



**NIHCM**  
FOUNDATION

## **Nurses on the Frontline: Strengthening America's Health Care Workforce**

### SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

(In order of appearance on the program)

**KATHRYN SANTORO, MA** is Director of Programming at the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation, a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization dedicated to transforming health care through evidence and collaboration. Ms. Santoro currently leads NIHCM's programs to highlight market and policy innovations, including webinars and Capitol Hill briefings, and directs the organization's journalism and population health programs.

Ms. Santoro joined NIHCM Foundation in September 2004 after receiving her Master's degree in Public Policy from George Washington University with a focus on women's health policy. Ms. Santoro previously served as a Project Consultant for Women in Government where she was responsible for compiling a state-by-state report card on access to cervical cancer screening. While pursuing her Master's degree, Ms. Santoro was a Communications Assistant for a health policy consulting firm and a Graduate Intern for a Washington, D.C. based women's and children's policy research organization. Ms. Santoro attended Villanova University in Villanova, PA and graduated with a BA cum laude in Political Science.

**MARY ANN FUCHS, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN**, is the Vice President of Patient Care and System Chief Nurse Executive for Duke University Health System and the Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs for Duke University School of Nursing.

As vice president of patient care and system chief nurse executive, Fuchs is responsible for the practice of nursing by ensuring consistency in the standard of practice across clinical settings. As a member of the health system executive team, Fuchs supports and facilitates an interdisciplinary team approach to the delivery of care. This includes creating a nursing environment in which collaboration is valued and excellence in clinical care education and research is promoted and achieved. She leads the health system in its endeavor to attain Magnet® designation through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Duke University Health System achieved Magnet status in 2014. Duke University

Hospital (2006, redesignated 2011), Duke Regional Hospital (2008) and Duke Raleigh Hospital (2009) had previously been awarded Magnet status. She is the health system leader for the Duke Graduate Demonstration Nurse Education Project, one of five funded by CMMI. She provides leadership for the patient experience, education services, care management, ancillary professional services as well as centralized nursing services such as recruitment, flexible staffing and staff promotion programs. She also provides leadership for the Duke University Health Systems' Friends of Nursing Program, an endowed program for the recognition of excellence and support of nurses.

Fuchs was promoted to Chief Nursing and Patient Care Services Officer of Duke University Hospital in June of 1999. In September of 2001, her role was expanded to serve as the Vice President of Patient Care and System Chief Nurse Executive to include all of Duke University Health System. From 1997 to 1999, Fuchs served as the service line administrator for oncology services. Prior to this she led the development of Duke's stem cell transplant programs and served in various clinical nursing roles.

Fuchs earned a doctorate in nursing practice; a post master's certificate in education and her master's degree in oncology nursing from Duke University and received her bachelor of science degree in nursing from the State University of New York at Binghamton.

Fuchs was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2011. She is a fellow in the Wharton Fellows Program in Management for Nurse Executives, a Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow and clinical associate with the Duke University School of Nursing. She serves as Region 3 Director on the American Organization of Nurse Executives Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Oncology Nursing Society, Triangle Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society and Sigma Theta Tau and served as the nurse administrator on the North Carolina Board of Nursing. Fuchs was one of 25 recognized in 2007 by the Triangle Business Journal's Women in Business.

**DIANA J. MASON, PhD, RN, FAAN** is the Senior Policy Service Professor for the [Center for Health Policy and Media Engagement](#) at George Washington University School of Nursing. She is Professor Emerita and Co-Director of the Center for Health, Media, and Policy at Hunter College, City University of New York, where she was the inaugural Rudin Professor of Nursing until 2016. Dr. Mason is the immediate past president of the American Academy of Nursing, former editor-in-chief of the *American Journal of Nursing*, and co-producer and moderator of a [weekly radio program](#) on health care issues since 1985. She is the lead editor of the award-winning book, *Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care*, now in its 7th edition and the author of over 200 publications. Her scholarship focuses on health policy and what can be learned from nurse-designed models of care.

Dr. Mason is the Co-Principal Investigator for a study funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to explore how nurses address building a culture of health in their innovative models of care; the study is a collaboration between the American Academy

of Nursing and the RAND Corporation. She is a member of the board of directors for the Primary Care Development Corporation and the National Advisory Board for Kaiser Health News. She holds two honorary doctorates, as well as numerous awards for her teaching, policy leadership, publications, and journalism.

**Rev. Dr. LORINA MARSHALL-BLAKE, MGA, FAAN** is president of the Independence Blue Cross Foundation (Foundation), leading strategic, programmatic, and operational efforts to fulfill the Foundation's mission to lead sustainable solutions that improve the health and wellness of the community. While overseeing grant-making work for Foundation, Marshall-Blake steered the Foundation to be a collaborator, innovator, convener of diverse organizations, and thought leader in addressing emerging health needs in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Marshall-Blake is devoted to her church and community. She serves as an associate minister at the Vine Memorial Baptist Church in Philadelphia. In addition, she is affiliated with more than 30 professional and civic organizations, including the Anti-Defamation League and the United Negro College Fund, and is the 28th President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Omega Omega Chapter. She has been recognized for her leadership and community service by diverse organizations such as the NAACP, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Tribune, and the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey. She has also been recognized with numerous awards and was listed among the Philadelphia Business Journal's Power 100, an exclusive list recognizing area leaders who are shaping the future of Greater Philadelphia. Marshall-Blake serves on more than 25 non-profit boards and committees of local, state, and national organizations including Blue Cross Blue Shield Association -- Corporate Responsibility Committee, Chamber's Paradigm Award & Scholarship Committee, the Urban Affairs Coalition, and the Urban League of Philadelphia. She also serves on Drexel University's College of Nursing and Health Professions Executive Advisory Council and Rutgers School of Nursing-Camden Dean's Leadership Circle.

Marshall-Blake holds a bachelor's degree in human services from Antioch College, a master's in government administration from the University of Pennsylvania and an honorary doctorate of Humanities from Albright College. She is an Honorary Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and was appointed to the National Advisory Council on Nursing Education and Practice in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.