

# NATIONAL ADVISORY PANEL ON HEALTH EQUITY



**Tracey D. Brown**, CEO, American Diabetes Association®

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is a United States-based non-profit that seeks to educate the public about diabetes and to help those affected by it through funding research to manage, cure and prevent diabetes (including type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes, gestational diabetes and pre-diabetes). It is one of many non-profit organizations (American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen Foundation and American Heart Association) that have emerged as an official institution to the American public and is highly influential to the U.S. healthcare system and government.

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Tracey D. Brown is Chief Executive Officer of the American Diabetes Association (ADA), the nation's largest voluntary health organization and a global authority on diabetes.

Brown joined the ADA in June 2018 after her tenure as senior vice president of operations and chief experience officer at Sam's Club, a division of Walmart, Inc., where she was responsible for creating meaningful member experiences, directing member strategy, marketing and branding, go-to-market execution, data and analytics, and membership operations.

Brown brings more than 25 years of experience in driving global business growth, leveraging data to connect consumers with brands and creating omni-channel experiences to escalate customer loyalty. Prior to joining Sam's Club, Brown was chief executive officer and managing director of RAPP Dallas, a data-driven integrated marketing agency. Before RAPP, she served as chief operating officer for direct marketing agency, Direct Impact, where she coordinated strategic, tactical and overall company operations.

Previously, Brown was director of worldwide consumer marketing for Advanced Micro Devices, where she drove global marketing and demand generation activity around the world, including China, India, Russia, France, Spain, Italy and Japan. Early in her career, she served in leadership positions at American Express, Proctor & Gamble and Exxon Mobil.

Brown earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Columbia Business School in New York and a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Delaware.

Brown, who lives with type 2 diabetes, recently served as a volunteer and fundraiser for the ADA in her local community. She joined the ADA's National Board of Directors in January 2018, before transitioning to her new role as CEO. She and her family reside in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

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**Marshall Chin, MD, MPH**, Richard Parrillo Family Professor of Healthcare Ethics, University of Chicago

The University of Chicago, Department of Medicine has been the model of a successful, clinically active academic program in general medicine and subspecialties since its establishment in 1927. University of Chicago clinicians, researchers and educators are making major contributions on how we solve complex medical problems by integrating novel scientific findings and how we train our young physicians. Through advanced investigations, team work and data driven technology, the University of Chicago's quest for new medical knowledge has led to innovative basic, translational and clinical research that has advanced therapies and redefined how we practice medicine. The team is dedicated to educating the next generation of physicians and scientists to carry on our legacy of discovery.

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Marshall H. Chin, M.D., M.P.H., a practicing general internist and health services researcher, has dedicated his career to reducing health disparities through interventions at individual, organizational, community and policy levels. Dr. Chin has elucidated practical approaches to improving care of diverse individual patients and addressing systemic, structural drivers of disparities in the health care system. Through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Advancing Health Equity program, Dr. Chin collaborates with teams of state Medicaid agencies, Medicaid managed care organizations and frontline healthcare organizations to implement payment reforms to support and incentivize care transformations that advance health equity. He also partners with eight urban and rural communities to integrate medical and social care to reduce diabetes disparities through the Merck Foundation Bridging the Gap program. Dr. Chin evaluates the value of the federally qualified health center program, improves diabetes outcomes in Chicago's South Side through healthcare and community interventions, and improves shared decision making among clinicians and LGBTQ persons of color. He also applies ethical principles to reforms to reduce health disparities, discussions about a culture of equity, and what it means for health professionals to care and advocate for their patients. Dr. Chin's most recent project uses improv and standup comedy, storytelling and theater to improve training of students in caring for diverse patients and engaging in constructive discussions around systemic racism and social privilege. Dr. Chin and his team created the Roadmap to Reduce Disparities cited in Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reports. Dr. Chin is a member of the National Advisory Council of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. He is a former President of the Society of General Internal Medicine.

