

# **LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

## **HEALTH POLICY ISSUES GROUP**

**DIRECTORY OF CONTACTS**

**JUNE 2020**



Institute for Public Policy  
and Social Research  
**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

## About MSU's Legislative Leadership Program and the Michigan Health Policy Issues Group

MSU's Legislative Leadership Program invites new members of Michigan's House of Representatives and Michigan Senate to engage in interactive sessions with content experts, including university faculty and practitioners, in the brief time between election and their first legislative sessions.

At its 1994 inception, LLP was designed to create a forum and the resources to help newly elected legislators meet the challenges of serving in a state with term limits. The program was meant to help legislators forge links to university policy resources.

Since that time, LLP has evolved into a broadened opportunity to gain insights into concepts that affect statewide constituencies, into evidence-based information on emerging issues and into the art and science of governing in divided times, such as under state House co-speakerships.

At the same time, IPPSR has evolved as a hub for policy expertise, information and outreach, a center for survey research training and excellence and an opportunity for training for those who seek leadership through elected office or public service. The program is built upon a series of specially designed events, including presenters, researchers and facilitated discussions. Sessions are focused on topics of compelling interest, from the state's revenue stream, to its expenditures, K-12 education, demographics and innovations.

IPPSR is proud that LLP has hosted a majority of newly elected legislators from each party and draws support from the Legislature's highest officers. The program continues to build on MSU's long-standing tradition of providing leadership training to state and county officials, community leaders, and aspiring public officials.

The LLP is consistent with the policy and research education efforts conducted both on and off campus in of support state legislators, their staffs and their communities. It resides at IPPSR as companion to IPPSR's Public Policy and Education, the Michigan Political Leadership Program, the State of the State Survey and Office for Survey Research. LLP draws on the resources and leadership of each of these outstanding programs.

### **Emerging Issues: Health Policy**

During 2018, health policy was identified as an emerging issue within the framework of IPPSR's educational offerings through the Legislative Leadership Program.

Additional focus was brought to Michigan health policymaking with the support of the Michigan Health Endowment Fund and MSU's Institute for Health Policy.

The Institute for Public Policy and Social Research builds problem-solving relationships among policymakers and researchers and applies best practices to issues facing the State of Michigan. IPPSR's unique mission combines public education and training programs with research on issues of public policy, survey research services and the initiation of public needs among diverse audiences. Programs include a focus on policy education and political leadership training.

Located within the College of Human Medicine, the Michigan State University Institute for Health Policy serves a unique role facilitating and supporting collaborative relationships among CHM faculty and researchers throughout campus. These collaborative activities inform policymakers, state agencies and others with a goal of improving health care delivery in Michigan.

This educational outreach allows IPPSR to meet its long-established educational missions bridging policy and practical applications of personal leadership, governing and economic growth. They also are in step with IPPSR's other enriching programs – including Public Policy Forums, Michigan Political Leadership Program, the Rosenthal Internship Awards, Office for Survey Research, State of the State Survey and the newest addition, the Michigan Policy Insiders Panel.

For more information about LLP and all other IPPSR programs, please contact Arnold Weinfeld, Associate Director, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, 509 E. Circle Dr., Room 321, East Lansing, MI 48824. He can be reached by phone at (517) 355-6672 or by email at [weinfeld8@msu.edu](mailto:weinfeld8@msu.edu)

## Acknowledgments

IPPSR is proud of the many events and activities it undertakes throughout the year. They require exacting attention to detail, a strong desire to meet personal needs and an ability to answer the call to service and commitment.

Please join us in thanking those whose work may be behind the scenes, yet is still essential to this program and other IPPSR operations: Administrative Assistant Iris Taylor Harper and Secretary Milly Shiraev, Information Technologist Jes Sprague, Communications Manager Cynthia Kyle and Staff Student Assistant Tatiana Maine-Brown. Communications Associate Leah Owens added valuable help.

This program is made possible with the considerable support of the Michigan Health Endowment Fund and its leaders and staff and in coordination with MSU's Institute for Health Policy and its Executive Director Dennis Paradis.

At the state Capitol, IPPSR is grateful for the assistance of Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, Senate Democratic Leader Jim Ananich, House Speaker Lee Chatfield and House Democratic Leader Christine Greig.

# WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, OVERVIEW



**Arnold Weinfeld**  
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## **ARNOLD WEINFELD**

### **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

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Arnold is Associate Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) at Michigan State University as well as Director for Workforce and Economic Development Partnerships for the Office of Public Engagement and Scholarship within University Outreach and Engagement. Prior to joining MSU, Arnold served as CEO of the Prima Civitas Foundation, a community and economic development non-profit organization.

