

**Mid-Year Virtual Convening:
Answering the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Control Hypertension**



NATIONAL FORUM
FOR HEART DISEASE & STROKE PREVENTION

**May 6, 2021
1-3 PM EDT**

Purpose:

- Inform National Forum members and stakeholders of successful strategies and practices to improve blood pressure control.
- Motivate participants to carry out effective strategies to improve blood pressure control in their settings.

Welcome

Warren A. Jones, MD, FAAFP, National Forum Chair

Captain, United States Navy Medical Corps (Ret.)
Professor Emeritus of Family Medicine, University of Mississippi Medical Center
President, American Academy of Family Physicians, 2001-2002

John M. Clymer

Executive Director
The National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention

Collateral Damage from COVID-19

Karen Hacker, MD, MPH

Director, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Hypertension Control – Driver of Vascular Health

Walter Koroshetz, MD

Director
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of Health

Answering the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Control Hypertension: Success Stories

Million Hearts® Hypertension Champions

Laurence Sperling, MD, Executive Director, Million Hearts®, interviews
Dave Faldmo, PA-C, MPAS, Quality Director/Medical Director and
Erin Hoefling, RN, Quality Specialist
Center Siouxland Community Health Center – Sioux City, Iowa and Nebraska

Mobilizing Faith-based and Trusted Community Leaders in Buffalo, New York to Improve Blood Pressure Control in Underserved Communities

Meg E. Guerin-Calvert, Senior Managing Director, President, Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy, FTI Consulting interviews

Rev. George F. Nicholas, Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church, Buffalo, New York

Maria Whyte, Deputy County Executive, at Erie County, New York

Answering the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Control Hypertension: Next Steps

Expanding the Use of Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring

Janet S. Wright, MD, FACC, Director (Acting), Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Maria Prince, MD, MPH

Medical Director, Aetna, A CVS Health Company

Stretch Break

Jen Childress, MS, MCHES

Senior Program Manager

National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention

Stress and Anxiety: Missing Links in Hypertension Control

Bernadette Mazurek Melnyk, PhD, RN, APRN-CNP, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN

Vice President for Health Promotion, University Chief Wellness Officer, Dean and Professor, College of Nursing, Professor of Pediatrics & Psychiatry, College of Medicine, Executive Director, The Helene Fuld Health Trust Nat. Institute for Evidence-based Practice

Leading by Example: Raising Hypertension Awareness

The Honorable Hardie Davis, Jr.

Mayor of Augusta, Georgia

Member Updates

American Heart Association

Juliana Crawford

Senior Vice President, Consumer Health

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Andrea Sharkey, MPH

Project Manager

Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention

National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative

Call to Action

Ileana L. Piña, MD, MPH, FAHA, FACC

Professor of Medicine, Wayne State University

Clinical Professor of Medicine, Central Michigan University

Panelist Bios



Warren A. Jones, MD, FAAFP
Captain, United States Navy Medical Corps (Ret.)
Chair Emeritus of Family Medicine
University of Mississippi Medical Center

Warren Jones, MD, FAAFP has over thirty years of experience in health care. Notably, he founded and established the Mississippi Institute for Improvement of Geographic Minority Health and Health Disparities (MIGMH) at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMC). Over the course of his tenure there, Jones secured approximately \$38 million for MIGMH and its constituent programs.

Jones' other professional experience includes directing the State of Mississippi's Medicaid Program. As program director, he was responsible for providing health care for over 768,00 Mississippians. He also developed and implemented the Mississippi Medicaid Medical Home program that allowed for annual physical examinations and health assessments. Over the course of his career, Jones has been recognized for his pioneering efforts in the field of health as well as a distinguished educator. He was recognized as Outstanding Minority Educator in the State of Mississippi and was elected the first and only African American President of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

He was also the first African American appointed as an associate vice chancellor at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Jones is the Chair Emeritus of Family Medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMC), Chair Emeritus of the National Medical Association's Family Medicine Section, and Immediate Distinguished Professor of Health Policy at UMC. Prior to Hampton, he held the NIH Endowed Chair in Health Disparities Research at Dillard University, his undergraduate alma mater. He is the recipient of many awards and honors including an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Tougaloo College. A native of New Orleans, Dr. Jones is a 1978 graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans. He is married to the former Gennie Lacy of Pickens, MS and the father of six children: Aaron, Keith, Winston, Deanna, Cassandra, and Madison.



