

THE 2007 **PHLS** LEADERSHIP SERIES

Improving Quality on the Public Health Frontline: What Every Public Health Leader Should Know

Call #3: The Role of Public Health Quality Improvement Systems in Addressing the Obesity Epidemic

Speaker Biographies

Kathleen Nolan

Health Division Director
The Center of Best Practices
National Governors Association

Kathleen Nolan was named director of the Health Division in 2004, soon after joining the National Governors Association in the Center for Best Practices. As Division Director, Ms. Nolan directs research, policy analysis, technical assistance and project development for all health issues. The division works with state to share and implement best practices on health care issues facing states including health care quality, health IT and cost-containment, coverage initiatives, public health programs, and long-term care. Kathleen Nolan joined NGA after several years with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, where she was Senior Director for Prevention Policy, and supervised policy work in chronic disease prevention, injury control, and school health among others.

Ms. Nolan also worked as a Research Association with the Institute of Medicine (IOM), where she conducted policy research work in bioethics, disability programs, managed care, and quality improvement. Before moving to Washington DC, Ms. Nolan served as a Program Specialist in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, with various legislative, regulatory, and policy duties. Kathleen received her MPH from the George Washington University, and her BA in psychology from Carleton College in Northfield Minnesota.

Joyal Mulheron

Program Director
The Center of Best Practices
National Governors Association

Joyal Mulheron is a Program Director for the National Governors Association's Health Division located in Washington, DC. She manages the public health portfolio for the association by providing states with specialized technical assistance on programs and policies related to disease management, prevention, state employee health benefits, childhood obesity, and wellness design.

Prior to coming to NGA, Ms. Mulheron served as a Senior Policy Manager to American Cancer Society and independently consulted for the National Academies of Sciences. Ms. Mulheron holds a Masters of Science in Biotechnology from Johns Hopkins University and undergraduate degrees in biochemistry and English from Virginia Tech.

Public Health Leadership Society

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John Clymer

President

Partnership for Prevention

John Clymer is president of Partnership for Prevention, a nonprofit health policy research organization based in Washington, DC. Partnership is widely recognized by policy makers and health leaders as a source of scientifically sound health policy analysis and evidence-based recommendations. It brings together academia, industry, patients, health plans and health care professionals with federal, state and local governments to advance policies to prevent disease and promote health. Under John's leadership, Partnership's revenues have grown, CEOs and prominent public officials have joined its efforts, and legislation and regulations have incorporated Partnership's policy recommendations.

Beyond Partnership, John serves on the Task Force on Community Preventive Services, the board of directors of the National Partnership for Immunization and the Partnership for Clear Health Communications, and the Campaign for Public Health Advisory Council.

Before joining Partnership, John was vice president of external affairs of the Albert B. Sabin Vaccine Institute. He also founded Strategic Communications, a consulting firm that advises nonprofit organizations and for-profit corporations on creating synergies between public affairs, marketing, public relations and corporate communications. While an undergraduate at Wabash College, the CEO of Springs Industries, a Fortune 500 textile manufacturer, personally recruited John to join the firm. John quickly rose through four positions at Springs but his deep interest in public policy drew him away from a corporate career to consult and work with nonprofit public policy organizations.

Amy Rossi

Associate Director

Arkansas Center for Health Improvement

Amy L. Rossi, MSSW, LCSW is Associate Director at the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement. Ms Rossi joined the Center in 2004 after a celebrated career as director of the state's leading child advocacy organization. She has been recognized as an expert in issues impacting children that cover a wide spectrum of issue areas ranging from legal to economic to health. She has received numerous awards for improving the lives of Arkansas children through systemic change in public policies and re-allocation of public resources. One of her projects since joining ACHI has been the management and oversight of the collection of annual BMI assessments of school children. Additionally, she oversees the communication activities and public dissemination of work advanced at ACHI. Ms. Rossi received her masters degree from the University of Tennessee.