

**NYSHealth Veterans' Health Conference**  
**“Can the VA and Community-Based Care Coexist?”**  
**May 14, 2019**  
**#nyshealthevent**

**SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

**David Sandman, President and CEO, New York State Health Foundation**

 @DavidSandman1

David Sandman, Ph.D., is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth), a private foundation dedicated to improving the health of all New Yorkers, especially the most vulnerable. Since 2006, NYSHealth has invested more than \$140 million in initiatives to improve health care and the public health system in New York State. Equally important, the Foundation is committed to sharing the results and lessons of its grantmaking; informing policy and practice through timely, credible analysis and commentary; and serving as a convener of health care leaders and stakeholders throughout New York State.

Dr. Sandman was named President and CEO in 2016, after serving as NYSHealth's Senior Vice President. Previously, Dr. Sandman was appointed by the Governor of New York as Executive Director of the Commission on Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century, also known as the “Berger Commission.” The Commission was a nonpartisan, broad-based panel charged with evaluating and reforming the State's health care delivery and financing systems. It developed recommendations to reconfigure the supply of hospitals and nursing homes to best respond to community needs for high-quality, affordable, and accessible care.

After serving as Executive Director of the Berger Commission, Dr. Sandman became a Managing Director of Manatt Health Solutions, where he advised health care providers, foundations, payers, associations, government, and companies regarding development of new health care programs, services, and restructuring plans. Earlier, he held senior positions at Harris Interactive and the Commonwealth Fund. He also served as a policy analyst with the City of New York Department of Health; at a number of community-based HIV/AIDS organizations; and as a researcher at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Sandman received his Bachelor of Arts degree, Phi Beta Kappa, from Haverford College, and his Master of Public Administration degree and Ph.D. from New York University's Wagner School of Public Service. He is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and a member of the Herman Biggs Society; he also serves on Philanthropy New York's Board of Directors.

**The Honorable Robert A. McDonald., Former U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs**

Robert A. “Bob” McDonald was nominated by President Obama to serve as the eighth Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA), and he was confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate on July 29, 2014. Mr. McDonald led VA in its ambitious transformational journey to become a world-class

service provider and the number one customer-service agency in the federal government, giving veterans consistent, high-quality experiences.

Before joining VA, Mr. McDonald was Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of The Procter & Gamble Company (P&G). Under his leadership, P&G saw significant growth, reflected in P&G's stock price's 60% increase between 2009 and 2013. During Mr. McDonald's tenure, *Chief Executive Magazine* named P&G the best company for developing leader talent, and the Hay Group consistently cited P&G in its top-tier listing of Best Companies for Leadership.

Mr. McDonald is personally and professionally committed to values-based leadership and improving the lives of others. He and his wife, Diane, are the founders of The McDonald Conference for Leaders of Character at West Point. Mr. McDonald is Chairman of the Board of RallyPoint Networks, Inc., an online community of active duty military members and veterans. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Partnership for Public Service, Audia International, Inc., the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy, the Boulder Crest Retreat Foundation, and the McCormick Research Institute.

Mr. McDonald graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1975. He earned his MBA from the University of Utah in 1978. In 2010, the University of Utah Alumni Association named him a Distinguished Graduate. The West Point Association of Graduates named Mr. McDonald for its admired Distinguished Graduate Award in 2017. In 2014, The President of the Republic of Singapore awarded Mr. McDonald the Public Service Star for his work helping shape Singapore's development as an international hub. An Army veteran, Mr. McDonald served with the 82nd Airborne Division.

### **Derek Coy, Veterans' Health Officer, New York State Health Foundation**

 @ClassicDCoy

As Veterans' Health Officer at NYSHealth, Derek Coy focuses on expanding veterans' access to community-based services; leveraging federal and private funds to increase the dollars available to returning veterans in New York State; and serving as a thought leader, convener, and advocate to improve the health of returning veterans and their families.