Karen Hacker, MD, MPH
Director
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Karen Hacker, MD, MPH, is the Director of CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, where she oversees more than 1,000 staff dedicated to preventing chronic diseases and promoting health across the life span.

Before joining CDC in 2019, Dr. Hacker was Director of the Allegheny County Health

Department in Pennsylvania. Previously, she held a variety of leadership roles at the Cambridge Health Alliance in Massachusetts, including her role as the Senior Medical Director for Public and Community Health.

Dr. Hacker has published extensively and is an expert in community-based participatory research (CBPR). She served as the Director of the CBPR program of the Harvard Clinical and Translational Science Award Initiative and wrote Community-Based Participatory Action Research, a widely used academic text.

Dr. Hacker received her MD from Northwestern University School of Medicine and her MPH with Honors from Boston University School of Public Health.



Walter J. Koroshetz, M.D.
Director
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institutes of Health

Walter J. Koroshetz, M.D. is the Director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. The NINDS is the major Institute at NIH that funds stroke research and has as its mission to decrease the burden of illness due to stroke through research. NINDS actively pursues neuroscience and cerebrovascular science that will inform improved stroke prevention, acute stroke treatment and post-stroke rehabilitation.

Prior to assuming his post at NIH, Dr. Koroshetz was the Vice-Chair of Neurology at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), Chair of the Partners Neurology residency committee, director of the Partners Stroke Program, director of the MGH Stroke Service, and Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School. Over his 25 years of practice in Boston, he specialized in stroke care in general and acute stroke treatment and advanced acute stroke imaging in particular. He was awarded the C. Miller Fisher. Dr. Koroshetz graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown University and attended the University of Chicago Pritzker School of medicine where he obtained his M.D. and completed two years of medical residency. In 1981 Dr. Koroshetz moved to the MGH where he finished his residency in Internal Medicine and then began Neurology residency finishing as Chief Resident. After residency, he entered the laboratory of Dr. David Corey to train in cellular neurophysiology and neurobiology. His laboratory work focused on excitotoxicity, a cause of neuronal cell death in various disease states. In 1994 he became director of the Neurointensive care and acute stroke services and in 2005 became Director of the MGH stroke service.



Laurence S. Sperling, MD, FACC, FACP, FAHA, FASP
Executive Director, Million Hearts®

Larry Sperling, MD, FACC, FACP, FAHA, FASPC began his role as the new executive director of Million Hearts at the end of September 2019. Sperling has been a practicing cardiologist for more than 20 years, he has published more than 300 articles and book chapters, and has served on numerous regional, national, and international committees charged with addressing cardiovascular disease.

As an Emory University cardiologist, he established the university's preventive cardiology program in 1997. Sperling was awarded the American College of Cardiology Harry B. Graf Career Development Award for Heart Disease Prevention and the American Heart Association Council on Clinical Cardiology Scholarship for Physical Activity and Public Health in 2001. He was also the recipient of the 2017 Award of Honor from Emory University's Alumni Association. Sperling is originally from New York. He received his undergraduate degree from Emory University where he was accepted into the School of Medicine's early acceptance program as a college sophomore. He graduated with his MD in 1989 and subsequently completed eight additional years of training at Emory including a residency in internal medicine, chief resident year at Emory University Hospital, an NIH-supported research fellowship in molecular and vascular medicine, and a clinical fellowship in cardiovascular diseases. While serving as the Million Hearts Executive Director, he will continue to see patients and remain an active member of the Emory faculty as the Katz Professor in Preventive Cardiology and professor at the Rollins School of Public Health.



David N. Faldmo, PA-C, MPAS, CHCEF
Quality Director/Medical Director
Siouxland Community Health Center

For more than 25 years, David Faldmo has worked at the Siouxland Community Health Center in Sioux City, Iowa and currently serves as the Quality Director. He received his Master of Physician Assistant Studies from the University of Iowa in 1992, Bachelor of Science from Morningside College in 1990, and Associates of Arts from Dixie College in 1887. Faldmo was instrumental in the Siouxland Community Health exploring innovative models of care including shared medical appointments for patients with diabetes and starting an endocrinology Project ECHO – Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes – program in collaboration with the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He was also instrumental in shaping and piloting the Protocol for Responding to and Assessing Patient Assets, Risks, and Experiences (PRAPARE) project—a national effort to help health centers and other providers collect the data needed to better understand and act on their patients' social determinants of health.



