



# Maryland

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

### Maryland AHEAD Primary Care Advisory Council Members

NUMBER OF SLOTS	MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	MEMBERS
1	State Legislative Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Senator Pamela Beidle</li> </ul>
5	Practicing Primary Care Clinicians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Julio Menocal, MD, Menocal Medical Services</li> <li>● Falana Carter, MD, Maryland Primary Care Physicians</li> <li>● Kenneth Buczynski, MD, Wellspring Family Medicine</li> <li>● Mercy Obamogie, MD, JD, MPH, MBA, FAAFP, Mercy Family Medicine &amp; Associates</li> <li>● Pankaj Kheterpal, MD, Charm City Healthcare</li> </ul>
2	Practicing FQHC Clinicians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ursula McClymont, MD, Baltimore Medical System</li> <li>● Marcee White, MD, Total Healthcare CEO</li> </ul>
2	Practicing Pediatricians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sandy Chung, MD, FAAP, FACHE, Trusted Doctors</li> <li>● Scott Krugman, MD, MS, FAAP, Lifebridge</li> </ul>
3	Medical Societies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Robin Motter-Mast, DO, MBA, FAAFP, DipABLM, CPE, MedChi</li> <li>● Amar Duggirala, MD, MPH, FAAFP, Maryland Academy of Family Physicians</li> <li>● Jeffrey Bernstein, MD, Maryland Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics</li> </ul>

3	Behavioral Health Expert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Linda Raines, Maryland Mental Health Assoc.</li> <li>● Dimitrios Cavathas, LCSW, Lower Shore Clinic CEO</li> <li>● Meghan Crosby Budinger, MS, LCPC, Maryland BHIPP</li> </ul>
1	Pharmacist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, UMD School of Pharmacy</li> </ul>
4	Care Managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Leigh Hunter, LCSW, ACM-SW, Frederick Health</li> <li>● Carlene James, LMSW, PhD, Southern Maryland Medical Group</li> <li>● Shantel Matthews, MSN, RN, CCM, Aledade CTO</li> <li>● Carla Leedy, BSN, RN, CHHCM, UPMC Western Maryland</li> </ul>
1	Practice Administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● John Lease, MS, Calvert Internal Medicine</li> </ul>
1	FQHC Administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Brian Bailey, MS, Mountain Laurel CEO</li> </ul>
4	Care Transformation Organization Administrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Vicky Parikh, MD, Medstar Shah</li> <li>● Arumani Manisundaram, Netrin</li> <li>● Nkem Okeke, MD, MPH, MBA, MSPM Medicalincs</li> <li>● Chaunte Harris, PharmD, Prime CTO</li> </ul>

## Member Biographies

### Maryland Senator Pamela Beidle

In 2019 Maryland Senator Beidle began her service as the Senator representing District 32. Pam began her service on the County Council from 1998 to 2006, and in the House of Delegates from 2006 to 2019. She is the Chair of the Finance Committee. She was a member of the Environment and Transportation Committee where she chaired the Motor Vehicle and Transportation Policy sub-committee. She also served on the Joint Audit Committee, the Maryland Tourism Development Council, and previously served as the Chair of the Executive Nominations Committee. For additional information on Senator Beidle’s work and accomplishments, please visit the [Maryland General Assembly website](#).

**Julio Menocal, MD, Menocal Medical Services**

Dr. Julio Jose Menocal is a family medicine physician at Menocal Family Practice and an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He has held various leadership roles, including Medical Director of Parkview Medical Group and Menocal Family Practice. Dr. Menocal has a strong focus on private practice, emphasizing care for children with Medical Assistance, and has been involved in numerous clinical activities, including the development of healthcare databases and protocols for managing chronic conditions. He has also served as a preceptor for nursing and medical students and has received several honors and awards for his contributions to the medical field and community.

**Falana Carter, MD, Maryland Primary Care Physicians**

Dr. Falana P. Carter is a family medicine physician with Maryland Primary Care Physicians (MPCP). She currently serves as Population Health Medical Director and Clinical Director at MPCP Arundel Mills. Her roles involve overseeing clinical operations, staff supervision, policy development, quality improvement, compliance, and patient care. She is actively involved in population health initiatives, including analyzing reports, developing workflows, creating webinars, and collaborating on cost-saving strategies. Dr. Carter is also an elected member of the MPCP Board of Directors.

**Kenneth Buczynski, MD, Wellspring Family Medicine**

Dr. Buczynski is a family medicine physician with Wellspring Family Practice, which he established in 2004 and joined with Privia Medical Group in 2021. He also continues to provide a broad scope of inpatient and outpatient care, including obstetrics and emergency medicine, at Garrett Regional Medical Center. Dr. Buczynski has served on the Maryland Healthcare Commission and the MDPCP advisory council, and has experience as a nursing home medical director and with a medical transport company. Wellspring Family Medicine will also participate in the EQIP-Primary Care program and expand to Cumberland.