Prior to joining NYSHealth, Mr. Coy served as the development manager at The Doe Fund, an organization dedicated to breaking the cycles of recidivism and homelessness, where he revamped and modernized its fundraising efforts. Before that role, Mr. Coy was the annual fund officer at the American Civil Liberties Union, helping produce STAND, the organization's bi-annual magazine, and its annual appeals. Mr. Coy has considerable experience working in the veteran space, and used his role as senior development associate at Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America to advocate for changes in our nation's capital.

Mr. Coy received a Bachelor of Arts degree, Phi Alpha Theta, from the University of Houston Clear Lake, and a Master of Arts degree in Middle Eastern History from the City College of New York, where he focused on 20th century Iranian history. He is also a former Sergeant in the

United States Marine Corps, and served a yearlong deployment to Iraq's Anbar Province in 2005.

**Roger Misso, local leader of Veterans Organize CNY and Co-host of the podcast “2 Vets Upstate”**

[@RogerMisso](#)

Raised in Wayne County, New York, Roger Misso graduated from Red Creek High School and the United States Naval Academy before serving for more than a decade in the Navy, including in combat operations as a naval aviator. Mr. Misso was deployed twice to the Middle East. He trained with the Marine Corps in Yuma, Arizona, and flew one of the first airborne missions to combat ISIS in 2014. While in uniform, Mr. Misso served as an advocate for victims of sexual assault, a defense assistant in the U.S. House of Representatives, and as chief speechwriter for the first African-American woman to hold the rank of four-star in the nation's history.

While in the service, Mr. Misso was a passionate advocate for defense reform and small businesses. Mr. Misso stood up to an entrenched bureaucracy and fought to get more diverse men and women promoted to major leadership positions in naval aviation. As an early advocate for the Force of the Future Initiative, Mr. Misso was part of a team of reformers who advocated for better family leave, increased child care service hours, and access to mental health services for military service members.

Mr. Misso founded Veterans Organize CNY to help veterans become involved with local community organizing movements. He and fellow Navy veteran Andrea Goldstein started the podcast “2 Vets Upstate” to advocate for and tell the stories of rural and historically underrepresented veteran populations in New York.

**Anuradha Bhagwati, founder of the Service Women's Action Network and author of *Unbecoming: A Memoir of Disobedience***

[@AnuBhagwati](#)

Anuradha Bhagwati is the author of *Unbecoming: A Memoir of Disobedience*. Ms. Bhagwati is a writer, activist, yoga and meditation teacher, Marine Corps veteran, and founder of the Service Women's Action Network (SWAN), which brought national attention to sexual violence in the military and helped repeal the ban on women in combat. Ms. Bhagwati is a regular media commentator on issues related to national security, women's rights, civil rights, and mental health. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Politico*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *The New Republic*.

### **Molly Pearl, Student Veteran Advisor, Baruch College**

Molly Pearl, LMSW, serves as the Student Veteran Advisor at Baruch College, CUNY, where she provides support, programming, and guidance for 160+ service members, veterans, and family members. She is the partner and caregiver of a post-9/11 veteran, with whom she enjoyed four years stationed in sunny Fort Polk, Louisiana, between 2009 and 2013. Ms. Pearl is passionate about the intersection of caregiving, class, gender, sexuality, ability, and race. She has written about her caregiving experience for Intersections International, NYC Veterans Alliance, and the War Horse. Ms. Pearl provides consultation on military culture and the caregiving experience to organizations like the Military Resilience Foundation, the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, and Trutek.

### **Jennifer Steinhauer, Washington correspondent focusing on veteran affairs, *The New York Times***

🐦@jestei

Jennifer Steinhauer is a Washington correspondent focused on veteran affairs. She was the editor of live journalism/D.C. from 2017 to 2019, after serving seven years as a Congressional correspondent for *The New York Times*.