He also has worked for the Michigan Municipal League where he served in a number of roles and co-founded the Michigan Sense of Place Council. Arnold began his career with the Michigan House of Representatives where he worked as a legislative aide, policy analyst and policy director.

He has served his own community as an elected member of the Waverly Community Schools Board of Education and is currently on his local planning commission. He is also on the boards of local and statewide organizations such as the Michigan Sense of Place Council, Rural Partners of Michigan, Capital Area College Access Network. He is a graduate of Michigan State University's College of Social Science Multi-Disciplinary Program.

# **DENNIS PARADIS**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**MICHIGAN HEALTH POLICY FORUM  
INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH POLICY  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

Dennis Paradis serves as Executive Director for the Michigan Health Policy Forum and as liaison between MSU and the State of Michigan for the Medicaid Enhanced Reimbursement (MER) program offered through the College of Human Medicine and of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is also directing an effort to develop a health policy educational program for legislators.

Paradis has a 50-year career working in the health policy at the state level. Some of his accomplishments include the Michigan Public Health Code, the Michigan HMO Statute, the Michigan Emergency Medical Services statute the Michigan Certificate of Need statutes, and Michigan's medical liability reform legislation.

He holds a bachelor's degree from MSU and a Masters of Public Health degree from the University of Michigan. In addition to serving as staff in the Michigan House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate, Paradis has worked in policy for the Michigan State Medical Society, the Michigan Hospital Association, the Michigan Association of HMOs (Now the Michigan Association of Health Plans) and the Michigan Osteopathic Association.

Paradis has received Awards from the Michigan Legislature, the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Michigan Primary Care Consortium, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, the American Osteopathic Association and has received the Water F. Patenge Medal for public service from the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.



**Dennis Paradis**

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# MICHIGAN REOPENED: ENVISIONING HEALTHCARE AFTER COVID-19

## CLINICAL CARE PSYCHIATRY



**Dr. Jed Magen, D.O., M.S.**  
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### **DR. JED MAGEN, D.O., M.S** ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND CHAIR DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Jed Magen graduated from the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Des Moines, Iowa, and did a rotating internship at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

He was a commissioned officer in the United States Public Health Service serving with the Indian Health Service for three years. He did a general psychiatry residency and a child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at the University of Michigan, where he was chief resident in child and adolescent psychiatry and then departmental chief resident. He completed a research fellowship at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, and is board certified in general and child and adolescent psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and the American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry.

He is a past president of the American Osteopathic College of Neurologists and Psychiatrists and of the Michigan Psychiatric Society. He was a member of the Executive Council of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Residency Training and is an appointed member of the Council of Academic Societies of the Association of American Medical Colleges. He completed a Master of Science degree in Medical Management at the University of Texas, Dallas School of Management in 2003. He is an expert in the area of funding of graduate medical education in the United States. He is a part of a research group studying neuropsychiatric outcomes of cerebral malaria in children in Africa.

# CLINICAL CARE PEDIATRICS



## **DR. B. KEITH ENGLISH, M.D.**

### **PROFESSOR AND CHAIR**

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
COLLEGE OF HUMAN MEDICINE  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. B. Keith English, M.D., is Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Human Development in the College of Human Medicine at Michigan State University. He is a native of Texas, earned his B.A. in general science *summa cum laude* from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and his M.D. from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, where he was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha.

**Dr. B. Keith English, M.D.**  
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He completed his pediatric residency and chief residency at Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital/Ben Taub General Hospital in Houston. He then trained in pediatric infectious diseases at the University of Washington/Seattle Children's Hospital, where he worked in the lab of Chris Wilson. English joined the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and Le Bonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN, in 1990. He was appointed Chief of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Le Bonheur in 1996 and was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC in 2000.

English played a leading role in helping the Memphis community respond to the 2009 H1N1 influenza A pandemic – he was honored for these efforts with the Tennessee chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics' 2010 "Pediatrician of the Year" award. In 2013, he was recruited to the College of Human Medicine at Michigan State to Chair the Department of Pediatrics and Human Development. He is a member of the American Pediatric Society, the Society for Pediatric Research, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society. He has been a member of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases sub-board of the American Board of Pediatrics since 2008, chaired that sub-board from 2012-14, and is now Medical Editor of the sub-board. His laboratory studied macrophage responses to bacteria and bacterial products, and he has authored 70 peer-reviewed publications.

