



## State Policy Forum 2024 Speaker Bios

**Jane K Dickinson, RN, PhD, CDCES**, is the 2024 ADCES President. Jane has served on the ADCES Board of



Directors since 2020. Prior to joining the Board, she served on the ADCES Research Committee for several years. Jane is also the Director of the Nursing Education doctoral program at Teachers College Columbia University. Jane's research, publications, and presentations focus on the language of diabetes and the impact messages have on people living with diabetes. Prior to joining the faculty at TC, Jane developed and directed a hospital-based diabetes education program in northwest Colorado. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Biology from St. Olaf College, her Master of Science in Nursing from Yale University, and her PhD in Nursing from the University of Connecticut.

**Hannah Martin, MPH, RDN**, is the Director of Advocacy at ADCES. Hannah oversees the development



and implementation of ADCES' public policy program, federal legislative and regulatory initiatives, and state advocacy priorities. She works to cultivate relationships with ADCES members and volunteer leaders, policymakers, allied professional and advocacy organizations, industry partners, and other external stakeholders to improve access to care for people with diabetes and those at risk for diabetes. Hannah formerly served as the Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Hannah is a registered dietitian nutritionist with an MPH and BSPH in nutrition, both from UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Rachel J Thornton, MD, PhD**, is Vice President and Chief Health Equity Officer at Nemours Children's



Health where she leads work on health equity strategy to support the organization's vision to create the healthiest generations of children. Prior to joining Nemours Children's, Dr. Thornton was Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the Inaugural Executive Director for Clinical Services in the Johns Hopkins Medicine Office of Population Health where she led population health management services and community health. A practicing primary care pediatrician, Dr. Thornton served as a Health Policy advisor at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2011-2013. Dr. Thornton received a B.A. from New York University, an M.D. from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and a PhD in Health Policy and Management from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. After residency, she completed fellowship training in general academic pediatrics.

**Anastasia Albanese-O'Neill, PhD, APRN, CDCES,** is the founder of T1D Toolkit and a member of the



ADCES Advocacy Committee. When her oldest child was diagnosed with T1D, she pivoted from a successful career in marketing and higher education to earn her BSN, MSN, and PhD in nursing from the University of Florida (UF), where she then served as an assistant professor of nursing and pediatrics and as director of UF pediatric diabetes clinic operations and director of the outpatient pediatric diabetes education program. Anastasia has been a passionate diabetes advocate since 2002 and, in this capacity, has provided testimony at congressional hearings, the White House, and in the Florida legislature. She is a co-author on state, national, and international position statements on diabetes in the school setting aimed at reducing discrimination and improving care for students with diabetes. Anastasia has received multiple national awards and was most recently recognized as the 2023 Diabetes Care and Education Specialist of the Year by ADCES. She spends her free time with

her family and friends and plans to retire as soon as a cure for type 1 diabetes is discovered, but not a moment earlier.

**Michelle Dennison, PhD, RD/LD, BC-ADM, CDCES,** is the Vice-President of Policy and Prevention at the



Oklahoma City Indian Clinic. She is responsible for developing effective relationships that lead to health policies benefiting the American Indian population. Her efforts include working with Oklahoma State Legislators in creating opportunities and spaces for tribal representation in policy discussions. Additionally, Michelle engages with Federal Legislators and Regulators to improve American Indian Health efforts nationwide. Michelle also oversees diabetes and prevention operations for the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic. Dr. Dennison is a previous Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow and served in the office of the U.S. Surgeon General.

**Lauren Pickens, MS, RDN,** currently serves as the Public Policy Coordinator for the Colorado Academy of



Nutrition and Dietetics (CAND), where she leads a small team of passionate volunteers who advocate to promote health and reduce the burden of chronic disease through nutrition services and interventions. She has served as the Nutrition Services Payment Specialist at CAND, teaches the billing and coding requirements for dietetic interns at local universities, started and ran a private practice in both New Mexico and Colorado, taught undergraduate nutrition classes as an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico, and had a prior career in quality assurance in the food and pharmaceutical industries. She is a 2021 graduate of the Academy's Leadership Institute and was previously awarded "Emerging Dietetic Leader" by the New Mexico Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Lauren holds a BS in Nutrition and Foods and MS in Nutrition Science both from Drexel University and completed her

Dietetic Internship at the University of New Mexico.

**Teresa Martin, RDN, LD, CDCES,**



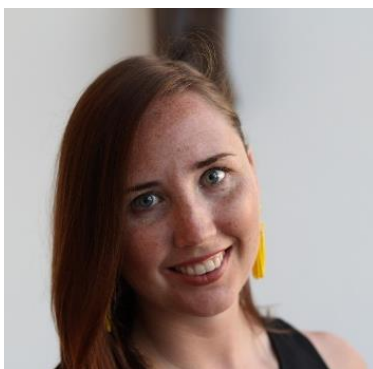
is a mother of 3 children and an RDN CDCES with over 32 years of experience in the field of Cardiorenal Metabolic Care including clinical nutrition, community nutrition, diabetes research and most currently as a Diabetes Educator for Novo Nordisk. This role allows Teresa to help healthcare professionals overcome barriers to evidence-based care and get access to the resources and training they need to provide quality, compassionate diabetes care. Teresa has been recognized for her work as the Diabetes Educator of the Year 2017 and Distinguished Service Award 2015 for Oregon, and she has served as the Chair of the ADCES Advocacy Committee and delegate for ADCES to the Consensus Statement on US Health Care Reform. Teresa values utilizing the outdoors, mindfulness, and the power of communities to help individuals find their path to a healthier, happier life.

**Joe Moser, MA,**



currently advises public and private sector clients on Medicaid program policy and operations as an independent consultant. As Indiana's Medicaid director from 2013-2017, he implemented the ACA Medicaid expansion through creation of the Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0 and provided health insurance coverage for 1.4 million Hoosiers. Since 2017, he has served as a consultant in the Medicaid industry, including six years at the consulting firm Health Management Associates. As a consultant, he advises clients on improving Medicaid program operations and performance to better serve members and provide value for taxpayers. His career includes more than 20 years of Medicaid program management and advocacy inside and outside of government.

**Carissa Kemp, MPP,**



is the Senior Director of Policy for the American Diabetes Association where she develops the state and federal policy priorities for the ADA including improving access to insulin, addressing burdensome prior authorization, and access to treatment for obesity. Carissa began at the ADA three years ago as the State Director of Government Affairs where she lobbied on behalf of the ADA in 12 states in the PNW and Rocky Mountain West. Before joining the ADA, Carissa served as the Director of Government Affairs for the Minnesota Dental Association and has a background in campaigns and lobbying with a focus on health policy. She has a Master of Public Policy from the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs.