



SEVENTH ANNUAL

HEALTH CARE UNSCRAMBLED

A Look Ahead to the 2017 Legislative Session

FREIGHT DEPOT
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017
7:30 – 11:00 AM



GEORGIANS FOR A
HEALTHY FUTURE

THE VOICE FOR GEORGIA HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us for the seventh annual Health Care Unscrambled policy breakfast. We take great pride in putting on this event each year and know that many of you have come to think of it as an annual tradition. We are grateful for your support and participation as we enter an uncertain time for health and health care.

Over the past several years, more than half a million Georgians have enrolled in health insurance. Georgians for a Healthy Future has been proud to play a role, together with our many community partners across the state, in educating health care consumers about their coverage options and how they can access care in their community. We have also worked at the Capitol to advance consumer-friendly health legislation, like last year's provider directory improvement bill (SB 302) that will help ensure people get accurate and up-to-date information about the health care providers in their plan, and worked with state agencies in a variety of ways to advance health.

Upcoming changes in policy at the federal level could dramatically shift the health care landscape nationally and here in Georgia. Coverage, care, and consumer protections are at risk for many Georgians, and at Georgians for a Healthy Future we believe that advocacy on behalf of the individuals and families whose basic access to health care hangs in the balance has never been more important.

This morning's program features two important and timely discussions. First, we will hear from a bipartisan group of health-focused state legislators who will fill us in on what they anticipate for the 2017 Legislative Session. Second, we will feature a lively conversation with representatives from two of the national organizations most heavily involved in advocacy on behalf of health care consumers at the federal level. They will provide us with the information and tools we need to understand what may be coming and how we can best engage and advocate to protect coverage and care in the coming year.

Sincerely,



Cindy Zeldin, MPH
Executive Director



Allison Burroughs
Chair, Board of Directors

PROGRAM AGENDA

7:30 – 8:10 **Registration and Breakfast**

8:15 – 8:20 **Welcome**

8:20 – 9:30 **Bipartisan legislative panel discussion**
Moderated by Laura Colbert, *Director of Outreach & Partnerships, Georgians for a Healthy Future*
Featuring:
Senator Chuck Hufstetler
Senator Michael ‘Doc’ Rhett
Senator Renee Unterman
Representative Debbie Buckner
Representative Darlene Taylor

9:30 – 9:40 **Sponsorship Acknowledgement**
By Sarah Dobra, *Director of Development & Operations, Georgians for a Healthy Future*

9:40 – 9:45 **Special Video Presentation**
Cindy Mann

9:45 – 10:50 **The Big Picture: What advocates need to know**
Moderated by Amanda Ptashkin, *Community Catalyst*
Featuring:
Sue Sherry, *Community Catalyst*
Liz Hagan, *Families USA*
Cindy Zeldin, *Georgians for a Healthy Future*

10:50 – 11:00 **Closing Remarks**



SUE SHERRY

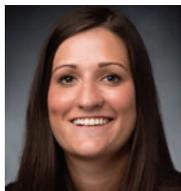
Deputy Director, Community Catalyst

With more than 30 years of experience working in health policy and consumer advocacy, Susan Sherry provides strategic direction to nationally recognized federal, state, and local initiatives to expand health access, improve quality, and build community participation in health policy and health care systems. She has a strong track record of entrepreneurial program development and is responsible for overseeing a broad range of Community Catalyst projects including state-based technical assistance programs and issue campaigns.

Prior to joining Community Catalyst, Susan was the founding Executive Director of Health Care For All and in that role represented consumer interests in negotiations around the 1986 Massachusetts universal health care law, hospital free care, and insurance market reforms. She also directed the state technical assistance program at Families USA. Susan is an instructor at the Harvard School of Public Health where she teaches a course in community organizing.

In 2004 and 2005, she was named one of Modern Healthcare's 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a master's degree from Goddard College. She completed her doctoral coursework at Brandeis University.

Community Catalyst works to ensure consumer interests are represented wherever important decisions about health and the health system are made: in communities, courtrooms, statehouses and on Capitol Hill.



ELIZABETH HAGAN

Senior Policy Analyst, Families USA

Elizabeth Hagan is a Senior Policy Analyst at Families USA, where she focuses on enrollment policy. In this position, she works with national and state partners to identify and disseminate promising practices related to outreach and enrollment in Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and health insurance marketplaces. She also provides technical assistance on application- and enrollment-related issues to assisters across the country.

