



Executive Director and Staff Bios



Cindy Zeldin, Executive Director

Cindy Zeldin is the Executive Director of Georgians for a Healthy Future. Cindy brings a decade of public policy experience to this role, having worked at both the state and national levels. Previously, she served as Federal Affairs Coordinator for the Economic Opportunity Program at Demos, where she managed Congressional outreach and education. While at Demos, she also conducted research on medical debt and coauthored the policy report “Borrowing to Stay Healthy.” Prior to her work at Demos, she was the Senior Program Associate in the Health Policy Program at the New America Foundation, a national think tank. She began her career here in Georgia in the Health Care Division of the Department of Audits, where she was part of a team that conducted management reviews of state health care programs. She holds a B.A. from Emory University, an M.A. from The George Washington University, and is currently working toward a PhD in Health Services Research and Health Policy at Emory University, for which she has completed coursework.



Amanda Ptashkin, Outreach & Advocacy Director

Amanda Ptashkin joins Georgians for a Health Future as the new Outreach and Advocacy Director. She spent the last three years in Pennsylvania working as the State Health Alliances and Grassroots Director for Pennsylvania and Delaware with the American Heart Association. Amanda is a licensed attorney with a passion for health policy and advocacy. Her biggest successes and highest moments came when legislators saw beyond political divisions and came together to advance basic human rights. While Amanda is new to the Atlanta area, she is eager to hit the ground running and help establish GHF as the premiere healthcare reform organization in the state. Before attending Widener University School of Law in Delaware, Amanda was an undergraduate at New York University and majored in Politics and minored in Health Policy. She believes her strong educational background in law, politics and health policy has equipped her with a keen analytical mind that thrives on advocacy and the promotion of access and equity. She is honored to join Georgians for a Healthy Future and looks forward to the hard work ahead.

Sylvia Caley, Board Chair

Sylvia Caley is Director and Lead Attorney of the Health Law Partnership (HeLP), an interdisciplinary community collaboration to improve the health and social well being of low-income children through services located at the hospitals of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. She is also Assistant Clinical Professor at Georgia State University College of Law developing and servicing the program and services of HeLP and the HeLP Legal



Services Clinic and has written extensively on legal issues related to children's health care. She is a board member of the Women's Policy Group. Sylvia received an R.N. from the Royal Victoria Hospital School of Nursing (Canada); B.A. summa cum laude in history, from Oglethorpe University; MBA from GSU; and J.D. from GSU College of Law.

Mindy Binderman, Vice Chair

Mindy Binderman is Advocacy Director for Voices for Georgia's Children and has provided advocacy, organizational strategies and public affairs to nonprofits and corporations for over 13 years. She worked extensively with the faith community, including the American Jewish Committee, in the Baltimore/Washington, DC area for five years on local, state and federal legislative and policy issues. Prior to moving to Atlanta, Mindy taught Advocacy classes to graduate students at Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies, Center for Civil Society Studies. She is a graduate of Newcomb College at Tulane University and received a Juris Doctor degree from The American University Washington College of Law.

Nannette Turner, Board Secretary

Nannette Turner is Assistant Professor at Mercer University School of Medicine, Department of Community Medicine in Macon. She previously she served as Executive Director of the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition (Columbus, GA), and has published articles on tobacco use and low-income African Americans, and has presented extensively on health disparities. She currently serves as Vice President of the Georgia Rural Health Association, and is a member of the Georgia Cancer State Plan Steering Committee, WCGCC board, Live Healthy Columbus Coalition, and Building Toward Wellness Community Coalition, among others. She received a BS in Microbiology from Xavier University, New Orleans; Masters of Public Health in Disease Control from the University of Texas School of Public Health; and a Ph.D. from the University of Alabama.

Scott Mathews, Board Treasurer

Until August of 2009, Scott Mathews served as Director of Government Relations for the American Cancer Society in Georgia. In this role, he directed the advocacy and public policy agenda for the Society in the state. He organized community mobilization initiatives, recruited advocacy volunteer leaders, built strategic alliances, planned and launched grassroots campaigns and directed the Society's lobbying effort.

Prior to joining ACS, Scott spent 28 years in the corporate environment working for BellSouth, AT&T and Southern Bell. During his telecommunications career, Scott concentrated primarily on operations management and government, external and public affairs. In his last role as Executive Director - External Affairs, Scott developed and implemented public affairs strategy for BellSouth and directed their Federal Political Action Committee (PAC).



Scott received his Bachelor of Science degree from The Citadel and his Masters Degree from the University of Utah. He served 21 years in the Air Force Reserves as a Logistics Officer, retiring as a Lt. Col. Scott is involved in the local community, serving as Treasurer of Georgians for a Healthy Future and as board vice chair and chair of the board development committee at the Center for the Visually Impaired. He is former board chair of ProLiteracy, USA. He is a member of the Atlanta Kiwanis Club and the Buckhead Club and is an active volunteer at his children's schools.

Scott and his wife, Dey, live in Brookhaven and are the parents of two sons.

Julie Edelson

Julie Edelson is a public policy and legislative consultant providing legislative representation and electoral consulting to Planned Parenthood of Georgia and other nonprofits. Julie has been involved in coordinating campaigns, and served as Staff Attorney with the ACLU of Georgia, Assistant Regional Council to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as well as Staff Attorney for the Southern Center for Human Rights. She graduated with a BA in history, Phi Beta Kappa from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and received a J.D. from the National Law Center, George Washington University.

Jeffery Graham

Jeffery Graham is Executive Director of Georgia Equality and the Equality Foundation of Georgia, previously serving for ten years as the ED of the AIDS Survival Project. Jeff is the recipient of numerous awards and honors for his work on health issues, nonprofit leadership and human rights, and has been active on several boards including Health Students Taking Action Together, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Medical Monitoring Project, Youth Pride, and Georgia Rural Urban Summit. He is also the author of several articles and presentations on health care among persons living with HIV/AIDS. He received a BA with Honors, in Religion and Theatre from Trinity University in San Antonio, TX.

Susy Martorell

Susy Martorell is a Board Member of the Hispanic Health Coalition of Georgia, Inc. (HHCGA) and a passionate advocate for cross cultural health care for over 25 years. Currently Susy works as a Medical Social Worker for Grady Health Systems, as a consultant in social work to the Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta, and as a Trainer in Medical Interpretation and Cultural Competence. She was DeKalb County's Bilingual Service Coordinator for Babies Can't Wait and is a founding member and board Chair of the National Council on Interpretation in HealthCare; founding member and board member of the Medical Interpreter Network of Georgia; and board member of DeKalb Developmental Disabilities Council. She received a BA in Social Work from San Jose State University, CA and an MPA from College of Notre Dame (Belmont, CA).



Patricia Nobbie

Patricia Nobbie is Deputy Director of the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities, and is responsible for coordinating and leading the Council's state and federal policy agenda. Pat manages numerous grants and projects providing services and resources for people with disabilities, including Unlock the Waiting Lists! Campaign that aims to ensure adequate funding of home and community based services. She has written extensively on health care issues pertaining to children with disabilities and their families. She graduated from Bethany College (WV) summa cum laude, and received an MA in Education from the University of the Virgin Islands (St. Croix), and a Ph.D. in Public Administration from the University of Georgia.

Kathy Floyd

Kathy Floyd is the Associate State Director for Advocacy for AARP Georgia. Kathy has been with AARP for 14 years. She currently coordinates AARP's campaigns in Georgia for state issues including, health and long term care, economic issues and consumer protection issues. Kathy earned her undergraduate degree in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She holds a masters degree in business with a concentration in finance from Georgia State University. She and her family live in Roswell.