



RAISE Family Caregiving Advisory Council Meeting

April 28, 2021

Speaker Biographies

Administration for Community Living



Alison Barkoff

Acting Administrator & Assistant Secretary for Aging

Alison Barkoff was sworn into office as the Principal Deputy Administrator on January 20, 2021, and currently is serving as Acting Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging. In this capacity, she provides executive direction, leadership, guidance and coordination for ACL programs nationwide and advises the HHS Secretary on issues affecting individuals with disabilities and older adults.

Ms. Barkoff comes to ACL from the Center for Public Representation, where she served as Director of Advocacy. In that position, she led policy advocacy with federal agencies and Congress and legal advocacy nationally to advance community living and inclusion, including in the areas of healthcare, Medicaid home- and community-based services, employment, housing, and education. She led and participated in numerous coalitions with disability and aging organizations, including as co-chair of the Long-Term Services and Supports Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities. She has testified before Congress and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on disability rights and was appointed to serve on the federal Advisory Committee for Competitive Integrated Employment of People with Disabilities.

Ms. Barkoff previously served as Director of Advocacy at the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, where she worked on a range of disability, healthcare, education and civil rights issues. In earlier government roles, she served as Special Counsel for Olmstead Enforcement in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, leading efforts to enforce the rights of people with disabilities to live, work and fully participate in their

communities. She also worked with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the Department of Health and Human Services on policies related to Medicaid home- and community-based services and with the Department of Labor on issues affecting the workforce providing in-home services. She is a sibling to an adult brother with developmental disabilities and been involved in disability advocacy her entire life. She received her undergraduate degree from Cornell University and her Juris Doctor from Emory University School of Law.



Greg Link, MA
Director of the Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services

Greg Link is the Director of the Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services with the Administration for Community Living/U.S. Administration on Aging, which oversees programs funded under the Older Americans Act (OAA), including Title III-B in-home supportive services, Title III-E National Family Caregiver Support Program as well as ACL's Alzheimer's disease programs. Greg and his team also provide general oversight and technical assistance to the aging network on a range of program areas, including Information and Referral, family caregiver support programs and policies, housing, employment, transportation, LGBT aging, and Holocaust Survivors.

Before coming to ACL/AoA, Greg worked at the National Association of State Units on Aging where he provided technical assistance and training to states on family care giving, consumer direction, and transportation. Greg has also worked at the community level as a case manager and social services manager at Senior Friendship Centers in Fort Myers, Florida. There, he oversaw the social services staff and the delivery of services funded by the Older Americans Act, state funds and Medicaid waivers.

Greg holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Central Florida and a Master of Arts in Government from Johns Hopkins University.

Older Adults' Equity Collaborative (OAEC) Presentation



Joon Bang
President & CEO
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA)

Joon Y. Bang is the President and CEO of the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA), the nation's only nonprofit organization with the mission to preserve and promote the dignity, well-being, and quality of life of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and diverse communities as they age countrywide. Prior to joining NAPCA, Joon served as Executive Director of the Korean American Coalition (KAC) in Los Angeles. Under his leadership, KAC was selected as a California Nonprofit of the Year honoree in 2017 and in the following year he received the 2018 Impact-Maker to Watch award, an annual distinction for those who are doing foundational work to make a positive impact in Los Angeles with significant results.



Elana Kieffer, MBA
Acting Director, Center for Healthy Aging
The New York Academy of Medicine

Elana Kieffer is the Acting Director of The New York Academy of Medicine's Center for Healthy Aging. She has 15 years of experience working in a wide range of older adult services, with a focus on project management, program development, and sales and marketing. Prior to her time at the Academy, Elana worked at The New Jewish Home and at MJHS Hospice and Palliative Care. She also worked in affordable and market-rate senior housing for two Boston-based organizations, The Community Builders and Hebrew SeniorLife. Elana has an MBA in nonprofit management with a concentration in aging services from the Heller School at Brandeis University.



Keisha Lewis, MS, OTR/L, CDCES, CAPS
Consultant, Health Programs
National Caucus and Center on Black Aging, Inc. (NCBA)

Keisha Lewis is a practicing occupational therapist and certified diabetes care and education specialist with more than 17 years of experience working in the fields of human services, mental health, and physical disability. She serves as a consultant with the Health Programs for the National Caucus and Center on Black Aging, Inc. In 2019 Keisha Co-Founded Welldom LLC, an Aging in Place Consultancy.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy and a Master of Science in Health Promotion Management with certifications as a Diabetes Care and Education Specialist and Certified Aging in Place Specialist.