Prior to joining Families USA, Ms. Hagan was a policy analyst with Enroll America, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization working to maximize the number of Americans who enroll in and retain health coverage. There, she worked in the Best Practices Institute, focusing primarily on improving outreach and enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP.

Ms. Hagan holds an MPA from George Washington University and a BA from Ohio State University.



CINDY ZELDIN

Executive Director, Georgians for a Healthy Future

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

Cindy joined Georgians for a Healthy Future in 2009 as the organization’s first Executive Director. Under her leadership, GHF has played an integral role in educating consumers about their health insurance options, rights, and protections; led multi-stakeholder efforts to educate policymakers and enact consumer-friendly health policy legislation; and consistently served as a clear voice for health care consumers in the press.

Cindy currently serves as a consumer representative to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), has been appointed to and served on various state-level committees to provide consumer input including the Georgia Senate Consumer and Provider Protection Act Study Committee in 2015 and the Governor’s Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Committee in 2011, and has been recognized locally for her contributions. She was named one of Georgia’s “40 Under 40: Georgia’s Best and Brightest” by Georgia Trend magazine in 2010, recognized by the League of Women Voters of Georgia with an Empowerment Award in the area of health care in 2014, and was a recipient of H-STAT’s Community Partner Award in 2011.

Prior to joining Georgians for a Healthy Future, Cindy held numerous positions in research and policy. She was a senior program associate in the health policy program at the New America Foundation, federal affairs coordinator for the public policy organization Demos, and worked 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 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.



CINDY MANN

Partner, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips

Cindy Mann is a partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, guiding states, providers, plans, consumer organizations and foundations on creating and implementing effective strategies around federal and state health reform, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and delivery and payment system transformation. She formerly served as the Deputy Administrator and Director of the Center for Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program Services (CMCS) at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), where she led the administration of Medicaid, CHIP and the Basic Health Program for more than five years during the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Ms. Mann’s prior positions include research professor at the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute, where she was founder and director of the Center for Children and Families, senior advisor at the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, director of the Family and Children’s Health Program Group at the Healthcare Financing Administration (HCFA), now CMS. Ms. Mann earned a bachelor’s degree from Cornell University and a J.D. degree from the New York University School of Law.



SENATOR CHUCK HUFSTETLER
(R-52)

Senator Chuck Hufstetler, a Republican, was elected to the State Senate for Georgia's 52nd District in 2012. Sen. Hufstetler represents Floyd County along with portions of Bartow, Chattooga and Gordon counties. Sen. Hufstetler is the Vice-Chairman of the State and Local Government Committee and a member of the Education and Youth, Health and Human Services and Science and Technology committees.

Sen. Hufstetler was elected to the Floyd County Board of Commissioners in 1998. As Commissioner, Hufstetler led the way to cut taxes six times, trimmed the waste of the government by analyzing every expenditure of each department and eliminated the debt for the first time in modern history of the county. He was re-elected in 2002 and elected as Chairman in 2003 and 2004.

Professionally, Sen. Hufstetler worked fourteen years as a corporate manager for Welch Foods and Earthgrain. In 1994, he returned to Rome to buy a long-time Floyd County establishment, Paul's Oyster Bar in the Coosa area.

In 2006, Sen. Hufstetler pursued a life-long passion by enrolling in Emory School of Medicine to become an anesthetist. After graduating, he began providing anesthesia to patients at Redmond Regional Hospital where he currently still works.

Chuck is a 1974 graduate of East Rome High School. He has a double major in Biology and Psychology from the University of Georgia, a degree from the American Institute of Baking, and a Masters in Medical Science in Anesthesiology from the Emory School of Medicine.

Chuck is married to the former Joan Bojo and together they have three children: Caleb, a MBA student at Berry College and manager of the family restaurant; Schell, a doctoral student at Georgia State University in Developmental Psychology; and, Rebeckah, a student at Rome Middle School. The Hufstetler's are members of Seven Hills Presbyterian Church in Rome.



SENATOR MICHAEL RHETT
(D-33)

Senator Michael Rhett was first elected to the state Senate in 2014 to represent a portion of Cobb County. He is the first African American resident to be elected to the state Senate from Cobb County.