**Mercy Obamogie, MD, JD, MPH, MBA, FAFAP, Mercy Family Medicine & Associates**

Dr. Mercy Obamogie is a practicing family physician based in Maryland who treats adults and pediatric patients ages six years old and up. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and has over 23 years of active clinical experience. She is the President and Medical Director of her Medical Practice based in Greenbelt, Maryland. She is an Assistant Professor of Community and Family Medicine at Howard University, College of Medicine in Washington, DC. Dr Obamogie also obtained her Masters in Public Health degree (MPH) from The Johns Hopkins University-School of Public Health with a concentration in Health Policy and Management.

**Pankaj Kheterpal, MD, Charm City Healthcare**

Dr. Pankaj Kheterpal is a physician specializing in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics with extensive experience in outpatient and inpatient care. He is the owner of Charm City Healthcare and has affiliations with Franklin Square Hospital and Manor Care.. Dr. Kheterpal is also involved in several professional organizations, including serving as President of InterMed IPA CTO.

**Ursula McClymont, MD, Baltimore Medical System**

Ursula McClymont, a board-certified family physician, holds a Bachelor of Science in microbiology from Howard University and a doctorate from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She completed a residency and a geriatric medicine fellowship at Union Memorial Hospital. Dr. McClymont coauthored a chapter in "Geriatrics – 20 Common Problems," lectures on geriatric topics, and serves as a Clinical Associate Professor. She is a member of professional organizations, including the American Academy of Family Physicians. Since joining Baltimore Medical System in 2004, she has held roles such as Center Medical Director, Vice President of Medical Affairs, and currently serves as Chief Medical Officer.

**Marcee White, MD, Total Healthcare CEO**

Dr. Marcee White is a board-certified pediatrician with over 10 years of direct clinical patient care experience, and over 8 years as a Medical Director in a top 5 pediatric hospital. She formerly served as the Medical Director of the Children's Health Center at THEARC, Mobile Health, and the Prince George's County School-Based Wellness Program at Children's National Health System. In addition to leadership, she played a vital role in the research, education, and advocacy initiatives for patients. Dr. White has the proven ability to successfully lead, motivate, and build dynamic teams in the face of change. Dr. White has a certificate in leadership development from the George Washington University Master Teacher Leadership Development Program.

**Sandy Chung, MD, FAAP, FACHE, Trusted Doctors**

Dr. Sandy Chung is a highly accomplished pediatrician with extensive leadership experience at both state and national levels, including serving as the national and Virginia chapter President of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Founder and Medical Director of the Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP), and Medical Director of Informatics for Children's National Hospital's Pediatric Health Network. She is the CEO of Trusted Doctors, a pediatric practice of 300 clinicians in MD, DC, and VA. Dr. Chung has received numerous awards for her leadership and contributions, including Modern Healthcare's 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare. Her publications include articles on youth mental health, telemedicine, virtual learning, and health information technology.

**Scott Krugman, MD, MS, FAAP, Lifebridge**

Dr. Scott Krugman is the Senior Associate Dean for George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences Regional Medical Campus at LifeBridge Health's Sinai Hospital and Clinical Operations Director for Pediatrics at Sinai's Herman & Walter Samuelson Children's Hospital. A board-certified Child Abuse Pediatrician, Dr. Krugman chairs the Baltimore County Child Fatality Review Team, is a member of the Baltimore County Child Protection Review Panel, and has served on numerous statewide child abuse committees. He is a Past-President of the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and has served on the national AAP Council on Community Pediatrics, as well as held editorial roles for several pediatric journals, receiving multiple awards for his leadership and medical education contributions.

**Robin Motter-Mast, DO, MBA, FAAFP, DipABLM, CPE, MedChi**

Robin Motter-Mast serves as the Chief of Staff and Medical Director of Care Transformation at GBMC HealthCare. She is also a board-certified Family Medicine Physician at GBMC Health Partners Primary Care – Hunt Manor. Since joining GBMC in 2005, she has played a key role in developing and managing a large primary care network. She has been instrumental in implementing patient-centered care models, accountable care organizations, and telehealth initiatives.

**Amar Duggirala, MD, Maryland Academy of Family Physicians, MDAFP**

Dr. Duggirala is a family physician with extensive experience, including owning and directing Poolesville Family Practice since 2008. He has a strong background in clinical instruction at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Duggirala has a history of active involvement in various professional organizations and committees, including serving on the MDH Primary Care Transformation Advisory Committee, Maryland Healthcare Commission Primary Care Workgroup, is a board member on the Adelaide MD/Chesapeake ACO, and the Maryland Academy of Family Physicians, where he is President.

