

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES:**

### **“Massachusetts Health Reform: Bragging Rights and Growing Pains”**

May 19, 2008

**MATT FISHMAN** is the vice president for community health at Partners HealthCare, a non-profit integrated health system founded by Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. His work focuses on improving systems of care for low-income and uninsured patients and providing affordable coverage for the uninsured through implementation of the landmark Massachusetts health care reform law, which he worked with many other people to help design. Since 1994, Matt has led Partners' efforts to collaborate with community health centers and other community-focused organizations to make measurable progress on urban public health problems. Previously, Mr. Fishman was the administrator for Brigham and Women’s Hospital’s emergency department, where he led efforts to reduce overcrowding and improve patient satisfaction. Mr. Fishman began his career as budget director for the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare and then as assistant secretary of Health and Human Services during the second and third terms of Governor Michael Dukakis, where he played a major role in the first effort (1988) to design and implement a statewide universal health coverage system. He also led efforts to improve services for the elderly, expand substance abuse and HIV/AIDS treatment, and convert underutilized hospitals to other healthcare uses. Mr. Fishman serves on the boards of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Massachusetts, the Institute for Community Health, and the Massachusetts Medicaid Policy Institute. He is a graduate of Harvard College. He is married to Robin Lipson, and they have two children.

**JON KINGSDALE** is the executive director of the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority, an independent authority established in 2006 under Massachusetts’ landmark health reform legislation. As the founding director, he leads key initiatives to make health insurance universally available and to reform health care financing in Massachusetts. Prior to joining the Connector Authority, Dr. Kingsdale worked as a senior executive for Tufts Health Plans, where he held numerous responsibilities, including strategic planning, public affairs and government relations. He has also worked in strategic planning and reimbursement at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, researched hospital finances at the Harvard School of Public Health, worked as a reporter for *Forbes* magazine and consulted on health policy issues in Washington, D.C. He received his bachelor degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a doctorate in economic history from the University of Michigan. He has taught at the Harvard School of Public Health, the Boston University School of Public Health and Tufts University School of Medicine.

**JOHN E. McDONOUGH** is executive director of Health Care for All, the leading consumer health advocacy organization in Massachusetts. From 1998 through 2003, he was an associate professor at the Heller School at Brandeis University. From 1985 to 1997, he served as a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives where he co-chaired the Joint Committee on Health Care. Dr. McDonough teaches at the Harvard School of Public Health and will join Senator Edward Kennedy’s office as his senior advisor on national health reform in June 2008. His articles have appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Health Affairs* and other journals. He has written two books, *Experiencing Politics: A Legislator’s Stories of Government and Health Care* by the University of California Press and the Milbank

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Fund in 2000, and *Interests, Ideas, and Deregulation: The Fate of Hospital Rate Setting* by the University of Michigan Press in 1998. He received a master's degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and a doctorate in public health from the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan.

**GRACE-MARIE TURNER** is president of the Galen Institute, a public policy research organization that she founded in 1995 to promote an informed debate over free-market ideas for health reform. She has spoken and written extensively about incentives to promote a more competitive, consumer-driven marketplace in the health sector. She testifies regularly before Congress and advises the White House, other senior administration officials, governors and state legislators on health policy. Ms. Turner just completed a three-year term as a member of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality and recently served as a member of the Medicaid Commission, charged with making recommendations to modernize and improve Medicaid. She is the editor of *Empowering Health Care Consumers through Tax Reform* and produces a widely-read weekly electronic newsletter, *Health Policy Matters*. In the mid-1990s, Ms. Turner served as executive director of the National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform. For 12 years, she was president of Arnett & Co., a health policy analysis and communications firm. Her early career was in politics and journalism, where she received numerous awards for her writings on politics and economics.