Erin Hoefling, RN
Quality Specialist
Siouxland Community Health Center

Erin Hoefling, Quality Specialist, joined the Siouxland Community Health Center in 2013. She enjoys finding new ways to drive and promote quality throughout her Federally Qualified Health Center and works closely with provider teams. Erin graduated in 2012 with her Associate of Applied Science in Nursing. Also, she has an Associate of Applied Science in Computer Networking Administration and Security. Before becoming a registered nurse, Erin was part of the business process outsourcing industry, giving her seven years of customer service and quality control experience. As a Quality Specialist, Erin finds her combined work and educational experience has been influential in her role and responsibilities. Erin spends her time finding ways to improve patient care and improving patient satisfaction. She has been instrumental in managing the endocrinology Project ECHO sponsored by Siouxland Community Health Center and plays an integral role in all the innovative work done at the health center with assessing and addressing social determinants of health.



Meg Guerin-Calvert
Senior Managing Director and President
Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy
FTI Consulting, Inc.

Margaret (Meg) Guerin-Calvert is a Senior Managing Director at FTI Consulting in Washington, D.C., and founding President of its Center for Healthcare Economics and Policy. She has over 30 years of experience as an economist in both public and private sectors, in competition and regulatory policy, mergers, damages, class certification, and intellectual property in healthcare and other industries. She is also a founding director of Compass Lexecon and has served as Senior Consultant, Compass Lexecon, and continues in this role on selected matters. She leads FTI's Center initiatives on health, health equity, economic impact, and cross-sector collaboratives; which seek to provide cross-sector stakeholders with actionable data and data-driven analytics on drivers of medical and productivity costs of chronic conditions and their economic impact for innovative strategies and measurable benefit. These approaches address inter-relationships between health and socio-economic factors and their impacts on the health and economic vitality of a region; recent work with collaboratives involve health, health equity, and economic impact of COVID-19.

She led FTI's work with World Economic Forum's Workplace Wellness Alliance in: "Making the Right Investment: Employee Health and the Power of Metrics." She has served as an economic advisor to clients and governments in the U.S. and internationally, including state insurance agencies; parties involved in Certificate of Need (CON) or Certificate of Public Advantage

(COPA); and in market-wide inquiries into healthcare competition such as the Competition Commission of South Africa's Healthcare Market Inquiry (HMI). Her healthcare interests include economic analyses of markets, capacity, health metrics, community needs assessment, integration, and efforts to reduce total cost of care and market-based solutions for consumer, competition, and public interest issues.

She served as Assistant Chief, U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division, Federal Reserve Board economist, and taught economics at Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy (formerly Institute of Policy Sciences). Her professional organization positions include a member of the American Economic Association; member of AcademyHealth; Co-Chair of NASEM's Action Collaborative on Business Engagement in Building Healthy Communities; member of NASEM's Roundtable on Population Health Improvement; member of NASEM's Business Engagement in Obesity Solutions Innovation Collaborative; and several leadership positions of task forces and committees at the antitrust law section of the American Bar Association, where she recently was inducted into an inaugural group of four women professionals in the Section's Women Connected Committee's 2020 Hall of Fame-inism for her outstanding contributions to advancing the field and mentoring colleagues. She has an A.B. in economics, Brown University and MPA from Princeton School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University.



Pastor George Nicholas
Lincoln Memorial United Methodist
Buffalo, New York

Pastor George Nicholas, MDiv is the Senior pastor of Lincoln Memorial United Methodist, Buffalo, NY. He has been recognized by the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist for his work on urban ministries. Pastor Nicholas is an advocate for social justice and community revitalization. He is one of the founding members of the Concerned Clergy Coalition of Western New York. Pastor Nicholas has a particular passion for public health, as a result, he is a founding member of the African-American Health Equity Task Force which birthed the Buffalo Center for Health Equity of which he is the Chair. In addition, he is on the Executive Committee of the Board of the Population Health Collaborative. Pastor Nicholas holds an undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and a graduate degree from SUNY at Buffalo and Colgate Rochester Divinity School

Pastor Nicholas is married for 25 years to Daun Nicholas and they have 5 children Kristin, Desmond, George Jr. Joel and Caleb.



