



## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

**William Hazel, Jr., MD**, serves as the Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives and Policy at George Mason University. Previously, he practiced orthopedic surgery in Northern Virginia until becoming Secretary of Health and Human Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2010. Dr. Hazel completed his second term in January of 2018, after serving under one Republican and one Democrat Governor. In that role, he oversaw eleven state agencies including such diverse programs as Medicaid, Behavioral Health, Social Services, as well as Aging and Rehabilitation. During his first term as Secretary, Dr. Hazel led the Virginia Health Reform Initiative and helped establish the Virginia Center for Health Innovation. He continues to serve as the Founding Chair of ConnectVirginia, Virginia's health information exchange. Dr. Hazel also negotiated an agreement with the Department of Justice to improve community services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In his second term as secretary, Dr. Hazel devoted attention to developing alignment and coordination between agencies and Secretariats. He co-Chaired the first Children's Cabinet in Virginia and co-Chaired the Governor's Task Force on Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse. He advocated for strengthening Virginia's behavioral health system and for increased access to care for low-income Virginians. Throughout his tenure, he worked extensively on data-sharing initiatives, in an effort to better inform policy and budget decisions. The opioid epidemic and early childhood development are two areas of special focus for him. He received his BS in Civil Engineering at Princeton University and his Medical Degree at Duke University School of Medicine. Dr. Hazel completed his Orthopedic Surgery Residency at the Mayo Clinic before returning home to Virginia. He has served as a Trustee of the American Medical Association, Speaker and President of the Medical Society of Virginia, President of the INOVA Fair Oaks Hospital Medical Staff, and Chair of the Medical Affairs council of the INOVA Health System. His professional experience includes working as a team physician for the Chantilly High School Chargers, serving as an Assistant Orthopedic for the Washington Redskins football team, and serving as team physician for DC United.

**Steve Neorr, MBA**, serves as the chief administrative officer of Triad HealthCare Network (THN). His responsibilities include all planning, development, and implementation of an Accountable Care Organization through THN in the Piedmont Triad area of North Carolina. He has worked in health care and with physicians for 20 years. Most recently, Mr. Neorr served as senior consultant at WayPoint Health Care Advisors, where he focused on providing support to large health systems regarding the development of ACO/CIN strategies, implementation of Patient Centered Medical Home initiatives, and performance-based contracting. Prior to WayPoint, Mr. Neorr served as chief operating officer of a 140-physician multispecialty medical group practice with over 40 medical offices located throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. Mr. Neorr holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Texas at Arlington and a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Care Administration from the University of Alabama. He is a past president of the North Texas Association of Medical Administrators and past president of the Fort Worth Medical Group Administrators Association.

**Alonzo L. Plough, PhD, MA**, is the chief science officer and vice president, Research-Evaluation-Learning at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He is responsible for aligning all of the Foundation's work with the best evidence from research and practice and incorporating program evaluations into organizational learning. Plough also oversees two grantmaking portfolios focused on innovation and emerging issues. He has been a national leader in public health practice for over 25 years. Prior to working at the Foundation, he served as director of emergency preparedness and response at the Los

Angeles County Department of Public Health. In that role, he was responsible for the leadership and management of the public health preparedness activities protecting the 10 million residents of Los Angeles County from natural disasters and threats related to disease outbreaks and other public health emergencies. Plough has also served as vice president of strategy, planning and evaluation for The California Endowment, director and health officer for the Seattle and King County Department of Public Health, and director of public health in Boston. Plough earned his PhD and MA at Cornell University, and his MPH at Yale University School of Medicine's Department of Epidemiology and Public Health. He did his undergraduate work at St. Olaf College, where he earned a BA. He has held academic appointments at Harvard University School of Public Health, Tufts University Department of Community Medicine, and Boston University School of Management. He is currently clinical professor of health services at the University of Washington School of Public Health in Seattle. Plough has been the recipient of numerous awards for public service and leadership and is the author of an extensive body of scholarly articles, books, and book chapters.