Dr. Chin is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine, and he completed residency and fellowship training in general internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. He has received mentoring awards from the Society of General Internal Medicine and University of Chicago. He was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2017, and recently served on NAM's Committee on the Future of Nursing 2020-2030.

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**Gilbert Darrington**, CEO, Health Services, Incorporated

Health Services, Inc. is a progressive healthcare organization specializing in innovative quality patient care, integrating physical, mental and social well-being. The focus on a broader spectrum of health including primary medical care, mental & behavioral health, and social health services offers a well-rounded approach for happier, healthier patients. HSI has served the community for over 45 years and is the first Federally Qualified Health Center in Alabama to earn dual accreditation with the Joint Commission and has earned their Gold Seal of Approval by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety as a Primary Care Medical Home as well as having Ambulatory Health Care Accreditation.

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Gilbert F. Darrington is a native of Montgomery, Alabama. He is a graduate of Robert E. Lee High School and is married with two sons. Darrington holds a Master of Arts degree in Human Resources Development, Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Education, B.S.O.E. in Business Administration/Healthcare Administration, A.A in General Studies and a LPN Certification. He is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Darrington retired from the United States Army after 20 years of service in the medical field. After retiring, he served as the Director of Human Resources at Jackson Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama for 10 years. Darrington is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Health Services, Incorporated in Montgomery, Alabama. At HSI, he works with healthcare providers to offer a wide spectrum of health care services through 11 health centers, two wellness centers, four school-based health centers and two mobile health care units.

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**Adaeze Enekwechi, Ph.D., MPP**, Research Associate Professor, Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University

Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University begins with the basics of our existence—clean water, healthy food, safe housing and breathable air—and continues through more complex and technical issues such as auto safety, vaccine development and distribution, infectious disease, maternal and child health, obesity and health care reform. Public health impacts all of us: how long we live, the quality of our lives, our sense of well-being and mental health, and the health of our children and future generations. That's why right now is the best time in history to pursue innovative solutions as we seek to create a healthier planet for all, especially underserved populations.

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Dr. Adaeze Enekwechi is a leading voice in health equity and evidence-based health policy making. She is committed to building a health care system that evolves beyond its current piecemeal, short-term approach to big challenges in order to meaningfully improve access to equitable, quality health care for all Americans.

She most recently served as the President of IMPAQ, a policy research and implementation firm focused on health, workforce and advanced analytics. In that role, she provided strategic oversight of all research, technical assistance and technology services across all policy and program areas at IMPAQ. She also led the organization's work on health equity, advancing ideas for how policymakers, payers and providers can engage for meaningful, measurable change in quality, costs and outcomes for vulnerable and underserved populations.

Dr. Enekwechi served as the Associate Director for Health Programs at the White House Office of Management and Budget under President Obama, where she provided policy, management and regulatory oversight for over \$1 trillion in spending on a range of programs across all federal health agencies. These agencies and oversight areas included the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, and policy and spending negotiations for Medicaid, the Zika virus, and other public health funding efforts. She also led a multi-agency implementation of the Affordable Care Act, where she coordinated and set up the infrastructure to implement the complex law.

Dr. Enekwechi completed a BA at the University of Iowa, an MPP at the American University and a Ph.D. in Health Services and Policy from the University of Iowa. She completed postdoctoral training at the University of Chicago. Her research area covers the aging population and Medicare, health equity for vulnerable populations and evidence-based policymaking.

Dr. Enekwechi is a Research Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at the George Washington University. Her teaching focuses on federal health policy, the US health care infrastructure, health equity and evidence-based policymaking. She also serves on the boards of directors and advisors for a number of health care organizations.