Maria Whyte
Deputy County Executive
Erie County, New York

Maria Whyte is currently the Deputy County Executive (DCE) in Erie County, NY serving in this post since January 2015, and the first female in a generation to hold the title. As DCE she advances the County's most significant economic development projects and provides strategic operational support for the County's many departments. From January 2012 to January 2015, Maria served Erie County as the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning (DEP).

Prior to becoming DEP Commissioner, Maria served six years as the 6th District Erie County Legislator, representing Buffalo's Westside, Black Rock, and Riverside. She served as the Democratic Majority Leader during her entire tenure on the Legislature and is the first freshman legislator to be elected Majority Leader. Maria graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in International Relations with Honors from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. She was named one of Buffalo's "10 MOST POWERFUL WOMEN" by the Buffalo Spree magazine in 2006; featured in Business First's list of "40 under 40" in 2016, and named one of the "Power 125 Women" by Business First in 2019. Maria is originally from Kansas City but moved to Buffalo in October 1999 and currently lives with her husband and two children on Buffalo's west side.



Janet S. Wright
Acting Director, Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

Dr. Wright returned to CDC in December 2020 to serve as acting director in the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention. She recently completed a two-year detail in the Office of the Surgeon General as the acting Director of Science and Policy. In that role, she was charged with ensuring the scientific integrity of the Office's projects, reports, and presentations and with engagement of powerful partners to advance the Office's mission. During her service, the Office produced a Surgeon General's Advisory on Marijuana and the Developing Brain; two Surgeon General's Reports (Tobacco Cessation and Community Health and Economic Prosperity); and three Surgeon General's Calls to Action (Hypertension, Maternal Health, and Suicide Prevention). She received the 2020 Surgeon General's Award for Exemplary Service.

From 2011 to 2019, Dr. Wright served as executive director of Million Hearts®, a national HHS initiative that CDC co-leads with CMS to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes over a five-year period. In the first five-year phase, an estimated 500,000 cardiovascular events were prevented through the efforts in all 50 states and DC and over 125 public and private partners. Prior to federal service, Dr. Wright served as Senior Vice President for Science and Quality at the American College of Cardiology from 2008 to 2011, providing medical and scientific oversight of clinical guidelines, performance measures, health policy statements, and

appropriate use criteria; quality improvement projects; and the National Cardiovascular Data Registry, a suite of databases containing millions of patient records in both inpatient and outpatient care settings.

Dr. Wright practiced cardiology for many years in Chico, California, and during those years, she served on ACC's Board of Trustees, NCQA's Physician Program Committee, and the Center for Information Therapy, a non-profit organization committed to the provision of personalized health information during each health encounter.

Dr. Wright received her MD from the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center and completed her internal medicine residency at Children's Hospital and Adult Medical Center and her fellowship in cardiology at San Francisco General Hospital and the University of California, San Francisco.



Maria Prince, MD, MPH

Medical Director, Aetna, A CVS Health Company

Aetna, a CVS Health Company Dr. Maria Prince, a Board-certified Preventive Medicine and Public Health physician, is an Aetna Senior Medical Director serving the Medicare Advantage and Commercial membership in the Maryland, DC, and Virginia markets. She is responsible for population health management, utilization management, and sales and network clinical support.

She serves as a preventive medicine subject matter expert for Aetna and CVS initiatives, including product innovations, value-based provider contracts, and Social Determinants of Health and Health Equity partnerships. In addition, she serves as the liaison to the American College of Preventive Medicine and American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, spearheads Aetna's participation in national initiatives to improve population health, and supports community health initiatives in the market. Her extensive primary care, utilization management, and public health expertise has been obtained from her work with local, state, and federal governments, academia, voluntary health associations, healthcare providers, employers, and the military.

