

**Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration:  
Advancing the Collaborative Care Model in the  
Commonwealth Speaker Biographies | May 22, 2025**

**Michael Doonan, PhD, Executive Director  
The Massachusetts Health Policy Forum,  
The Heller School for Social Policy and  
Management, Brandeis University**

Michael Doonan, PhD, is Professor and Associate Dean for Academics and Online Learning for The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University. He is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum. Michael founded the Heller School's Master's in Public Policy (MPP) program and served as Program Director for sixteen years. His Ph.D. from Brandeis is both in Political Science and Health Services Research. His research and publications focus on issues related to access to health care reform, federalism, Medicaid, federal/state relations, public health and the politics and economics of health system change.

He speaks widely on state and national health care reform. He is author of *American Federalism in Practice: The Formulation and Implementation of Contemporary Health Policy*, published by the Brookings Institute Press in 2013. Michael worked as program specialist for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), in the area of Medicaid managed care and state health care reform. He served as a member of President Clinton's Health Care Taskforce working primarily on the Low-Income and Working Families work group, and as a member of the Taskforce Speakers Bureau. Michael also worked as a fellow for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee as they considered national reform in 1994. He began his career as a legislative aide for Senator John Kerry where he worked on health and environmental issues.

**Danna Mauch, PhD, President and Chief  
Executive Officer, Massachusetts Association for  
Mental Health (MAMH)**

As President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health (MAMH), Danna Mauch brings organizational leadership, operations management, evaluation research and strategic consulting experience gained in

private and public sector enterprises. She works to achieve the mission of advancing access to effective care, eliminating discrimination and disparities in coverage and care, and promoting full inclusion in community life for people at risk for and living with complex health conditions.

Dr. Mauch's prior service in the private sector includes ten years as Senior Fellow/Principal Associate at Abt Associates, Inc. She worked on behalf of foundations and governments and provided policy, evaluation and implementation assistance addressing insurance, service delivery and financing reforms targeted to individuals with complex health risks and disabling health conditions. Skilled in linking large data sets to advance accountability, clinical and cost improvements, Dr. Mauch contributed to designing system solutions for government clients' compliance with legal and regulatory reforms. Prior to joining Abt, Dr. Mauch was Chief Administrative Officer for Comprehensive NeuroScience, Inc., Founding President and Chief Executive Officer for Magellan Public Solutions, Inc., and Founder and President of Integrated Health Strategies, Inc.

Dr. Mauch has a long career in public service. She presently serves as Court Monitor for the U.S. District Court of Western Washington, addressing forensic services reforms at the junction of the health, disability and justice systems. Her prior service includes Special Master for the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia; Executive Director of the Rhode Island Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals; and Assistant Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, overseeing the Divisions of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Forensic Medicine.

Her population-focused work addresses a broad range of at-risk and vulnerable groups of children, adults and elders, including persons with autism spectrum disorders, behavioral health conditions, HIV/AIDS, multiple chronic conditions, criminal justice involvement, military and veteran status, and homelessness.

Dr. Mauch is a published author of government and foundation reports, book chapters and journal articles on the organization, financing and delivery of care to vulnerable populations. To support health promotion, illness prevention and early intervention, she has served as a volunteer officer of several governing boards, including a regional health care conversion foundation, a national youth development and prevention organization, an urban elementary and middle school, and state health care reform initiatives.

Dr. Mauch holds a PhD in Social Policy from the Heller School at Brandeis University.

**Senator Julian Cyr, Assistant Majority Whip,  
Chairperson, Joint Committee on Housing,  
Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Public Health**

Julian Cyr (pronouns he/him/his) serves in the Massachusetts Senate representing Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. First elected to the State Senate in November 2016, Julian is now serving in his fifth term and is among the youngest senators in the 40-member body. He serves as the Senate Assistant Majority Whip and in the 193rd session he was Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Health, Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery, and on committees with oversight of health care financing, housing, elder affairs, telecommunications, utilities and energy, and racial equity and inclusion.

Prior to his election, Julian honed his skills in public policy and service at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and as chair of the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ+ Youth. He interned at the White House, contributing to green jobs policy in the Obama Administration. He also worked for the Clinton Global Initiative and as a harm-reduction counselor.