**Jeffrey Bernstein, MD, Maryland Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics**

Dr. Jeffrey P. Bernstein is a board-certified pediatrician with extensive experience in primary care. He served as the Primary Administrative Partner at Pediatric and Adolescent Care of Silver Spring, P.A. from 1999 to 2022. Beyond his practice, Dr. Bernstein has held significant leadership roles, including Co-Chair of the Maryland AAP Pediatric Council, membership on the Privia Quality Network Board of Governors and Chair of the Privia Payer and Finance Committee. He also served on the Maryland Healthcare Commission Primary Care Workgroup and held various committee positions at Holy Cross Hospital, including Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics and Chairman of the Pediatric Review Committee.

**Linda Raines, Maryland Mental Health Assoc.**

Linda Raines is the CEO of the Mental Health Association of Maryland, the second oldest mental health advocacy group in the nation, which conducts broad-based advocacy, education, training and services oversight programs with state and national impact. She leads numerous policy coalitions unifying Maryland's behavioral health community to improve care and outcomes, achieve mental health parity and enact criminal justice reform. Her efforts to establish the Maryland Consumer Quality Team, have improved outcomes for individuals receiving public behavioral health services throughout Maryland. During her tenure, MHAMD became a founding partner of Mental Health First Aid USA, and leads the MHFA program in Maryland. She is also the CEO of BrainFutures, a national nonprofit dedicated to improving human outcomes by assessing and advancing the practical applications of new scientific understanding of the brain.

**Dimitrios Cavathas, LCSW Lower Shore Clinic CEO**

Dimitrios has been the CEO of HealthPort since 2016. He is a Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical, holds a Certificate in Child & Adolescent Treatment from the University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW) & is a subject matter expert on primary care integration, use of novel methods for treatment resistance illness & assertive community treatment. Prior to his current role he was also an Adjunct Instructor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work for 11 years teaching Advanced Mental Health & Social Policy at the graduate level & has been in Non-Profit Executive Leadership for 23 years in urban, suburban, and rural settings. He is the past President of the Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland and currently serves on the Board of Advisors to the University of MD School of Social Work. He also serves as a Board Member for the National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

**Meghan Crosby Budinger, MS, LCPC, Maryland BHIPP**

Meghan Crosby Budinger, MS, LCPC, is a seasoned Program Director with a strong background in leading behavioral health initiatives. She has extensive experience in developing, implementing, and overseeing programs in child and adolescent psychiatry, including Maryland Behavioral Health Integration in Pediatric Primary Care (BHIPP). Her leadership roles have involved grant management, budget oversight, staff supervision, and fostering collaborations with various stakeholders. She has directed multiple projects simultaneously, ensuring regulatory compliance and achieving program goals. Additionally, she founded and managed a successful private psychotherapy practice.

**Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, UMD School of Pharmacy**

Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner is the Gyi Endowed Professor, Associate Dean, and Executive Director at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy's Center for Innovative Pharmacy Solutions. She is the President of the FIP Pharmaceutical Forum of the Americas, a consultant to PAHO, and the current President-elect designee for the American Pharmacists Association. She served on the APhA Board of Trustees (2018-2023) and is a past President of the Maryland Pharmacists Association and the American Pharmacists Foundation. She has implemented innovative pharmacy programs and received numerous awards for her contributions.

**Leigh Hunter, LCSW, ACM-SW, Frederick Health**

Leigh Hunter is a highly experienced Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW) with a Master of Social Work degree and extensive expertise in leadership, health system care management, and value-based care. She possesses in-depth knowledge of the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) and population health initiatives. Her background includes strategic planning, data analysis, and collaboration with diverse stakeholders, making her adept at adapting to evolving healthcare delivery systems. Leigh holds multiple certifications, including Lean Six Sigma Green Belt and Accredited Case Manager – SW, further highlighting her commitment to professional development and excellence in the field.

**Carlene James, LMSW, PhD, Southern Maryland Medical Group**

Carlene James is a Licensed Medical Social Worker with 27 years of experience providing compassionate, coordinated care, with a strong focus on Maryland's elderly population. Over the course of nearly three decades, she has earned recognition as a trusted advocate and dedicated community leader, she is committed to addressing the social and health-related needs of vulnerable individuals. Her work is rooted in dignity, equity, and a holistic approach to care. In recognition of her longstanding contributions to community health and elder care, she was conferred with a Doctorate of Humanities on November 16, 2024. She brings a deep understanding of the social determinants of health, a collaborative spirit, and an unwavering commitment to improving outcomes through person-centered, integrated care.