She served as the lead medical director for the Maryland Medicaid Utilization Control Agent with Maryland's Quality Improvement Organization. She led statewide chronic disease prevention and control efforts for the State of Maryland Department of Health. She is a veteran of the US Air Force where she served as a primary care physician and flight surgeon at Edwards Air Force Base. Dr. Prince completed her medical degree, masters of public health degree, internal medicine internship, and preventive medicine residency at Johns Hopkins University. She resides in Fulton, MD with her husband and four children.



Jen Childress, MS, MCHES

Senior Program Manager
National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention

Jen Childress manages the National Forum's Value & Access and Move with the Mayor initiatives. Jen brings 20 years' experience in the field of health promotion. She co-created & launched HealthLead®, a comprehensive workplace & academic health promotion program accreditation initiative designed to assist organizations and universities in enhancing their health & wellness management policies. Jen has over a decade of leadership in both the private and non-profit sectors organizing events & convening stakeholders, including recruiting & educating lay-leaders, senior leaders, & community champions. In 2016, she was named one of the National Top Ten Business Women of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) for her contributions to business, community & the association.

Jen holds a master's degree in health Promotion Management & certificates in Personal Fitness Training, Coaching & Health Education. She has authored content published in peer-reviewed articles & textbooks.



Bernadette Mazurek Melnyk, PhD, RN, APRN-CNP, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN,

Vice President for Health Promotion, University Chief Wellness Officer, Dean and Professor, College of Nursing, Professor of Pediatrics & Psychiatry, College of Medicine, Executive Director, The Helene Fuld Health Trust National Institute for Evidence-based Practice

Bernadette Melnyk is VP for Health Promotion, University Chief Wellness Officer, Professor and Dean of the College of Nursing at The Ohio State University, Professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at OSU's College of Medicine, and Executive Director of the Helene Fuld Health Trust National Institute for EBP. She is a pediatric and psychiatric mental health NP and is nationally/internationally recognized as an expert in EBP, intervention research, child and adolescent mental health, and health & wellness. Her funding record includes over 33 million dollars from federal agencies as PI. She is co-editor of five books and over 400 publications.

Dr. Melnyk is an elected fellow of the National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Nursing, the National Academies of Practice, and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. She is a member of the NQF Behavioral Health Phase 3 Standing Committee and serves as editor of the journal Worldviews on Evidence-based Nursing. She is an invited member of the National Academy of Medicine's Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-being and Resilience and is a board member of the National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention.

Dr. Melnyk founded the National Interprofessional Education and Practice Collaborative to advance the DHHS's Million Hearts® initiative. She created and chaired the National Summits on Building Healthy Academic Communities in April 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019, founded the National Consortium for Building Healthy Academic Communities, a collaborative organization

to improve population health in the nation's institutions of higher learning, and served as its first president.



**John M. Clymer, Executive Director
National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention**

John Clymer is executive director of the National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit that serves as a catalyst for public-private collaboration to prevent cardiovascular disease. Additionally, Clymer serves on the U.S. Community Preventive Services Task Force. He is a Fellow of the Institute for Health Policy and Leadership and adjunct assistant professor at Loma Linda University, and a guest lecturer at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Clymer is the TEDMED Thought Leader for Making Prevention Popular and Profitable. He has authored and co-authored book chapters, testified before various legislatures, given numerous Congressional briefings, and appeared in media such as NBC Nightly News, public radio, and The New York Times. He has served as a subject matter expert at the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos, and on the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Chronic Disease and Malnutrition, and other advisory and governing boards.

Clymer led Partnership for Prevention as its President from 2001-2008, when it won passage of landmark Medicare legislation; was recognized by Harvard Business Review for a "Breakthrough Idea;" and, with former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher, established the National Commission on Prevention Priorities. While increasing PfP's impact, he quadrupled its income.



**The Honorable Dr. Hardie Davis, Jr.
Mayor of Augusta, Georgia**

Dr. Hardie Davis Jr., the 84th Mayor of Augusta, former State Representative, and former State Senator, is a results-driven elected official with 14 years of experience in local & state government, public relations, economic development, and workforce development. Mayor Davis has been recognized by numerous philanthropic organizations and constituent groups for his leadership and contributions to the Augusta community and the state at large. The Georgia Bio, The Georgia Chamber of Commerce, Smart Cities New York, Smart Cities Atlanta, and the Georgia Association for Career and Technical Education have all heralded the accomplishments of Mayor Davis. He has also consistently been featured in Georgia Trend magazine's annual list of 100 Most Influential Georgians.