Julian's legislative priorities are primarily informed by the unique needs of the Cape and Islands district and his perspective as a member of the LGBTQ community. He has championed policies related to housing, water quality, the climate crisis, harm reduction, and criminal justice reform. Julian was the lead author of the

landmark law, An Act Addressing Barriers to Care for Mental Health, which represents the most comprehensive reform to mental health care in Massachusetts in decades. In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's Dobbs decision, Julian ensured that protections for access to gender-affirming care were included in a larger reproductive rights package that was signed into law.

Julian's leadership goes beyond his legislative accomplishments. He convened the Cape Cod Reopening Task Force to create a coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the threat of monkeypox, he worked to deploy hundreds of vaccines in a matter of days, and he helped navigate the path forward for Venezuelan migrants flown to Martha's Vineyard in an episode that captured national attention. He was named to Out Magazine's Out100 in 2022.

Julian graduated with a degree in public policy and community health from New York University and from the David Bohnett Leaders Fellowship at Harvard Kennedy School's Senior Executives in State and Local Government program, but he will tell you that he learned many of the skills he uses daily from waiting tables and cooking behind the line for 14 seasons at his family's restaurant in Truro.

**Wayne Altman, MD, Professor and Chair of  
Family Medicine at Tufts University School of  
Medicine, President of Family Practice Group in  
Arlington, implementing CoCM through a grant  
from Accelerate The Future**

Dr. Wayne Altman is the Jaharis Family Chair and Professor of Family Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. Dr. Altman has received 35 teaching awards and citations during his 25 years at Tufts. He has also been recognized as a Boston Top Doc 14 times. Dr. Altman served as the FM Clerkship Director for 17 years and has directed the Foundations of Patient Care Curriculum since 2009.

Dr. Altman's research interests include health policy, wellness group visits, medical education, medical scribes, and vaccine hesitancy. Dr. Altman practices at Family Practice Group

(FPG) in Arlington where he is President and co-owner of the practice. At FPG, Dr. Altman has co-led close to 100 Wellness Groups over 14 years. He is the Co-Founder of Wellness Campaign, a non-profit created to promote wellness in communities, as well as with patients and clinicians.

Dr. Altman cofounded Care That Matters, a multi-disciplinary group of health care professionals across the country advocating for pay for performance quality measures that are both patient-centered and evidence-based.

Dr. Altman is the founder of MAPCAP (MA Primary Care Alliance for Patients) which advocates for anti-racist health policy that features an emphasis on Social Determinants of Health, health equity, a prospective global payment for primary care, and the doubling of primary care investment.

Dr. Altman is a Board member and Vice President for the Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians and serves as their Legislative Committee Chair. He was presented with the 2023 Advocacy Award by the Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Altman is also Chair of the Advocacy Committee and Board member for the Association of Departments of Family Medicine (ADFM).

**Patrick Aquino, MD, Chair, Department of Psychiatry, Lahey Hospital & Medical Center, Medical Director, Behavioral Health Integration, Beth Israel Lahey Health Behavioral Services**

Patrick R. Aquino, MD, is the Chair of the Department of Psychiatry for Lahey Hospital & Medical Center. He is also the Medical Director for Behavioral Health Integration for Beth Israel Lahey Health Behavioral Services where he leads Beth Israel Lahey Health's initiative to integrate behavioral health (Collaborative Care) across its network of primary care practices. Dr. Aquino also leads integrating provider wellbeing initiatives across Beth Israel Lahey Health. He is board certified in psychiatry and consultation-liaison psychiatry. His research interests include evaluating care delivery models, integrating

technology in health care, and investigating psychiatric illness in medical disease. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Lahey Hospital & Medical Center and Physician Health Services, Inc.

**Michael Curry, Esq., President & CEO, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers**

Michael Curry, Esq. is President & CEO of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, which represents 52 health centers, serving over one million patients out of over 285 practice sites. He was named one of the Boston Business Journal Power 50 Movement Makers of 2024, 2023 and 2022, and one of Boston Magazine's 150 Most Influential Bostonians in 2024 and 2023, as well as Bostonian of the Year in 2021 (along with his member health centers) by The Boston Globe and Boston Magazine. In 2022, he received the Trailblazer Award from the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association (MBLA).