Senator Rhett is member of the Retirement, Banking and Financial Institutions, Economic Development and Tourism, and Veterans, Military and Homeland committees.

Senator Rhett has an Associate Degree Community College of the United States Air Force in Administrative Management, a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and Afro-American Studies from the State University of New York, a Bachelor's Degree in Business Education from the University of Central Oklahoma, a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Central Oklahoma, a Specialist's Degree in Educational Leadership from Georgia State University and a Doctorate's Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Georgia.

Senator Rhett retired as a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force. He managed personnel, prepared young people for leadership and worked as a training instructor for the 700th Airlift Squadron. As part of his 25 years of enlisted service, he has received the United States Air Force Meritorious Service Medal.

Senator Rhett was born in public housing on 125th Street near the Apollo Theatre in Harlem in New York City.

In his civilian life, Senator Rhett was a Vocational, Educational and Instructional Coordinator at Jefferson Place and City of Refuge. The organizations give homeless men and battered homeless women a second chance at life by creating a curriculum that emphasizes vocational and personal development. Combining classes about job seeking skills, basic computer skills, and co-facilitated substance abuse recovery classes, students are able to find housing, jobs, and open a new bank account with Capitol City Bank. The organizations are located in the city of Atlanta's English Avenue "Bluff" Community. Each week volunteers went into the local metro jails recruited ex-offenders and enrolled them as students in Senator Rhett's program.

Currently, he works for the Cobb County School System teaching in the Adult Education Program. Senator Rhett teaches adult literacy, English as a second or other language (ESOL) and GED exam preparation classes.

Senator Rhett was the Jr. Vice Commander of American Legion Post 296. Among the various community committees he served on, he is a member of the Cobb County NAACP, Cobb County SCLC, Austell Community Taskforce, Powder Springs Economic Development Committee, Six Flags Drive Stakeholder Economic Community Development Committee and the Cobb County Commission of the Children & Youth.

Senator Rhett is a trustee for Turner Chapel AME Church in Marietta, Georgia.



SENATOR RENEE UNTERMAN
(R-45)

Senator Renee Unterman, throughout her service of 23 years as a public servant on the local and state government level, she has focused on health and social law, consumer issues, and has given special attention to the young and vulnerable, as well as the elderly citizens of Georgia. With each legislative session, Sen. Unterman has championed legislation that has sought to end the sexual exploitation of minors. She continues to fight for a change in Georgia law that will view those children forced into prostitution as the victim and not a criminal.

Also an advocate of public health, Senator Unterman has twice been named a “Public Health Hero” by the Georgia Public Health Association (GPHA). Senator Unterman was also named Legislator of the year by the Georgia Public Health Association in 2013. She has been a devoted contributor to the Aging Services of Georgia which is a statewide association that represents numerous non-profit organizations. Senator Unterman assists this group as they seek to provide quality housing, health care, and community based services that many Georgians depend on in the latter stages of their lives. Over the past several years, Senator Unterman has lead a concerted effort to reduce metal theft in Georgia, and has worked to support the adoption of several pieces of anti-metal theft legislation, including SB321, SB203 and SB82. With the establishment of her two private charitable organizations, Friends of Gwinnett County Senior Services and Aid Gwinnett, she remains committed to serving the needs of senior citizens and those families and individuals who are affected by the AIDS virus.

Senator Unterman grew up in Gwinnett County and graduated from Berkmar High School. She earned her Nursing Degree at Georgia State University and trained at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta. Her undergraduate degree is from the University of Georgia, as a clinically trained social worker. After graduation, she worked as an emergency room and critical care nurse. She currently works on national health care policy for Amerigroup Georgia.

After serving three terms as the Mayor of Loganville, Georgia, she then went on to serve four years as a Gwinnett County Commissioner. She served as Chairman of the National Association of State Legislatures’ Committee on Human Welfare, and as Honorary Chairman on the Hunger Initiative.

Senator Unterman has always demonstrated strong pro-life, conservative family values. Senator Unterman now serves as Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee and Vice Chairman of Appropriations. She also serves on the Finance, Regulated Industries

and Utilities, Insurance and Labor and Rules Committees. She received the 1849 Friend of Medicine Award from the Medical Association of Georgia for her leadership of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, as well as her support of Georgia's medical personnel and work to improve safety and licensing regulations. Senator Unterman continues to serve her community as the chair of the Lake Lanier Caucus. She represents the 45th Senate District, which include portions of Gwinnett County.