# CLINICAL CARE RE-ENGAGING PROVIDERS



**Suzette Hershman, MHA**  
Senior Vice President  
Operations, Medical Group  
Spectrum Health  
West Michigan

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## **SUZETTE HERSHMAN, MHA**

### **SVP OPERATIONS**

MEDICAL GROUP  
SPECTRUM HEALTH WEST MICHIGAN

Suzette Hershman, MHA, serves as Senior Vice President, Operations, Spectrum Health Medical Group, one of the largest and most comprehensive multispecialty physician groups in West Michigan. Spectrum Health Medical Group is part of Spectrum Health West Michigan, a not-for-profit integrated health system based in West Michigan.

She contributes to several medical and hospital group committees, including digital access, revenue cycle, patient safety and quality, operations, finance and provider compensation. Her work involves developing integrated care through standard work and adoption of best practices across the medical group and ambulatory locations while focusing on implementing foundational business and clinical practices. She also has matrix responsibilities for delivery system access strategies. Her priority is to create high performing medical group operations with

seamless experiences for patients with an integrated approach across the delivery system.

She joined Spectrum Health Hospital Group as VP, Women's Health, 2016, and was promoted to VP, Physician Practice Operations, Spectrum Health Medical Group, 2017 and to SVP 2018. Before joining the medical group, she served as vice president, St. Vincent Medical Group/Ascension Medical Group of Indiana with regional, state and national leadership roles and experience while serving the board of managers as president of four wholly owned physician companies under the Health System in addition to active healthcare memberships.

She earned Bachelor and Masters degrees of Health Service Administration (MHSA) from the University of Evansville in Indiana.



# INSURANCE



**Dominic Pallone**  
Executive Director  
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## **DOMINIC PALLONE** **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH PLANS

Dominick Pallone is the Executive Director for the Michigan Association of Health Plans (MAHP), a Lansing based organization that represents 13 health plans in Michigan.

Prior to joining MAHP, he was a Partner at Midwest Strategy Group, a multi-client lobby firm where he specialized in health care, state appropriations, Medicaid, higher education, transportation, and state procurement. He has also served as staff within the state House and Senate, most notably as committee clerk for the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee.

Currently, he volunteers his time by serving on the board of the Michigan Transportation Connection and was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the

Michigan Municipal Services Authority Board.

He earned his Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from Michigan State University, James Madison College. During his academic years, he served on the NCAA Student Athlete Advisory Council representing Division 1 student-athletes.

# FACILITIES HOSPITAL



**Chad Tuttle, MBA, NHA**  
Interim Senior Vice President,  
Hospital Operations  
Senior Vice President, Post-  
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## **CHAD TUTTLE, MBA, NHA**

### **INTERIM SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, HOSPITAL OPERATIONS**

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, POST-ACUTE CARE

SPECTRUM HEALTH WEST MICHIGAN

Chad Tuttle is president, post-acute care and interim senior vice president, hospital operations, for Spectrum Health West Michigan, a division of Spectrum Health System, a \$6.9 billion not-for-profit integrated health system based in West Michigan.

His responsibilities include oversight for all hospital and continuing care operations in the 13 counties surrounding Grand Rapids in West Michigan. Tuttle is responsible for driving high-quality, safe care for our patients in these care environments while working to make care more affordable. With more than 2,000 employees, Spectrum Health Post-Acute Care is the largest provider of post-acute services in West Michigan.

Tuttle assumed the role of interim senior vice president in 2020 for the 11-hospital West Michigan network of care. He joined Spectrum Health in 2014 to provide leadership and strategic direction in managing a growing portfolio of successful post-acute programs and services, including Spectrum Health Rehabilitation, Spectrum Health At Home, Spectrum Health Long-Term Care, Spectrum Health Hospice, Spectrum Health Palliative Care and Spectrum Health West Michigan's rehabilitation service line—inclusive of hospital, post-acute and 34 outpatient venues. In conjunction with his dyad partner, Ken Johnson, MD, he is also responsible for providing the strategic clinical and operational oversight for programs within the Spectrum Health Medical Group Post-Acute Health Division. Before joining Spectrum Health, Tuttle served as chief executive officer for Sunset Retirement Communities & Services, a post-acute provider of housing and services in West Michigan.

He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration and master's in business administration from Grand Valley State University. He is a licensed nursing home administrator in the state of Michigan. He serves on several community and not-for-profit boards, including the Health Care Association of Michigan and Hudsonville Public School Board.

# FACILITIES

## FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS



**Dennis Litos, MHA**  
Interim Chief Executive Officer  
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### **DENNIS LITOS, MHA**

#### **INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

MICHIGAN PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

Dennis Litos has more than 35 years of executive experience in the healthcare industry having served as chief executive officer for two large hospitals, an insurance company, a clinically integrated provider organization and the Michigan Primary Care Association.

He has a history of working with Community Health Centers to serve vulnerable populations in the organizations he has worked.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Wayne State University, a Master's Degree in Health Care Administration from Trinity University and he is a Fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives.