He brings over 35 years of experience and results in civil rights advocacy, health reform and health equity. He is a current, nationally elected (4-term) member of the National NAACP's Board of Directors (2014-present), the Regional Administrator for two State Conferences of the NAACP, and the Past President of the Boston Branch of the NAACP (2011-2016). Attorney Curry is also an Adjunct Professor at both New England Law Boston and Suffolk University's Moakley Center and Sawyer School of Management. He is a highly sought-after commencement and keynote speaker. Dr. Curry earned a Bachelor of Arts from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from New England School of Law, and later graduated from the inaugural class of the Executive Leadership Council's Pipeline to Leadership Program. He also has an honorary degree from William James college, a Doctorate in Business Administration from Curry College and Healthcare Administration from Labouré College.

**Virna Little, PsyD, LCSW-r, MBA, CCM, SAP  
Co-founder, Concert Health**

Dr. Virna Little is currently the Co-founder of Concert Health, a behavioral health medical group providing Collaborative Care to healthcare providers across 19 states. Dr Little is also the co-founder of Zero Overdose, a not for profit addressing the national crisis of unintentional overdoses. Dr Little served as a special advisor to the New York City Mental Health Commissioner, Directing the Center for Innovation in Mental Health housed at the New York City School of Public Health where she was part of the research faculty. Prior Dr. Little worked for 22 years as a Senior Vice President for a large FQHC network in New York overseeing over 300 behavioral health and community staff and worked for New York City Health and Hospitals as a citywide family violence coordinator. She has a Doctoral degree in Psychology and Masters in Social Work. Dr. Little is a nationally and internationally known speaker on Collaborative Care. She has consulted in all 50 states to help build Collaborative Care services and routinely works with states and large systems on Collaborative Care implementations.

**Kiame Mahaniah, MD, Undersecretary,  
Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and  
Human Services**

In April 2023, Dr. Mahaniah joined Secretary Walsh's team as the Undersecretary for Health. His portfolio includes the Department of Public Health, the Department of Mental health and MassHealth, dovetailing with his interests in health care systems and the patient experience. A practicing physician in the field of addiction and primary care, Dr. Mahaniah has most recently served as CEO of the Lynn Community Health Center, where he has led the transition into value-based care. An avid teacher and committed mentor, he is an Assistant Professor in the Family Medicine department of the Tufts University School of Medicine.

Most notably, Dr. Mahaniah is the outgoing Board Chair of the Community Care Cooperative and was an active member of the Health Equity

Compact. He holds an MBA from UMass Amherst, a medical degree from Thomas Jefferson University and a BA from Haverford College.

He is married to Katrin Schneck, a family physician and they have two adult children, Laura and Kieto. His extended family is scattered across the Congo, the US, Canada and France.

**Trina Chang, MD, MPH  
Medical Director for Behavioral Health,  
MGB Population Health Management**

Dr. Chang has held a number of leadership roles at Mass General Brigham, including medical director for behavioral health at MGB Population Health Management and associate medical director for ambulatory behavioral health quality for the MGB Office of Chief Medical Officer. She has extensive experience in integrated behavioral health models, having spearheaded the expansion of collaborative care to approximately 150 primary care practices at MGB and established the integrated behavioral health service at the MGB Integrated Care clinics. She has also served as a staff psychiatrist at a community health center for nearly two decades and received research and program development funding from the National Institutes of Health and the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care Innovation, among other organizations. Dr. Chang received her medical degree and master's degree in public health from Columbia University and completed her adult psychiatry training through the Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean Hospital residency program.

**Patrick Aquino, MD, Chair, Department of  
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**Gregory G. Harris, MD, MPH, Senior Medical Director for Behavioral Health, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts**

Dr. Harris is a board-certified adult Psychiatrist with a Master's in Public Health and over 20 years of practice as an outpatient psychiatrist in primary care, home care and office—based settings. He started his career as a psychiatrist embedded in an integrated primary care and home care practices at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston and was an early adopter of health information technology in clinical practice. He has been active in organized medicine since his days in residency training and has served on many committees, advocating for mental health parity in the coverage of mental health and substance use treatment under commercial health insurance. Dr. Harris currently serves as the Chair of the Committee on Interspecialty of the Massachusetts Medical Society and is a Past President of the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society. He also serves as a current Representative to the American Medical Association's Relative Value Update Committee. Dr. Harris teaches a public health course on health policy to Harvard Longwood Psychiatry residents. He is a full-time Senior Medical Director for Mental Health at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and continues to see patients in clinical practice.