

Welcome and Opening Keynote: Speaker Bios

Bonnie Wennerstrom has been with the Washington State Health Care Authority's Policy Division since January 2016. In her role as Policy Connector, Bonnie works with the Medicaid Transformation team, Accountable Communities of Health, and other state agencies and partners to move initiatives forward in ways that promote inclusivity and thoughtful progress. Bonnie also worked on Washington's State Innovation Models (SIM) grant, and other initiatives related to health system transformation in Washington state. Before her role in state government, Bonnie worked as a health center manager with Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and Hawaiian Islands.

Sue Birch serves as director of the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), the state's largest health care purchaser. Appointed by Governor Jay Inslee in January 2018, Birch oversees efforts to transform the health care system, helping ensure Washington residents have access to high-quality, affordable health care. A nurse by training, Birch is passionate about improving population health and reducing overmedicalization by focusing on the social determinants of health. She has led efforts to combat the opioid public health crisis through increased access to treatment and public education, eliminate hepatitis C through innovative value-based drug purchasing, and implement a Medicaid benefit for supportive housing and supported employment.

Before joining Governor Inslee's Cabinet, Birch served as the executive director of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. She led the state's successful implementation of the Affordable Care Act, which expanded coverage to more low-income Coloradans while focusing on cost containment and improved service delivery. She also has served as chief executive officer of the Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association. Birch has completed appointments to the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services, and served as the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation Livingston Fellow and the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow.

Carol Moser is the Executive Director of Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health (GCACH). Carol Moser has served as Executive Director for the Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health since 2014. Prior to her position with Greater Columbia ACH, Carol served six years as the Executive Director of the Benton-Franklin Community Health Alliance, one of the original health care collaboratives in the state of Washington. Carol was appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire to serve on the Washington State Transportation Commission from 2006 to 2011, and was a member of the Richland City Council from 1995 to 2006. She served as Mayor Pro-Tem from 2008-2010. Carol received her Master's in Business Administration from Seattle Pacific University, and a Bachelor of Music from Pacific Lutheran University. She is an active member of Columbia Center Rotary, and a Board member of the Benton Franklin Workforce Development Council.

Somava Saha, MD, MS, a Baha'i, has spent over 25 years working to grow thriving people and communities in some of the poorest places in the world. A primary care doctor and public health professional, Somava is Founder and Executive Lead of Well-being and Equity in the World (WE in the World), as well as Executive Lead of the Well Being In the Nation (WIN) Network, which work together to advance intergenerational well-being and equity. Over the last five years, as Vice President at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Dr. Saha founded and led 100 Million Healthier Lives (100MLives),

which brought together 1850+ partners in 30+ countries reaching >500 million people to improve health, wellbeing and equity..

In 2012, Dr. Saha was recognized as one of ten inaugural Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Young Leaders awardees under 40 for significant contributions to improving the health of the nation. She has consulted with leaders from across the world, including Guyana, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Singapore, Australia, Tunisia, Denmark and Brazil. She has appeared on a panel with the Dalai Lama, keynoted conferences around the world, and had her work featured on Sanjay Gupta, the Katie Couric Show, PBS and CNN. In 2016 she was elected as a Leading Causes of Life Global Fellow.