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**Maria S. Gomez, RN, MPH,** President and CEO, Mary's Center

Mary's Center provides primary health care and other wrap-around services to any individual that enters their doors regardless of their ability to pay. They take most private insurance, Medicaid, Medicare and provide a sliding fee-scale to self-paid individuals to guarantee that their health care needs are met. Their community is composed of citizens born in the U.S., as well as immigrants from more than 100 different countries living throughout the DC metropolitan area.

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Maria S. Gomez, President and CEO of Mary's Center, founded the organization in 1988 as a clinic to provide prenatal and postpartum care to Latino women living in DC's Ward 1.

Under Gomez's leadership, Mary's Center has grown from an initial budget of \$250,000, serving 200 participants a year, to an annual budget of \$61 million serving nearly 50,000 participants from all over the globe at five medical locations, two senior wellness centers and a program office throughout DC and Maryland in 2018. Gomez is among the strongest leaders in the region. As a testament to her significant commitment to her community, she was selected by the White House as one of the 18 recipients of the 2012 Presidential Citizens Medal, the nation's second-highest civilian honor. She is also frequently recognized for her role in the DC metropolitan region's healthcare system.

Prior to establishing Mary's Center, Gomez was a public health nurse at the D.C. Department of Health. She also worked at the Red Cross, where she directed community education programming and disaster services, and at the Visiting Nurses Association. Originally from Colombia, Gomez immigrated with her mother at age 13 and attended DC Public Schools. Gomez obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Georgetown University and a Master's in Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley. She currently serves as a board member for the DC Primary Care Association, the Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, and the Washington Area Women's Foundation. Gomez is the recipient of many awards.

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**Rachel R. Hardeman, Ph.D., MPH**, Tenured Associate Professor, Division of Health Policy & Management at the University of Minnesota

The Center for Antiracism Research for Health Equity at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health has a mission to identify, understand and dismantle structural racism through multidisciplinary antiracist and collaborative research, education, authentic community engagement and narrative change.

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Dr. Rachel R. Hardeman, a reproductive health equity researcher, serves as the center's Founding Director. Dr. Hardeman's program of research applies the tools of population health science and health services research to elucidate a critical and complex determinant of health inequity—racism. Dr. Hardeman leverages the frameworks of critical race theory and reproductive justice to inform her equity-centered work which aims to build the empirical evidence of racism's impact on health, particularly for Black birthing people and their babies. In 2020, she was named the first Blue Cross Endowed Professor of Health and Racial Equity.

Dr. Hardeman's research includes a partnership with Roots Community Birth Center, in North Minneapolis, one of five Black-owned freestanding birth centers in the United States. Her work also examines the potential mental health impacts for Black birthing people when living in a community that has experienced the killing of an unarmed Black person by police.

Dr. Hardeman is principal investigator of MORhELab, which explores and defines ways to measure structural racism for the purposes of empirical, quantitative investigation.

Published in journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine and the American Journal of Public Health, Dr. Hardeman's research has elicited important conversations on the topics of culturally-centered care, police brutality and structural racism as a fundamental cause of health inequities. Her overarching goal is to contribute to a body of knowledge that links structural racism to health in a tangible way, identifies opportunities for intervention, and dismantles the systems, structures and institutions that allow inequities to persist.

Dr. Hardeman is active locally and nationally with organizations that seek to achieve health equity. She was recently appointed to the Minnesota Maternal Mortality Review Committee and the CDC Maternal Mortality Review Information Application (MMRIA) Bias work group where she is working to develop a measure of structural racism to be included when reviewing maternal deaths. Dr. Hardeman also serves on the Board of Directors for Planned Parenthood of the North Central States.



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**Stacey D. Stewart**, President and CEO, March of Dimes

The March of Dimes is a national, non-profit organization that was established in 1938. The mission of the foundation is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. The March of Dimes funds programs of research, community services, education and advocacy.

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Stacey D. Stewart joined March of Dimes as its fifth President and CEO on January 1, 2017. In this role, Stewart heads the organization leading the fight for the health of all moms and babies. She is responsible for all aspects of the organization's strategy, vision and operations.

