



### **Improving Pennsylvania's Nursing Homes**

PA Senate Democratic Policy Committee Hearing, Chairwoman Muth & Senator Fontana; co-hosted with Leader Costa, Senator Brewster, & Senator L. Williams

Hearing date: Wednesday June 2, 2021 at 10:00 AM [Register for the Zoom Hearing](#)

### **Available Testifier Bios :**

#### **Dennis Biondo, Allegheny County, Executive Director Kane Community Living Centers**

Dennis is the Executive Director of the Kane Community Living Centers and oversees the operations of the 4 Kane Centers. He has worked for Allegheny County since 1978 and within the Kane Centers since 1986. He was appointed Executive Director in 2004.

Dennis is an Attorney and a licensed Nursing Home Administrator. He received his BS degree from Penn State University and his law degree at Duquesne University Law School.

Dennis is a lifelong resident of Allegheny County. He is married and resides with his wife, Cathey, in Monroeville. They have four adult children.

#### **Keara Klinepeter, PA Department of Health, Executive Deputy Secretary**

Keara Klinepeter is currently serving as the Executive Deputy Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Health. She previously served as Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Health within the Department of Health, where she worked extensively on COVID-19 response, including leading the Technical Planning and Guidance Development team to issue guidance to all healthcare facilities and providers. She also has experience working with Long-Term Care Facilities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, leading the procurement of a \$28.5M testing partner, along with two other procurements, and working with the Department of Human services to co-lead the Regional Response Healthcare Collaborative Program and the transition to the Regional Congregate Care Assistance Teams. Ms. Klinepeter has experience representing the department through testimony to the PA Legislature, publicly in media events and by engaging daily with a range of stakeholders.

Ms. Klinepeter has also previously served as the Director of Rural Health Innovation, also within the Department of Health, where she was responsible for designing, implementing, and

expanding population health initiatives that focus on social determinants of health; coordinating external technical assistance opportunities from external entities for hospitals and associated funding lines; and advancing the PA Health Model through strategic and design thinking.

Before coming to the department, Ms. Klinepeter worked for the MITRE Corporation, where she served as Chief of Staff and Portfolio Strategy Lead for the Strategic and Special Capabilities Portfolio in the U.S. Air Force work program; an International Strategy Analyst for the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development; and a Health Care Policy and Strategy Domain Specialist for the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Alliance to Modernize Health.

Ms. Klinepeter also served as a fellow at the Coro Center for Civic Engagement.

Ms. Klinepeter completed her undergraduate career at Chatham University, where she earned a double major in Economics and Political Science. She also completed her Master of Science in Health Care Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University.

### **Dean Owrey, CFO, Vincentian Collaborative System**

Vincentian is a not-for-profit health care and human services organization that offers a continuum of care for more than 2,000 seniors and children per year at seven sites across Allegheny County.

Owrey has worked for many years in the healthcare industry and with organizations of all sizes. He most recently served as the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for UPMC Enterprises and UPMC Corporate Services. At UPMC, Owrey led the adoption of award-winning technology business management principles and oversaw a \$700 million budget. Prior to joining UPMC, Owrey worked for many years at Ernst & Young, one of the most highly respected professional services firms in the world, where he led diverse teams across a portfolio of healthcare, insurance and other clients in Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio.

Owrey has served as a board member for several non-profit organizations, including as Treasurer for the American Red Cross – Southwestern PA Chapter. He is the current head coach for the Quaker Valley boys' varsity baseball team.

## **Keshia Williams | Healthcare Pennsylvania, nursing home CNA | Lackawanna County |**

Keshia is a nursing home worker in Scranton, PA who has been an outspoken advocate for PPE and essential worker rights after watching her residents become ill and coworkers struggle during COVID-19. Keshia is committed to improving the long-term care system.

Keshia has a passion for healthcare. She has been certified as a CNA since 2012. Before that she worked as a direct care worker in an assisted living facility, a medical assistant, phlebotomist, and EKG tech. A single mother of 2 boys, Keshia wants to do whatever she can “help the world.”

## **Deborah Winn-Horvitz, President & CEO of the Jewish Association on Aging (JAA)**

Based in the Squirrel Hill area of Pittsburgh, where she has responsibility for a comprehensive network of services for older adults in Western, Pennsylvania. Under Deborah’s leadership, the JAA has grown to serve more than 4,000 seniors every year and has become a center of excellence for memory care services, including the opening of AHAVA, the newest, state-of-the-art memory care residence in Pittsburgh. Among the award-winning and innovative services that have received recognition under Deborah’s leadership are JAA’s HomeMeds Medication Management program, which won a national award for innovation from Leading Age and was presented at the White House to the Obama Administration and a Care Navigator program that was profiled in the *Pittsburgh Business Times*. Prior to joining JAA in 2011, Deborah spent 20 years in academic medicine, holding leadership roles at both University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore. She is a member of the Boards of Directors of the Greater Pennsylvania Alzheimer’s Association and the national Association of Jewish Aging Services. She is a mentor and preceptor for the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. Deborah was a recipient of the 2019 Vistage CEO Network Leadership Award, the 2019 AJAS Inspired Leadership Award, recognized as a regional Smart50 business leader in 2018; past winner of the Doris and Leonard Rudolph Jewish Communal Professional Award given by the Greater Pittsburgh Jewish Federation; appointed to Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf’s transition team for Aging Services; and a finalist for Pittsburgh’s Health Care Hero Awards. She obtained her undergraduate degree from SUNY Albany, a Master’s degree in Health Administration from Sage Graduate School, and completed additional coursework at the University of Pittsburgh Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 18, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- AARP Pennsylvania today announced the appointment of former state Secretary of Aging and longtime senior advocate Teresa Osborne to the position of Manager of Advocacy and Outreach.

In her new role, Osborne will lead advocacy, community education and outreach work throughout Pennsylvania for AARP, the nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization

dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. AARP has 1.8 million members in Pennsylvania.

"Teresa Osborne is an accomplished advocate for older Pennsylvanians who has built strong relationships with elected officials, community-based organizations and the statewide aging network," said AARP Pennsylvania State Director Bill Johnston-Walsh. "She will play a leadership role in helping AARP expand its impact and relevance throughout the commonwealth and fight for issues that matter to 50+ residents and their families."

### **Teresa Osborne, Manager of Advocacy & Outreach, AARP PA**

Prior to joining AARP, Osborne most recently served as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Civil Service Commission and served as Pennsylvania's 10<sup>th</sup> Secretary of Aging from 2015-2018. As head of the Department of Aging, Osborne managed Pennsylvania's senior pharmaceutical assistance program, along with an extensive network of home and community-based services that are provided under the Older American's Act, while also working as a visible advocate for nearly 2.9 million state residents age 60 and older.

Scranton native Teresa Osborne has spent more than two decades advocating for older Pennsylvanians and other vulnerable populations at the state and local government levels. She began her career as a care manager for Meals on Wheels of Northeastern Pennsylvania before serving as the Executive Director of the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Area Agency on Aging, Executive Director of the Lackawanna County Department of Human Services, and Executive Director of the Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging. She is also a former Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer for the Diocese of Scranton.

Teresa Osborne earned her Bachelor of Social Work degree and Master of Health Service Administration from Marywood University.