Keisha's ultimate focus is empowering individuals with the skills they need to be independent in their environment without fear.



Rebecca Owl Morgan
Project Coordinator
National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA)

Rebecca Owl Morgan is a Project Coordinator at the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA). She is an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians located in the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina. She has degrees in history and library science. Her work at NICOA has highlighted the strengths and proud history of Native people and the helpful tools elders can use to become powerful self-advocates for themselves and their tribe.



Shannon Patrick, MPH
Program Director
MHP Salud

Shannon Patrick received a master's in public health degree from the University of Michigan and has four years of experience managing Community Health Worker programs in Hispanic communities. She is currently the director of MHP Salud's Strengthening Aging service for Older Hispanic Adults program, a minority Technical Assistance Resource Center (TARC) funded by the Administration for Community Living. Shannon has experience teaching, conducting research, and presenting her work at various local, state, and national level conferences.



Sherrill Wayland, MSW
Director of National Education Initiatives
SAGE

Sherrill Wayland is the Director of National Education Initiatives where she directs work of the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging (NRC), SAGE/HRC Foundation Long-term Care Equality Index and leads operations for SAGECare. Sherrill began work with SAGE at the local level in 2008, founding the SAGE Affiliate in St. Louis, MO and became a certified trainer with SAGE in 2011. Prior to joining SAGE at the national level, she successfully led the merger of SAGE in St. Louis with the Missouri Statewide Equality Organization, PROMO Fund. Sherrill earned a Master of Social Work degree from the Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis and has over 25 years of professional experience in the fields of education, disability and LGBT older adult advocacy.

Listening Sessions Presentation



Pamela Nadash, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Gerontology
McCormack Graduate School
University of Massachusetts

Pamela Nadash is an Associate Professor of Gerontology at University of Massachusetts Boston, in the McCormack School of Policy & Global Studies and Fellow of the LeadingAge LTSS Center@Umass Boston. Her work centers on policies that enable people with long term care needs to access the supportive services they need. This work includes a focus on financing of long term services and supports, nursing home quality, home and community-based services, and supportive housing; it also includes looking cross-nationally at different countries' long term care financing and service delivery systems, as well as studying variations in policies and practices among states in the US; she also has a special interest in policies that support informed choice and the politics of aging. She sits on the Leadership Council of The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care. Her work has been published in Health Affairs, Health Services Research, The Gerontologist, and The Milbank Quarterly. At UMass Boston, she teaches policy courses in the Gerontology PhD program and in the Management of Aging Services program.

Prior to academia, she worked for Thomson Medstat as consultant and has extensive experience conducting both qualitative and quantitative studies on aging and disability issues for nonprofits, including the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and the National Council on Aging. Her career also includes six years as at the Policy Studies Institute and the Consumers' Association in the UK. She earned her Ph.D. in Public Health and Political Science from Columbia University and has a master's in political theory from Oxford University and an undergraduate degree in philosophy from Bryn Mawr College.



Carol Reagan
Senior Advisor
Center for Consumer Engagement in Health Innovation,
Community Catalyst

With over 40 years of experience with national and state-based public policy and advocacy organizations, Carol's work has included policy research, analysis and legislative advocacy primarily on health insurance coverage, programs and services for low-income children and families, long-term care, caregiving and workforce development. Her work at the Center has focused on improving care for older adults.

Before joining Community Catalyst, Carol was the Director of Government Affairs for PHI (Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute) leading its federal policy work to improve the quality of care in the eldercare/disability services sector by improving the quality of jobs. Before opening PHI's Washington, DC office, she was the Director of PHI's Health Care for Health Care Workers campaign, advocating affordable health coverage for direct care workers. She has held policy positions at the Service Employees International Union, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union and the Children's Defense Fund, authored, and co-authored numerous publications and journal articles. Carol was the Interim Executive Director of the Herndon Alliance, an Adjunct Professor at the National Labor College in Silver Spring, Maryland, and a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance. Reagan received her Master's in Public Health from the University of Michigan.