal support to MHA and its related organizations and boards. Her duties include healthcare compliance, corporate advice, and judicial advocacy. Jane also serves as liaison to a variety of legal professional groups involved in healthcare law and policy.

Jane graduated from the University of Missouri School of Law in 2001. Since then, she has worked largely in the public policy arena while gaining additional experience in private practice. She has worked as the General Counsel for the Department of Health and Senior Services under Governor Matt Blunt, and in that same capacity in the governor’s office. In 2007, Governor Blunt appointed her to serve as the director of the Department of Health and Senior Services, a cabinet-level position which she held through the end of the Blunt administration.

In addition to her juris doctor, Jane earned a Master in Strategic Leadership from Stephens College in 2014.

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