During his tenure as Mayor, Augustans have seen tremendous economic growth & development, including global recognition for a few of his signature projects. Significant accomplishments to date include a reduction to the city's unemployment rate to under 4%, the establishment of the \$126 million Georgia Cyber Innovation and Training Center, achieving the highest bond rating in city history of Aa2, and the transformative rollout of Open Augusta, the

financial transparency database which allows stakeholders direct access to government spending.

As a strategic thinker and distinguished lawmaker, Mayor Davis served as Chairman of the Interstate Cooperation Committee and as an active member of the Economic Development, Ethics, Finance, and Higher Education State Senate Committees. He is also a founding member and the immediate Past President of the African American Mayor's Association. Additionally, he serves as Director At-Large for the Georgia Municipal Association. Nationally, Mayor Davis currently serves on the Executive Committee of the United States Conference of Mayors and as Co-Chair of the Technology & Innovation Task Force.

Mayor Davis is a product of Richmond County Schools graduating from Hephzibah High School and receiving a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering Degree from Georgia Tech before becoming an electrical engineer at national corporations with expertise in systems, automation, and controls engineering. He then earned a Doctor of Ministry Degree from the Christian Life School of Theology and through his stewardship, he founded Abundant Life Worship Center in Augusta, where he serves as senior pastor. Additionally, he completed a leadership program from Harvard University and a Certificate in Health Policy from Georgia State University.

Above all, his family is at the heart of his endeavors. His parents, Hardie and Delois Davis, instilled within him the values of hard work, respect for his fellow man, and service to others during his formative years in Forsyth, GA. Currently, Mayor Davis resides in Augusta with his wife of 26 years, Evett, their son, Benjamin Joshua, and their family dog, Diego.



Juliana Crawford
Senior Vice President for Consumer and Patient Health
American Heart Association

Juliana Crawford is the Senior Vice President for Consumer and Patient Health at the American Heart Association's National Center. In this role, she oversees portfolios of business for priority markets and issues tied to the association's strategic plan. This includes the Patient, Women and Kids Markets, as well as the Healthy Living and Health Equity issue areas and the American Stroke Association. Her work also involves the enterprise-wide integration of key functional areas across the organization including Communications, Marketing, Advocacy, Science, Quality Improvement and Development.



Andrea Sharkey
Project Manager
Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Andrea Sharkey is a Project Manager in the Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention at the New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

Andrea coordinates the National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative (NSSRI), an initiative that promotes voluntary and gradual reductions in sugar content in packaged foods and beverages. Additional responsibilities in this role include building nutrition databases for sodium and sugar content analyses, convening the NSSRI partnership, overseeing the development and maintenance of MenuStat (a free online database of restaurant nutrition), and supporting various programs and policies aimed at reducing the burden of diet-related chronic disease. Andrea has an MPH from New York University and a BA from the University of Pennsylvania.



Ileana L. Piña, MD, MPH, FAHA, FACC
Professor of Medicine, Wayne State University
Clinical Professor of Medicine, Central Michigan University

Ileana L. Piña, MD, MPH, is a Professor of Medicine, at Wayne State University and Clinical Professor at Central Michigan University. Dr. Piña also serves as Senior Fellow to the Food and Drug Administrations' Center for Devices and Radiological Health. Dr. Piña earned her undergraduate degree in chemistry from the University of Miami in Florida. She completed her medical degree and cardiology fellowship at the University of Miami School of Medicine; an internal medicine residency at the University of South Florida Tampa, where she was Chief Resident; and fulfilled a surgery internship at the University of Miami Hospitals and Clinics. She earned a master's degree in public health from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio while pursuing a VA Quality Fellowship. Dr. Piña's research interests include transition of care in heart failure patients, and the role of natriuretic peptide-guided management for patients hospitalized for heart failure, biomarkers of myocardial stress and fibrosis in chronic heart failure, and heart failure differences by sex. She has been actively involved in gender, racial and ethnic issues in the health care delivery. She is the author/co-author of more than 250 publications. She is currently the Chair of the FIT committee of the AHA and on the Board of Directors National AHA.