She is a native Georgian and has lived in Gwinnett for many years, currently residing in Buford with her husband Phil.



REPRESENTATIVE DEBBIE BUCKNER
(D-137)

A native Georgian, Rep. Buckner grew up in Columbus and lived there until she married and moved to Talbot County in 1976. She was first elected to the Georgia General Assembly in 2002. Currently serving in House District 137 which is comprised of all of Talbot county, and portions of Harris, Meriwether, the eastern part of Muscogee County and Fort Benning.

Rep. Buckner serves as a member of the Ways and Means, Natural Resources & Environment, Retirement, and State Institutions & Property committees. As a freshman legislator, she served as secretary of the State Institutions & Properties Committee, a member of the Health & Human Services Committee, and was the only freshman to serve on the Natural Resources & Environment Water Subcommittee. She has served as an assistant to the Majority Whip and then as assistant to the Minority Whip. She was the House Democratic Caucus Secretary and currently serves as Vice Chair of the Rural Caucus.

Rep. Buckner is the Former Director of Community Benefit at Columbus Regional Healthcare System, having previously worked for Doctors Hospital as the Director of Community Relations and the Columbus Health Department as Senior Public Health Educator.

She earned a BS Degree in Health Science from Columbus State University and attended Georgia Southwestern College for postgraduate work and to earn a teaching certificate.

Rep. Buckner is a Board Member of Twin Cedars, which provides programs and services to children and their families in Columbus, LaGrange and Macon, is currently serving as Board Chair of Three Rivers AHEC, a Board Member and Past Chairman of the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition, a member of the Network for Professionals and Executives, member of the Chattahoochee Indian Heritage Association Board and serves as member of the Easter Seals Board and the Safe Kids of Columbus Board.

Her community service has included volunteering for the American Lung Association of Georgia, Columbus-Ft. Benning Chapter of the American Cancer Society, Girl Scouts, Columbus Hospice, the Jekyll Island Foundation, the Valley Collaborative for Suicide Prevention and Historic Talbotton Foundation.

In 2004, she was inducted into the Gracious Ladies of Georgia, was named Legislator of the Year by the Georgia Rural Health Association, was presented the American Heart Association's Outstanding Advocate Award, and received the American Cancer Society's Outstanding Legislative Leadership Award for 2003 and 2004. In 2005 and 2006, she was recognized by the Georgia Alliance for Tobacco Prevention. In 2006, the Georgia Environmental Council

honored her as the Legislator of the Year. In 2008, The Initiative to Protect Jekyll Island State Park named her Georgia State Representative of the Year, and the Georgia Conservation Voters honored her with an Environmental Leadership Award in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012. The Upper Chattahoochee River presented her with the River Legislator Award in 2010. In 2012, Rep. Buckner received the “: Ernestine Aurelia Mack Service to Mankind” award from the Gamma Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Also in 2012 she was named Georgia State Retirees Association Legislator of the Year. In 2014 she was honored by the Meriwether County NAACP for outstanding service and served as the Parade Grand Marshall.

Representative Buckner is married to Mike Buckner, and they live at Fielder’s Mill, in Talbot County, which is one of the few historic, operational, grist mills in the state of Georgia. They have three children.



REPRESENTATIVE DARLENE TAYLOR
(R-173)

In 1979, with her family, Darlene relocated to Thomasville from Miami, Florida. She will tell you it was one of the best things she has ever done. She loves Thomasville.

From the start she has been active in many aspects of the community. She is an entrepreneur and has built two employee benefit management companies over the past three decades. Darlene is very active in her church, First Baptist Church as the WMU Director for the past 5 years. She has taught Sunday school and lead bible study groups. She is also serving a second term on the board of the Thomas County Department of Family & Children Services. Her past service includes being a member of the first Thomas County Citizens Academy and the 1994 Chamber Leadership 2000 Class. Darlene has served on the Board of the Thomasville-Thomas County Chamber of Commerce. She was the 1996 Chairwoman for our local Chamber's Women's Forum. She has served on the Advisory Board for Archbold Home Health Services and, is a past member and president of Granada Garden Club. Professionally, Darlene has been a member of the Society of Benefit Administrators, the Self-Insurance Institute of America, a Charter Member of the Self-Funding Academy, is listed in the National Directory of Who's Who in Executives and Professionals and is a member of the National Association of Female Executives. Darlene is a member of Health Underwriters and frequently lectures and teaches the fundamentals of employee benefits and self funding.

