

## **Keynote Speaker**



# **Andrew D. Hyman**

**Team Director and Senior Program Officer**

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

Andrew D. Hyman, J.D., team director for the Foundation's Coverage Team, is responsible for developing and executing strategies designed to achieve the Foundation's goal of securing for all Americans meaningful access to health care coverage. He recognizes that "the promise of equal opportunity in this country is empty while we permit millions to be uninsured." Having joined the Foundation in 2006 as a senior program officer in the Health Care Group, he and the Coverage Team work with policy-makers, researchers and advocates to help our nation's leaders craft and enact policies designed to expand coverage.

Hyman came to the Foundation after serving as director of Government Relations and Legislative Counsel for the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, which represents the public mental health systems in every state. In that role, he sought to advance policies that secure positive health outcomes and full community participation for individuals with mental disorders

Prior to his work in the mental health field, from 1998–2001 Hyman was the deputy director and then director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), serving as Secretary Donna Shalala's liaison to state, local, and tribal governments. His work at HHS also included efforts to combat tobacco use and to implement state children's health insurance programs. He began his service at HHS as the special assistant to the general counsel in 1993.

A New Jersey native, Hyman received a J.D. from the Fordham University School of Law, and a B.A. from Columbia College. He and his wife, Molly Chrein, an attorney, live in Princeton. They have two children, Lily and Nathaniel.

## Panelists

### **David L. Knowlton**

Mr. Knowlton has been a leader and advisor in health issues in New Jersey and nationally since 1977. As a Principal in Knowlton and Associates, a consulting group specializing in health care policy issues, his clients have included various governmental, health care, legal, financial and business organizations. Mr. Knowlton founded and served as Executive Director of the Health Care Payers Coalition of New Jersey; a non-profit corporation representing business and labor organization who provide healthcare. He currently serves as a member of the Coalition's Board and Executive Committee and is the President and CEO of the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute. Founded by the Coalition, the Institute is dedicated to eliminating medical errors and improving health care quality.

Mr. Knowlton served as the Deputy Commissioner of Health for the State of New Jersey from 1987 to 1990. He also served on the Commissioner's Long Term Care Task Force and New Jersey's Health Data Advisory Committee and currently serves on the Commissioner's Quality Improvement Advisory Committee. He is Vice Chairman of the Health Decisions, a foundation dedicated to improving the caliber of and access to quality end-of-life care. He has been a principal presenter on the subject of, *Managed Care and HIV* for the Kaiser Family Foundation AIDS Symposium and has authored several published articles on health care coalitions and related health care management issues. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in education and psychology from University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and Trinity College (Hartford).

### **Elizabeth A. Ryan, Esq.**

Elizabeth A. Ryan, Esq. is president and CEO of the Princeton-based New Jersey Hospital Association, a not-for-profit trade association representing New Jersey's hospitals and other healthcare providers. As CEO Ryan oversees NJHA, Health Research and Educational Trust of New Jersey, a not-for-profit affiliate that promotes continuing patient safety, quality improvement education and research; the for-profit Center for Health Affairs, which provides group purchasing and other business solutions for healthcare providers; and the Healthcare Employees Federal Credit Union. Her responsibilities include oversight of NJHA's operations, in addition to fostering member advocacy and coordinating such efforts at both the state and federal levels.

Previously Ms. Ryan practiced law in Mount Holly and went on to serve as assistant counsel under former Gov. Jim Florio and Chief of Staff of the state Department of Health. She also was a senior vice president with the New York City Health and Hospitals Corp. and a regional executive for the American Hospital Association and the Healthcare Association of New York State. She served as a member of New Jersey's Board of Medical Examiners, the Clinton-Gore Transition Team, the legal audit team for the Clinton National Health Care Reform Task Force, and both Governor Corzine's and Governor McGreevey's transition teams. Ms. Ryan received her law degree from Seton Hall University School of Law and a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University (Cook College). She resides in Florence, N.J., with her husband and son.

### **Wardell Sanders, Esq.**

As President of the New Jersey Association of Health Plans, Ward leads the state trade association that represents all nine of the major health plans in New Jersey, including the five Medicaid health plans. Prior to coming to the NJAHP in February of 2006, Ward served for 15 years in State government positions. Most recently, Ward was the Executive Director of the New Jersey Individual Health Coverage ("IHC") Program Board and the New Jersey Small Employer Health Benefits ("SEH") Program Board, the two State agencies charged with regulating the individual and small group health benefits markets, which covered about one million New Jersey residents.

Ward began his State service as a Deputy Attorney General in the New Jersey Division of Law representing the New Jersey Department of Insurance (now Department of Banking and Insurance), the SEH Board, and the IHC Board. He has been closely involved with New Jersey's health coverage reform programs since their formation in early 1993. As President of the NJAHP, he was appointed by Governor Corzine to both the Mandated Health Benefits Advisory Commission and the Health Care Access Study Commission, and by Senate President Codey to the Medical Care Availability Task Force.

Ward is a graduate of the Villanova University School of Law and of Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he received his BA in Government. Ward lives in Lambertville, New Jersey, with his wife and two children. Since January 1, 2008, Ward has served on Lambertville's City Council; he also has served on the city's Environmental Commission.