

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Richard “Rick” Cagan**

Executive Director

National Alliance on Mental Illness, Kansas

Since taking the helm of the Kansas Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Topeka, in 2005, Richard Cagan has been responsible to the Board of Directors for program quality and development, affiliate development, implementation of the public policy platform, fund development, fiscal management and external relations.

Previously, he served 12 years as the executive director of Rural Family Development/Virginia Council of Churches. Cagan also served as the rural development specialist for the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service at Virginia State University. He was responsible for the development and implementation of educational programs that respond to problems being experienced in rural communities statewide. Cagan’s history also includes working with Rural Virginia, Virginians for Fair Rates and Fair Compensation, Virginia Jewish Network, Virginia Poverty Law Center, Law Project of the Virginia Poverty Law Center, Farm Worker Nutrition Project, American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia, and the California and North Carolina VISTA Projects.

Cagan serves as the treasurer of Kansas Mental Health Coalition and is on the Governor’s Mental Health Services Planning Council.

Cagan graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, MA. He received his bachelor’s degree in psychology from Princeton University. He also attended the Head Start-Johnson & Johnson Management Fellows Program at the Anderson School of Management at UCLA.



### **John Carney**

Vice President, Aging and End of Life  
Center for Practical Bioethics

Nearly 20 years of hospice, palliative care and health care management experience has prepared John Carney for his leadership role in directing the domain of aging and end of life for the Center for Practical Bioethics, Kansas City. Previously, he served as the executive of Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice in Wichita for 15 years. In 2000, he was named the chief operating officer for the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in Alexandria, Virginia, and also worked for America’s Health Insurance Plans and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association in directing its educational programs.

In the early 1990s, Carney helped launch the LIFE Project in Kansas, a statewide effort to build citizen and community awareness on end of life and aging issues.

Carney holds an undergraduate degree in philosophy and master’s in counseling.

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Shannon Cotsoradis**

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer  
Kansas Action for Children

Since 2001, Shannon Cotsoradis has served as executive vice president and chief operating officer for Kansas Action for Children (KAC), Topeka. In her role, she oversees the organization's state policy work and manages a \$1.8 million operating budget. Among her achievements at KAC, Cotsoradis established a supporting foundation for the organization, generated more than \$5 million in revenue through successful grant writing, executed three statewide public awareness campaigns, and tripled the value of the organization's endowment.

Previously, Cotsoradis served as a project manager on children's health initiatives at the University of Kansas and as a project director for Kansas Action for Children. Her accomplishments have been recognized with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award (Bronze Level), as an honoree for the YWCA Leadership Luncheon, as a member of the Dental Champions Leadership Program, and as a member of Leadership Kansas.

Cotsoradis earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Sweet Briar College in Virginia. She received her master's degree in public administration from the University of Kansas, as well as a master's degree in child development from Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York.



### **Chrysanne Grund**

Project Director  
Greeley County Health Services

For the past 12 years, Chrysanne Grund, Sharon Springs, has served in numerous roles with Greeley County Health Services (GCHS), including insurance billing and office management. GCHS has been involved with a number of national programs, such as the National Health Service Corps, Healthy Communities Access Program, and was designated a National Community Center of Excellence in Women's Health in October 2004.

Prior to her current position, Grund served as a program administrator for HealthCap, where she developed programs to increase access to the underserved. She also assisted in development of a comprehensive electronic network and implementation of an electronic medical records system.

Grund also is a founding member of the Greeley-Wallace County Healthcare Foundation in Wallace County and serves the Foundation for Healthcare Access, a National Health Service Corps alumni organization. She specializes in program development and grant writing and has accumulated more than \$3,600,000 in grants for GCHS and other organizations.

Grund received her Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness from Kansas State University.

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Cathy Harding**

Executive Director

Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved

Since November 2007, Cathy Harding has served as executive director of the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU), Topeka. She provides leadership and advocacy on behalf of the 41 member clinics throughout Kansas and works closely with other state organizations and associations to improve access to care throughout the state.

Prior to that, Harding served as vice president of development and coordinator of OTC Consulting Services at Ozark Tri-County Health Care Consortium, Inc., in Neosho, MO. She has extensive experience in community development, health center operations, and primary care association interactions. She also served as president and chief executive officer of Midwest Support Services Company, and was executive director of Flint Hills Community Health Center (CHC), both in Emporia, KS. She has also served as health educator, grant writer, and director of administrative services and program development at Flint Hills CHC.

Harding received both her bachelor's degree in business administration and master's degree in communications from Pittsburg State University.



### **Kara Lineweber**

Director of Public Policy Advocate-Research

El Centro, Inc.