Stewart came to March of Dimes from United Way Worldwide, where she served as U.S. President, leading national efforts in education, revenue growth, health and brand recognition.

A business veteran with an extensive background in finance, Stewart has also held a number of senior roles at Fannie Mae, Merrill Lynch and Pryor, McClendon, Counts & Co. Stewart has a Master of Business Administration in finance from the University of Michigan and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Georgetown University. She also holds honorary degrees from Trinity University, Morgan State University, Texas Southern University, Lincoln University and Alabama A&M University. She currently serves on several boards nationally and in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Stewart and husband Jarvis reside in the DC Metro area with daughters Madeline and Savannah.

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**Richard Taylor**, CEO, ImbuTec

Pittsburgh-based Imbu Technology Solutions, Inc. (“ImbuTec”) was formed in 2003. At its inception, the company focused on evaluating and deploying innovative technologies to improve energy efficiency in commercial buildings. Today, ImbuTec operates as a full-service electrical and general contractor serving a wide array of corporate, governmental and institutional customers. The company has built a strong reputation for delivering outstanding results and has a stellar safety record. In addition, ImbuTec is certified as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program (13311), the National Minority Supplier Development Council (PT 01525) and the Pennsylvania Department of General Services.

With over 30 years of business and professional experience, Richard Taylor is responsible for the overall strategic direction of the company. Taylor graduated cum laude with a B.S. in Business Administration from Georgetown University. During his tenure in the nation’s capital, he worked on Capitol Hill as a government relations representative for a Fortune 500 energy company and was also actively involved in Congressional and Presidential campaigns across the country. He later attended Tulane University School of Law where he earned his Juris Doctor, cum laude, and then served as a law clerk to Judge James L. Dennis on the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Prior to joining ImbuTec, Taylor served in various legal and senior corporate management roles in the energy industry, and he also organized and led a non-profit community development corporation affiliated with his church to help revitalize the historic Hill District community in which it sits.

Taylor is an active civic leader, and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Foundation, the Board of Fellows for the University of Pittsburgh’s Institute of Politics as Co-Chair of the Economic Development Committee, the Power of 32 Implementation Committee and the Board of Directors for Macedonia Development Corporation. He previously served on the Boards of the Port Authority of Allegheny County, the August Wilson African American Cultural Center, the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, the Local Government Academy and as Secretary of the Homer S. Brown Law Association.



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**Kevin Washington**, President and CEO, YMCA of the USA

The YMCA (the Y) is a worldwide youth organization based in Geneva, Switzerland, with more than 64 million beneficiaries in 120 countries. It was founded on June 6th, 1844 by Sir George Williams in London. YMCAs are strongly rooted in their communities and offer a variety of programs and services based on local priorities and issues affecting young people and their communities. The YMCA is a non-governmental federation, with each independent local YMCA affiliated with its national organization. Each national organization, in turn, is part of both an Area Alliance, based on geographic location, and the World Alliance of YMCAs.

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A 43-year YMCA professional, Kevin Washington is the 14th person and first African American to lead the Y in the United States.

He came to YMCA of the USA in February 2015 from the YMCA of Greater Boston, where he was President and CEO from 2010 to 2014. He expanded membership and access by reducing rates, increased diversity and engagement among the Board of Directors to better reflect the community and implemented a childhood-education quality initiative that benefits thousands of children and families throughout eastern Massachusetts.

Prior to Boston, Washington served as President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Hartford from 2000 to 2010. Under his leadership the Hartford YMCA invested more than \$60 million to develop or expand eight facilities and camps. He was Chief Operating Officer for the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago from 1995 to 2000, and he previously held other executive roles with the Chicago YMCA and the Greater Philadelphia YMCA. He got his start in the Y as Youth Program Director at the Philadelphia YMCA's Christian Street branch in 1978.

Washington earned a bachelor's degree in history from Temple University.