**Michelle G. Ries, MPH**, is a project director at the North Carolina Institute of Medicine. As project director, Ries has managed task forces and served as primary author on task force reports including the Task Force on Health Care Analytics, tasked with developing a concise set of metrics to improve population health and quality of care under Medicaid reform; Dementia-Capable North Carolina, the state plan for addressing the needs of people with dementia and their caregivers; and the Task Force on Essentials for Childhood, a statewide collective plan to prevent child maltreatment and ensure child and family well-being. Prior to her work at NCIOM, Ries worked as senior program associate in the International Health Policy and Practice Innovations program at the Commonwealth Fund, a nonprofit foundation dedicated to achieving a high-performing health care system. Previously, Ries also completed the Health Research Training Program at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Health Media and Marketing, where she managed citywide health media campaigns on various health issues, including cardiovascular disease, childhood obesity, and adolescent mental health. Ries received her MPH from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and a B.A. with honors in dramatic art and anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa.

**Pam Silberman, JD, DrPH**, serves as director of the Doctoral Program in Health Leadership, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH), and the associate director for policy analysis at the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. At UNC-CH, Pam is also a professor of the practice for health policy and management. Her research interests focus on Medicaid, the health care safety net, the uninsured, rural health, and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Pam served as president or vice-president of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine from 1999-2015. Over the years, she helped lead task forces on rural health, state ACA implementation issues, the health care safety net, patient and family engagement, military health, health professional workforce, behavioral health, developmental disabilities, child and adolescent health, long-term care, dental care access, and health literacy. She has also done extensive work on promoting population health, helping to lead task forces that developed the North Carolina Prevention Action Plan, the Healthy NC 2020 objectives, and a plan to help local health departments in selecting, implementing, and evaluating evidence-based strategies to improve population health.

**Donald H. Taylor, Jr., PhD**, is a professor of public policy at Duke University and a founding faculty member of the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy, among numerous other Duke University affiliations. He also serves as chair of the Academic Council for Duke. Most of his ongoing research is in the area of end of life policy with a focus on patient decision making and Medicare policy on hospice and palliative care. He has served on national committees including National Academies Committee on Health Care Utilization and Adults with Disabilities and the HRSA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee that was created by the Affordable Care Act to reconsider how the federal government identifies health professional shortage areas and medically underserved areas. He holds three degrees from the University

of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, including a PhD in health policy and management from the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. Don regularly comments on health policy topics for the local, state and national media.

**Berkeley Yorkery, MPP**, is the Associate Director of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine. Ms. Yorkery served as Project Director at the NCIOM for seven years prior to becoming the Associate Director. As a project director she administered projects on mental health and substance abuse, child health, oral health, health care coverage, and other health issues affecting North Carolinians. Prior to joining the NCIOM, Berkeley worked on child health policy issues in North Carolina and nationally. Berkeley earned a Master's degree in Public Policy from Georgetown University in 2005. While at Georgetown, she was a research fellow for the Center for Research on Children in the US. She earned a Bachelor's in Psychology and Public Policy from Duke University in 2001.

**Adam J. Zolotor, MD, DrPH**, is the president and CEO of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine and an associate professor of Family Medicine at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. Dr. Zolotor has practiced family medicine in a small-town practice, rural emergency department, county health department, and academic medical center. Dr. Zolotor started his academic career in child injury research and is well-known nationally for his work on the prevention of physical abuse, shaken baby syndrome, and child discipline, as well as the policy issues around prevention. Dr. Zolotor joined the NCIOM in 2012 as the Vice President and has served as the President and CEO since 2014. Dr. Zolotor has been involved in the Institute's leadership in developing many new initiatives, including the rural health plan, the child maltreatment prevention plan, the plan for Alzheimer's and related dementia, and the legislative health policy fellowship program. He also led the NCMJ through a transformative change to a mostly online distribution with dramatic increase in the statewide footprint. Dr. Zolotor still practices family medicine at the University of North Carolina. He earned both his master's degree and doctorate in public health as well as his medical degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His undergraduate degree and residency training were at the University of Michigan.