Darlene's career has taken her far beyond where she ever expected to be. In addition to her own company, she has worked with several employers, including a Fortune 500 Company in the management of employee benefits. In 1987, along with her partner, she started Administrative Claim Service. They began providing T.P.A. services for several local employers. With a strong emphasis on service, the business grew from six accounts to over 100, when in 1997 the highly successful TPA was sold to a larger administration firm.

Darlene has continued to work in the T.P.A. business serving as vice president of client services for two large national firms. In late 2001, with a recognizable need for a real customer focused TPA, Darlene, along with her son, John began Taylor Benefit Resource, Inc. She has seen the changes in the health insurance market and has had the ability to change with it. By listening to clients and staff and developing a business plan to truly serve employers. TBR is filling a void in the healthcare market. Darlene's knowledge and devotion to customer care has made TBR a success.

Of utmost importance is being a fair and generous employer. The quality of job creation and opportunities ACS and TBR have had for employees, especially women is of great importance and is one of her greatest source of pride.

But, of all of her successes, her family is what she holds most dear. She has been married to John Taylor for 40 years and has two successful sons and 4 grandchildren and a new one on the way.

When she has time, Darlene loves to read and travel. She has been to many exciting places throughout the US including Alaska, Hawaii, and further to Europe, and China but her heart is in Thomas County.

2017 POLICY PRIORITIES

Georgians for a Healthy Future (GHF) is a nonprofit health policy and advocacy organization that provides a voice for Georgia consumers on vital and timely health care issues. Our mission is to build and mobilize a unified voice, vision and leadership to achieve a healthy future for all Georgians.

Georgians for a Healthy Future approaches our vision of ensuring access to quality, affordable health care for all Georgians in three major ways

- 1) outreach and public education,*
- 2) building, managing, and mobilizing coalitions, and*
- 3) public policy advocacy.*



GEORGIANS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE'S 2017 POLICY PRIORITIES

1. Ensure access to quality, affordable health coverage and care, and protections for all Georgians.
2. End surprise out-of-network bills.
3. Set and enforce network adequacy standards for all health plans in Georgia.
4. Prevent youth substance use disorders and improve access to behavioral health services.
5. Re-invest in public health.
6. Increase the tobacco tax.
7. Advance health equity by addressing social determinants of health.

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Harry Heiman & Abby Friedman



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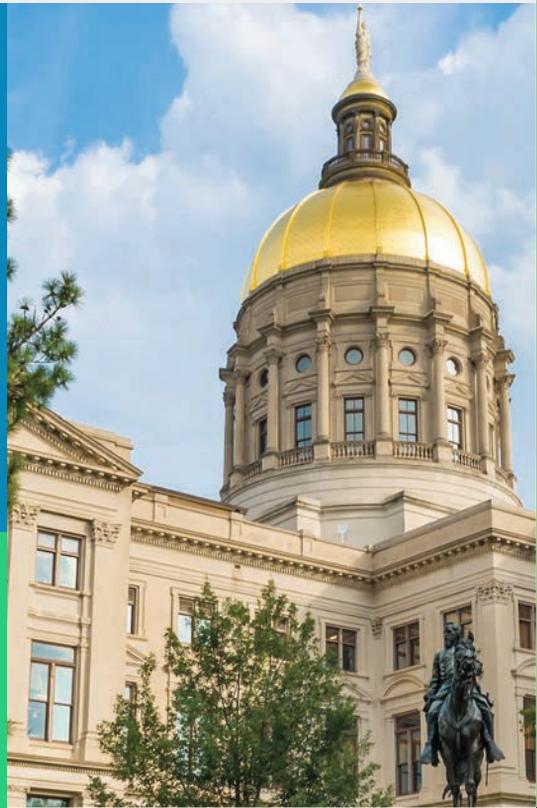


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