Ms. Steinhauer came to *The New York Times* in 1989 as a copy clerk while still in college, and was promoted to reporter in 1994, covering numerous high-profile beats for the paper. She was City Hall bureau chief from 2001 to 2005, during which she covered city politics in the aftermath of September 11th and the fiscal crisis, and served as the paper's Los Angeles bureau chief from 2006 to 2010. She received the Newswoman's Club of New York Front Page Deadline Reporting Award for her reporting on Hurricane Katrina, and is the author of two cookbooks and one novel.

### **Joe Quinn, Executive Director, Headstrong Project**

🐦@JoeQuinnHSP

Joe Quinn is the Executive Director of the Headstrong Project, a national nonprofit that heals the hidden wounds of war for post-9/11 veterans through cost-free, bureaucracy-free, and stigma-free confidential mental health treatment. Previously, he was the Director of Leadership Development for Team Red, White & Blue (Team RWB). Before Team RWB, Mr. Quinn was an Instructor in the Department of Social Sciences at the United States Military Academy at West Point and an Associate at the Combating Terrorism Center (CTC). Mr. Quinn also worked in Afghanistan as a Counterinsurgency Advisor for General David Petraeus's Counterinsurgency Advisory and Assistance Team (CAAT). He spent six years in the United States Army, where he served two deployments to Iraq. Mr. Quinn graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 2002, where he played on the basketball team, and received a Master of Public Policy degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

### **Juan Serrano, Director, Military and Veterans Liaison Services, Northwell Health**

Juan Serrano is a U.S. Marine, a combat veteran, and a native of Hollis, Queens. During his time with the military, Mr. Serrano served with 2nd Battalion 6th Marines, 1st Battalion 7th Marines, the Jungle Warfare Training Center, and Marine Recruiting Station, New Jersey.

Mr. Serrano is a Saint John's University graduate and former Staff Non-Commissioned officer who was deployed in four occasions during his nine-year career and served two tours in Iraq. In Iraq, Mr. Serrano was assigned as a vehicle commander for the I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group. He assisted in mission planning, and contributed to route selection as the command post displaced deeper into Iraq and closer to hostilities. In 2003, Mr. Serrano suffered a severe neck injury in Iraq, which eventually led to his medical discharge from the Marines in 2009.

Mr. Serrano joined Northwell Health in 2012 as Administrative Manager of the Queens World Trade Center Clinical Center of Excellence in Rego Park, NY. In 2015, Mr. Serrano was promoted to Director of Military and Veterans Liaison Services at Northwell Health. His office leads more than a dozen programs, including two behavioral health centers, a system-wide physician trainer program, an employee resource group, and the health system's veteran hiring initiatives. Under Mr. Serrano's leadership, the veteran advocacy group "Military Friendly" named Northwell Health the number two nonprofit employer of veterans nationwide.

Mr. Serrano is currently pursuing an Executive Masters of Business Administration at the Cornell Johnson Graduate School of Management as well as a Masters in Healthcare Leadership at the Weill Cornell School of Medical Sciences.

### **Martina A. Parauda, Director, VA New York Harbor Healthcare System**

Martina Parauda has been the Director of VA New York Harbor Healthcare System since 2010. She is responsible for leading VA New York Harbor Healthcare System, which consists of two acute/tertiary inpatient and outpatient care facilities, a nursing home, a residential rehabilitation center, and a comprehensive outpatient care center. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Parauda served as Associate Director/Finance and Information Management at NY Harbor, a post she held since 1999. Ms. Parauda also served as the Acting Associate Medical Center Director at the Brooklyn Campus of VA New York Harbor Healthcare System from 1997 to 1999. From August 1996 until her appointment as Associate Director, Ms. Parauda also served as the VISN 2 Chief Operating Officer.

Ms. Parauda received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Modern Languages from Fairfield University. In 1990, she earned her Master of Public Health from Columbia University. Ms. Parauda is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and in 1996 was awarded the Distinguished Government Service Award by the New York City Federal Executive Board. She began her VA career as an administrative resident to complete her graduate training. Ms. Parauda now serves as a mentor for employees in the field of health care administration. She also serves as faculty for supervisory and mentorship programs and is a certified VHA Level 2 Coach.