Kara Lineweber has served as Director of Policy Advocacy-Research at El Centro Inc. in Kansas City, Kansas, since 2007. Prior to coming to El Centro, Lineweber devoted her time to health care advocacy and access efforts in the Kansas City metro area. At Children's Mercy Family Health Partners, she served as a community relations representative for Kansas HealthWave. She also served as an outreach coordinator for Legal Aid of Western Missouri.

In 2007, Lineweber was honored with the Lighthouse Award from Children's Mercy Family Health Partners.

She holds a bachelor's degree in communication and Spanish from Nebraska Wesleyan University and has done master level work in Spanish linguistics at the University of Iowa.

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Michael A. Mayberry**

Executive Director

Community Health Council of Wyandotte County

Since 2006, Michael Mayberry has led the Community Health Council of Wyandotte County (CHCWC), which is a community collaborative that includes representatives from local government, safety net clinics, hospitals, business, and community and service organizations. Through advocacy, collaboration, coordination and health education, the CHCWC enhances access to health care services for county residents, especially the vulnerable populations.

Prior to joining the Community Health Council, Mayberry worked in a variety of leadership positions in the nonprofit sector. Most recently, he served as executive director for the Epilepsy Foundation of Kansas and Western Missouri and deputy director for the American Lung Association of Western Missouri.

He has been actively involved in professional and community activities in both Kansas and Missouri, including participating in the Leadership 2000 program and ongoing development in advocacy and public policy. He is a member of the Kansas City School District Facilities Corporation Board, and serves on a variety of other professional committees.

Mayberry received his bachelor's degree in behavioral psychology from Chicago State University and his master's degree in business administration and public administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.



### **Mitzi E. McFatrach**

Executive Director

Kansas Advocates for Better Care

Since 2007, Mitzi McFatrach has led Kansas Advocates for Better Care, Lawrence, with the primary focus of advocating for improvements in the options and quality of services available to older adults. Prior to that, she led the Foundation on Aging.

Beginning her professional career as a United Methodist minister, she then served as an advocate for battered women and then for abused and neglected children in the juvenile justice system. After serving as director of the Court Appointed Special Advocate Project in Kansas City, she moved to New Mexico to study alternative medicine. After completing her training, she returned to Kansas and was a co-founder of the first integrated health care clinic in Johnson County. The clinic staff promoted a person-centered wellness approach to care and actively advocated on behalf of their clients within the clinic setting, as well as with other health care practitioners and systems.

McFatrach holds a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Missouri and master's degree in divinity from Saint Paul School of Theology. She also attended the New Mexico School of Natural Therapeutics, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Rosa Molina**

Executive Director  
Medical Service Bureau, Inc.

Since 1995, Rosa Molina has served as the executive director of Medical Service Bureau, Wichita. She is responsible for program administration and development, budget and finance, fund development, communications and staff development.

Molina has spent more than 20 years of her career dedicated to the non-profit sector. She has served in the fields of education, public health care, migrant health, health promotions and senior citizen advocacy. She started her nonprofit career as a member of the Hispanic Women's Network, which raised funds for minority scholarships and brought the Univision channel to Wichita. In 1990, Molina founded and served as executive director of the Hispanic Senior Center. It was the first organization serving the Hispanic elderly and the Hispanic community with a wide variety of programs and social issues. The center grew and is now called La Familia Community Center.

Molina holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Bachelor of Liberal Arts in Spanish and a mini master's degree in business administration from Wichita State University.



### **Phelps Murdock**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
Bridging the Gap

After eight years serving on the organization's board of directors, Phelps Murdock was selected as president and chief executive officer of Bridging the Gap, Kansas City. He has started a variety of sustainability initiatives, including the Eco KC Project, working with the KU School of Architecture to study the metro area as a model for sustainability; Bi-State Brownfields Initiative, which secured millions of dollars in environmental clean-up and grants; and KC Smart Growth Project to develop guidelines for sustainable development.

Recently, he collaborated with local leaders to develop a strategy to create America's Green Region. Murdock continues to serve the KCMO Climate Protection Planning Process as chair of the Transportation Work Group, KCMO Brownfields Commission, KCMO Wet Weather Community Panel and Green Solutions Committee, MARC Technical Forecast Committee, and a variety of other community advisory groups.

Previously, he was a strategic/marketing planning consultant. He also served in various capacities with Action International Kansas-Missouri and Kansas City Industrial Council, as well as in advertising and sales positions.