He has also served on several community-based, nonprofit boards.

# FACILITIES

## COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH



**Connie Conklin**  
Executive Director  
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### **CONNIE CONKLIN**

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Connie Conklin is the Executive Director of Livingston County Community Mental Health and has been in that position for more than seven years.

Prior to that she worked at both the state and local for levels in the public mental health system for 33 years in various capacities. She has been a part of the Washtenaw Health Initiative.

Conklin earned her Masters in Social Work from Eastern Michigan University and a bachelor's degree from Northern Michigan University.

# FACILITIES

## LONG-TERM CARE



**Ronald S. Taylor, MBA**  
President and Chief Executive  
Officer  
Detroit Area Agency On Aging

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### **RONALD S. TAYLOR, MBA**

#### **PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

DETROIT AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Ronald S. Taylor is president and chief executive officer of the Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA).

He leads an agency of 150 staff members with an operating budget of \$73 million. DAAA -- one of 16 Area Agencies on Aging in Michigan -- serves more than 90,000 seniors, caregivers and adults with disabilities annually, including the largest minority population of older adults in the state. He joined the organization in October 2018.

Taylor has had local, state and national experience in social services, governmental/non-profit and faith-based sectors. He has built key coalitions, partnerships and community networks vital to keeping adults safe and independent in their homes and communities as long as possible. His business practices are focused on continuous quality improvement, optimizing productivity, program development and implementation and consensus building.

Taylor is a native of Toledo, Ohio. He began his career at the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio where he was Director of Program Development and Quality Assurance. While there, he was recognized as one of *Ebony* magazine's *30 Leaders of the Future*.

At the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, Taylor was the Division Director, Statewide Community Based Services. He led a staff of 240 and was responsible for a \$330 million budget to administer the federal funding directed to programs of the Older Americans Act, including care management, caregiving, and senior employment and meal programs. Under his leadership, Florida's Nursing Home Diversion Program became a national model to transition individuals from institutional to community-based settings.

At the federal level, Taylor was an Aging Services Program Specialist for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Administration for Community Living (ACL). From a regional office in Atlanta, Georgia, he was the liaison for eight different states – interpreting federal regulations, policies, guidelines and instructions for States, Area Agencies on Aging, and other organizations and institutions serving older persons, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers.

Ron Taylor was a 2005 Fellow in the Re-Balancing Long-Term Care Program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Minnesota. Taylor received a Master of Business Administration – Management, Tiffin University, 2001; Master of Arts – Urban Planning, The University of Akron, 1989; Bachelor of Arts – Social Work, The University of Akron, 1988.

# PUBLIC HEALTH

## **ANNETTE MERCATANTE, M.D., MPH**

### **MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER**

ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Annette Mercatante, M.D., MPH  
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Annette Mercatante M.D., MPH is the Medical Health Officer of the St. Clair County Health Department since 2009.

A Detroit native, she is an alumnus of Michigan State University and Wayne State University School of Medicine. She completed her Family Practice residency at St John Hospital /Detroit and worked as a private physician from 1990 until 2008.

She received her Master’s Degree in Public Health from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst in 2011.

# LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SUPPORT STAFF

## CYNTHIA KYLE

### COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL RESEARCH  
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Cynthia Kyle is communications manager at Michigan State University's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. Operationally, she helps to craft marketing communications, assists with brand management, strategic planning and visual communications, oversees media relations and implements the Institute's web, internet and social network educational strategies in traditional and digital formats.

She has written for magazines, newsletters, newspapers, radio and online publications. She has taught journalism at Ohio State University, Wayne State University and Michigan State University.

She is a founding member of the revitalized Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame, and past president of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.



**Cynthia Kyle**  
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## TATIANA MAINE-BROWN

### STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

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Tatiana Maine-Brown is a student assistant working in all operations of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research.

She is a fourth-year, pre-med student with an interest in women's health and environmental policy and has returned to work with IPPSR for her fourth academic year.

She's a frequent Dean's List honoree and is looking forward to continuing her journey toward earning a position in medical school and working with patients and providers toward excellence in health for all.



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# LEAH OWENS

STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT  
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Leah Owens is a communications assistant at the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. Since 2018, she has been assisting in organization and execution of the Public Policy Forum Series.

She is a recent honor graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and minors in Health Promotion and Global Public Health and Epidemiology. Leah's work at IPPSR has sparked her interest in public health policy.

Her passion is to improve public health in Detroit, so she has chosen to remain in the state and attend the University of Michigan. She is excited to move to Ann Arbor in the fall to pursue a Master of Public Health in Health Management and Policy from the University of Michigan.



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