

OUR STAFF



Cindy Zeldin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cindy Zeldin is the Executive Director of Georgians for a Healthy Future, a non-profit consumer health advocacy organization that advocates for access to quality, affordable health care for all Georgians through public education and outreach, coalition building, and public policy advocacy.

Cindy joined Georgians for a Healthy Future as Executive Director in 2009 and brought ten years of prior experience in health policy to the role. Her previous positions include working as a senior program associate in the health policy program at the New America Foundation, a national think tank; as federal affairs coordinator for the public policy organization Demos; and working within state government at the Georgia Department of Audits, where she was part of a team that conducted program audits of health care programs in the state.

She also currently serves as a consumer representative to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), was appointed to and served on the Governor's Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Committee in 2011, and was named one of Georgia's "40 Under 40: Georgia's Best and Brightest" by Georgia Trend magazine in 2010. She was also recognized by the League of Women Voters of Georgia with an Empowerment Award in the area of health care in 2014 and by HealthSTAT in 2011 with a Community Partner Award. Cindy serves as a volunteer on several advisory committees and boards, including on the Georgia Health Information Network board and the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta's Health Access Leadership Council.

She holds an MPH from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University, an MA from the George Washington University, and a BA from Emory University.

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Laura Colbert

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MANAGER

Laura Colbert is the Community Outreach Manager at Georgians for a Healthy Future, where she oversees GHF's coalitions and partnerships.

Laura came to Georgians for a Healthy Future in June 2014 from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's Strong4Life initiative. At Children's, she served as Camp Director for Camp Strong4Life, a camp program for overweight and obese children and their families. She also developed and managed Strong4Life's community partnership and outreach efforts. Laura's other previous positions include working at HealthSTAT, a student-run health policy and advocacy organization; and the CDC's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention.

Laura was recognized in 2014 as the Society for Public Health Education as one of the organization's "30 under 30". She currently serves as a volunteer board member for the Georgia Society for Public Health Education and the Dick Lane Velodrome.

Laura has an MPH from Emory University, where she focused on health literacy and the social determinants of health. Before moving to Atlanta, Laura attended the University of Georgia, where she earned her B.S.Ed in Kinesiology with a focus on biomechanics. She is also a Certified Health Education Specialist.

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Anna Cullen

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Anna Cullen is Georgians for a Healthy Future's Communications Coordinator. She joined Georgians for a Healthy Future in August 2014. In this capacity she works to strategically develop and implement concise and effective messages across multiple outlets — from traditional to social media as well as stakeholder communications.

Anna comes to Georgians for a Healthy Future from the United States House of Representatives where she worked as a Legislative Assistant for a senior member of Congress and gained a strong understanding of the most effective tools to activate change in a divisive political atmosphere. In that capacity Anna also managed the congressman's external communications as well as interactions with agency officials and stakeholders within her policy portfolio which included environment, energy, social justice, housing and health issues.

Anna is pursuing a Masters in Public Administration from Georgia State University and earned her B.A. in Communications, Legal Institutions, Economics, and Government from American University in Washington, DC.

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Whitney Griggs

CONSUMER EDUCATION SPECIALIST

Whitney is Georgians for a Healthy Future's Consumer Education Specialist. In this role, Whitney will educate consumers who have questions about how to understand and use their health insurance as well as assist consumers who encounter problems with their insurance plan. Whitney will also be on the lookout for patterns that can help inform GHF's policy and advocacy work in the area of private health insurance.

Whitney comes to GHF from the Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia, where she was lead health navigator. As a health insurance navigator, Whitney provided enrollment assistance for the Health Insurance Marketplace to consumers in rural Georgia. In this role she also conducted extensive outreach throughout the state to inform consumers about the Affordable Care Act and the new health insurance options available under the law. Prior to her role as a navigator, Whitney worked for Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies as an Information and Resource Specialist for their health care referral service, called the Powerline. In this position she helped find and verify health care providers throughout the state for the referral line. Whitney has also worked in the Child Life Division at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Whitney earned her B.S. in Psychology with a focus on Biological Psychology from Clemson University.

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Pranaya Rana

CONSUMER EDUCATION AND ENROLLMENT SPECIALIST

Pranaya Rana is a former Lieutenant from the Nepalese Army Elite Forces. He has served as a U.N. Peacekeeper in post-earthquake Haiti and as a Refugee Resettlement Program Officer in Connecticut before he came to Kennesaw State University, Georgia to pursue his Ph.D. in International Conflict Management in 2012. He worked with the Carter Center during the summer of 2013 in a supervisory mentorship role for elections monitoring and local governance programs in Nepal.

He has been working as a certified Healthcare Navigator in Metro Atlanta since the first open enrollment began in 2013. He recently completed his 6 months long Navigator's term at Georgia Watch before joining Georgians For a Healthy Future. He specializes in refugees and international communities and has served a wide variety of international communities enroll into affordable healthcare using a community specific service model developed through continued outreach, education and needs assessment.

He is Fluent in Nepali and Hindi besides English, and, speaks Urdu and intermediate French. Currently a Ph.D. Candidate, he has a Master's Degree in Global Development and Peace from the University of Bridgeport '11 and a B.A. in Sociology and Strategic Studies from Tribhuvan University, Nepal '07. He was awarded the 2011 Bosserman Fellowship by the Center for Conflict Resolution at Salisbury University, Maryland for his contribution in academic research and humanitarian work.

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Meredith Gonsahn

HEALTH POLICY ANALYST

Meredith Gonsahn is Georgians for a Healthy Future's Health Policy Analyst. She joined Georgians for a Healthy Future in July 2015. In this role she identifies key issues in health policy and how they impact Georgia health care consumers. Meredith also monitors major trends in public and private health insurance, health system reform and other key policy areas to keep the organization abreast of emerging issues.

Meredith comes to Georgians for a Healthy Future from the Atlanta VA Medical Center where she served as a Study Coordinator for a wound care clinical trial. Prior to this position, Meredith was a Research Associate for the Center for Health Policy and Health Services Research at Henry Ford Health System. In this role she identified and analyzed key health system reform policies at the Federal, state and local levels to shape the policy agenda for the System. She also served as a liaison to coordinate and submit Affordable Care Act demonstration project applications for System business units.

Meredith has a Master's of Public Health with a concentration in Health Policy and Management from Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. She also has a Bachelor of Arts in History from Duke University.