**Shantel Matthews, MSN, RN, CCM, Aledade CTO**

Shantel Matthews is the Senior Manager of Care Management for the Maryland CTO at Aledade, leading a team supporting independent primary care practices. Since 2020, she has advanced value-based care strategies, launched a Community Health Worker initiative, and developed Aledade's HEART programs. Prior to coming to Aledade, Shantel launched and managed a community home-based palliative care program at Talbot Hospice. During her time as Manager of Population Health with Conifer Health Solutions (formerly InforMed), she guided a team of nurses and improved behavioral and clinical outcomes by 20%. With a MSN in Health Services Administration, she is a Certified Case Manager (CCM) and a member of CMSA.

**Carla Leedy, BSN, RN, CHHCM, UPMC Western Maryland**

Carla Leedy boasts over 38 years of nursing experience, specializing in Population Health and Care Management. Her expertise, developed through home health training, encompasses both clinical and managerial roles, including field and intake nurse positions, and her current role as Care Management Manager. At UPMC Western Maryland, she oversees the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) and Maryland Physician's Care (MPC) programs, ensuring efficient care delivery. Carla offers strong clinical perspectives, management, and leadership skills. She is passionate about post-acute care for vulnerable adults, aiming for quality outcomes in healthcare.

**John Lease, MS, Calvert Internal Medicine**

John Lease is the practice administrator for Calvert Internal Medicine Group, an independent, multispecialty group practice caring for Calvert County communities. Focusing on patient and provider needs, John and his colleagues have developed an advanced practice infrastructure to promote value-based care in the ambulatory setting. Over his career, John has worked in academic (Johns Hopkins), hospital and practice settings.

**Brian Bailey, MS, Mountain Laurel CEO**

Brian George Bailey is a seasoned healthcare executive with extensive experience in leadership, financial management, and operational effectiveness. Currently serving as Chief Executive Officer at Mountain Laurel Medical Center, he has a proven track record of achieving targeted outcomes in patient quality, safety, and customer satisfaction. Previously, he held several senior leadership roles at University of Maryland Medical Center Midtown Campus, including Sr. Vice President and Chief Administrative and Financial Officer. With a strong background in financial planning, budget management, and regulatory compliance, he brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to healthcare administration.

**Vicky Parikh, MD, Medstar Shah**

Dr. Vicky Parikh is a seasoned healthcare executive with over 15 years of experience in population health management, value-based care, and primary care transformation. He currently serves as the Executive Director of Population Health at MedStar Shah Medical Group, a large multi-specialty practice in Southern Maryland. In this role, Dr. Parikh leads strategic initiatives to advance care delivery across 28 locations, focusing on quality improvement, patient engagement, and cost-effective care coordination. He has played a pivotal role in the implementation of alternative payment models, including the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP), and is actively engaged in the transition to new models such as the AHEAD initiative. His expertise spans across CMS programs, health equity strategies, chronic disease management, and digital health innovations.

**Arumani Manisundaram, Netrin**

Arumani Manisundaram is the CEO and Founder of Netrin Health, a physician-led, self-funded organization advancing value-based care across Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial populations. With more than a decade of experience in alternative payment models, he has led Netrin to deliver over \$32 million in shared savings, achieving top-tier quality and performance scores in both MSSP and CareFirst ACOs. Rooted in the mission of ethical, whole-person, and accessible care, Arumani has built a care model that combines virtual services like RPM and CCM with deep SDOH integration and a homegrown analytics platform. He previously led population health innovation at a large health system and today is pioneering the use of Agentic AI to transform care delivery with smart, human-centered tools.

**Nkem Okeke, MD, MPH, MBA, MSPM Medicalincs**

Dr. Nkem Okeke is a physician executive, entrepreneur, and transformation strategist with over two decades of experience in the healthcare industry. She founded Medicalincs, a value-based care management firm, and Healthincs, a non-profit population health management organization. She advises healthcare leaders on strategic solutions to enhance implementation, improve operations, and increase revenue. Dr. Okeke has held leadership positions at Kaiser Permanente, Booz Allen Hamilton, and Johns Hopkins. She has received the Maryland Healthcare Heroes Lifetime Achievement Award and serves on several boards and advisory councils, including the Maryland Dental Action Coalition and Black Women's Health Imperative. She is also a Faculty Affiliate at the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care.

**Chaunte Harris, PharmD, Prime CTO**

Dr. Chaunte Harris is a distinguished clinical pharmacist, healthcare innovator, and transformational leader with over 20 years of experience advancing patient-centered care, health equity, and clinical practice transformation. She is the founder and Clinical Director of Prime Clinical Associates and serves as the Executive Director of Prime Care Transformation Organization, both headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland. She also sits on the board of directors for Anchor Home, a provider of housing and personalized services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.