

BIOGRAPHIES

STATE BUDGETS AND HEALTH COVERAGE: WHAT HAPPENS IF THE MONEY RUNS SHORT?

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VERNON SMITH, Ph.D. is a principal with Health Management Associates (HMA). He is nationally recognized for his expertise on state and federal health policy, with an emphasis on Medicaid and Medicare reforms. He has extensive experience analyzing and developing health reform proposals, administering programs and representing state agencies with federal and national organizations. At Health Management Associates, Dr. Smith assists state agencies in managed care, long term care and understanding the impact of economic trends and welfare reform on Medicaid enrollment. Prior to joining HMA, Dr. Smith served as the Michigan Medicaid director and as senior advisor for federal policy for the Michigan Department of Community Health. He was also the budget director for the state's largest department. Dr. Smith has held academic appointments as an adjunct professor in health services administration for Michigan State University and adjunct associate professor in public administration for Western Michigan University.

BARBARA EDWARDS Barbara Coulter Edwards has been Deputy Director for the Office of Ohio Health Plans with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services since 1997. She is responsible for the management and oversight of Ohio's \$7.7 billion Medicaid health plan. Ms. Edwards is also responsible for management of Ohio's Title XXI children's health insurance plan and Ohio's Disability Assistance/Medical plan. Prior to joining Medicaid as assistant deputy director in 1994. Ms. Edwards was Project Manager of the Medical Cost Containment Council at Nationwide Insurance (1992-1994), and served as Chief of Health Policy at the Ohio Department of Health (1986-1991). She began her career in Michigan as an analyst for the Michigan Insurance Bureau and worked for the Michigan Governor's Council on Jobs and Economic Development. Ms. Edwards has a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Michigan's School of Public Policy Studies and a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism from Bowling Green State University.

MATT SALO is the chief health lobbyist for the National Governors Association, in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining NGA in January of 1999, Mr. Salo spent five years working for the National Association of State Medicaid Directors. He earned his first health policy Purple Heart analyzing the Clinton Health Security Act, and his second with the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. He firmly believes he was personally responsible for both the repeal of the Boren Amendment and securing the entire tobacco settlement for the states. Although he's still getting his feet wet with ERISA issues, Matt is looking forward to not having to remember the 68 different avenues for Medicaid eligibility; or the details of how the third-party liability system interacts with medical child support. A lifelong Virginia native, Matt taught high school for two years at T.C. Williams High in Alexandria, VA. He holds a BA in Eastern Religious Studies from the University of Virginia, and is still trying to find ways to explain how that got him to where he is today.

SARA ROSENBAUM, J.D., is the Harold and Jane Hirsh Professor of Health Law and Policy at the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services. Professor Rosenbaum also directs the Center for Health Services Research and Policy. Prior to joining the GW faculty, Ms. Rosenbaum worked for the Children's Defense Fund, where she directed its health work and later directed the Fund's Department of Programs and Policies. For more than 25 years, Ms. Rosenbaum has played a major role in the design and enactment of a wide range of federal health legislation in the areas of public and private health insurance coverage and programs affecting health care access and quality for low income and medically underserved persons. During the 1993 – 1994 time period, Ms. Rosenbaum worked for the White House Domestic Policy Council, where she directed the drafting of the Health Security Act for the President.