

Presenter and Staff Bios

Jeffrey S. Allen: jsallen@wvcc.org Jeff Allen is a United Methodist pastor currently appointed to the West Virginia Council of Churches as the Project Director of the West Virginia Healthy Kids and Families Coalition. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies from West Virginia University and a Master of Divinity degree from Emory University. He was the Community and Families Development Director at Community Development Outreach Ministries for thirteen years and has served the Keystone and Northfork United Methodist Churches in McDowell County and the College Hill United Methodist Church in Waco, Kentucky. A native West Virginian, he is married to Laura Allen. They have one dog, Miles, and three cats, Dora, Waco, and Little Cat.

Stavros Atsas: satsas@mix.wvu.edu Stavros Atsas is a student in the Masters of Public Administration program at WVU specializing in Healthcare Administration. He received his B.S. in Biological Sciences at Youngstown State University. Stavros is currently serving as an intern for the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy and plans to pursue a career as a health policy analyst after graduation



Perry Bryant: perrybryant@suddenlink.net Perry Bryant has more than 25 years of experience in health care policy. Perry represented the interest of teachers and other school employees with the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) and served for four years on the PEIA Finance Board. In 2006, Perry founded West Virginians for Affordable Health Care (WVAHC) and has served as its Executive Director since then.

Lisa Diehl: Lisa Diehl has many years of experience as an organizer and freelance consultant for a variety of state organizations including WV Women Work!, WV Citizen Action, and WV Council of Churches. She also has worked for national organizations, including Wider Opportunities for Women. She has been a long-time advocate for women on issues related to nontraditional employment, economic justice, self-sufficiency, and poverty. She is founding member and serves on the Board of Directors for the Good News Mountaineer Garage, and is President and co-founder of WV Women Work and organization that trains and places women in skilled trade occupations. Lisa was one of the first women in the country to complete a four-year apprenticeship in the Carpenters Union, was an apprentice delegate to the KS state carpenters convention, and started Kansas City Tradeswomen, an advocacy organization that remains active in supporting women in the trades. Lisa lives on a 120-acre farm in rural, Ritchie County West Virginia with her partner Ron, and a variety of animals



Dan Foster, MD: Daniel.Foster@camc.org Dan Foster has served in the West Virginia Legislature since 2003. He is now a State Senator representing Kanawha County. He has worked in private practice as a general and vascular surgeon and served as part of the administrative team at Charleston Area Medical Center since 2001. Dr. Foster has provided leadership on many community and state-wide efforts. He currently serves as president of West Virginians for Affordable Health Care. He has also headed up the Coalition for a Tobacco Free West Virginia, the Education Alliance. He serves on the boards of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, the Kanawha Pastoral Counseling Center, United Way of Central West Virginia, West Virginia Medical Institute, Kanawha Investment and Trust.



Renate Pore, PhD., MPH: renatepore@gmail.com Renate Pore has more than 30 years experience in health policy. She has worked as a planner in the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health, administered a rural health clinic, headed up Governor Caperton's Health Care Planning Commission and served as director of the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families. Since 2003, she has been a consultant working on a variety of health, child health, oral health and health reform policy issues. She has a PhD in history from West Virginia University and an MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Renate currently divides her time as health policy director for the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy and West Virginians for Affordable Health Care. Renate lives in Charleston with her sweet puppy, Ollie.