Murdock earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Krista Postai**

Chief Executive Officer  
Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas

An original founder and former board member of the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas (CHC/SEK), Pittsburg, Krista Postai now serves as the organization's chief executive officer. Along with the chief financial officer, she engineered a successful operational and financial turnaround of CHC/SEK within a year of assuming the helm. Postai led a capital campaign that raised \$1.2 million toward construction of a new clinic in Pittsburg.

Previously, she served 23 years as vice president of planning and development at Mt. Carmel Regional Medical Center, Pittsburg. She has developed several mission-directed services, including non-emergency transportation, congregational health ministry and a dental clinic. She helped facilitate the Kansas Mission of Mercy in Pittsburg, which provided free dental care to more than 2,200 adults and children in two and a half days.

She is board president of the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved, Kansas' primary care association. She is a founding member and vice chair of The Family Resource Center, one of the largest childcare facilities in Kansas. She is chairman of the board of Cornerstone Village, a non-profit long-term care facility. She is a member of the 2006 Oral Health Kansas Dental Champions Leadership class.

Postai earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas.



### **Stephanie Waggoner**

Chief Executive Officer  
United Methodist Mexican American Ministries

Since August 2008, Stephanie Waggoner has served as the chief executive officer of United Methodist Mexican American Ministries, based in Garden City. The organization has been serving people for more than 30 years, offering medical and social services through Care Centers and Clinics in six communities in Southwest Kansas.

Prior to joining United Methodist Mexican American Ministries, Waggoner worked briefly as the executive director of an assisted living facility in Kansas. She served the administrator of the MonteVista at Coronado Retirement Community in El Paso for three years. During that time, she led the organization in facilitating a culture change within the health care center, creating a more home-like environment focused on resident-centered care.

Waggoner is a graduate of Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in lifespan human development.

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Brian Walker**

President & CEO  
Kansas Food Bank

Since 2003, Brian Walker has served as president and CEO of the Kansas Food Bank, Wichita, after serving in various roles in the organization. Along with increasing the efficiency of the Kids Kitchens, Rural Delivery and Food Procurements programs, the first program he put into place was the Food 4 Kids backpack program. This program provides weekend food to hungry children. Working with Kansas school districts, this program has grown from feeding 50 children in 2004 to more than 3,800 children today.

Other achievements include implementation of the Food Rescue Program, which collects frozen unsold meals and delivers them to hunger-relief agencies, and construction of the Kansas Food Bank Cargill Cares Complex. This new facility doubles the storage and handling capabilities of the food bank.

Walker is a member of the Kansas Food Security Task Force, which addresses food security issues in the State of Kansas. The Kansas Food Bank is also an independent member of Feeding America (formerly America's Second Harvest – the Nation's Food Bank Network).



### **Elizabeth Weeks Leonard**

Associate Professor  
University of Kansas School of Law

Elizabeth Weeks Leonard joined the University of Kansas law faculty in 2004. She currently teaches courses in torts, health care financing and regulation, health law and policy, public health law, and public benefits law. In 2003 she was a visiting professor at the University of Georgia School of Law, teaching health care financing and public health law.

Before teaching, she practiced health law with Vinson & Elkins LLP in Houston, and served as a law clerk for Judge Jacques L. Wiener Jr., of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and Chief Justice Thomas R. Phillips of the Supreme Court of Texas.

Her research interests include health care financing and regulation, public health, and disaster preparedness. She coordinated the Kansas Law Review Symposium on "The Massachusetts Plan and the Future of Universal Coverage" in November 2006.

Prior to obtaining her law degree, she worked as a psychiatric social worker in Chicago.

She received her bachelor's degree in Latin American studies and political science from Columbia University and her Juris Doctorate from The University of Georgia School of Law.

## SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION – ADVOCACY FELLOWS 2008 – 2009



### **Vicki Worrell**

Associate Professor  
Emporia State University

In 2004, Vicki Worrell joined Emporia State University as associate professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Previously, Worrell taught at Wichita State University. She also taught in public schools for 19 years.

Worrell has been an active member of the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AHPERD) since 1975 and has served in a variety of leadership positions at the national, district and state level. For more than 29 years, she has served on the Kansas AHPERD board and for the past 13 years as the KAHPERD executive director. The KAHPERD Service Award was recently renamed the Vicki J. Worrell Award in honor of her many years of remarkable and outstanding service.

For the past 30 years, Worrell has served as a volunteer for the American Heart Association (AHA). She was a jump rope demonstration team coordinator for 12 years, with a highlight presentation at Expo '88, the world's fair in Brisbane, Australia.

Worrell received her bachelor's degree from Wichita State University, her master's degree from the University of Kansas and her doctorate from Oklahoma State University.