

### Welcome & Opening Remarks



**Catherine Patterson, MPP, Acting Chief Operating Officer, UsAgainstAlzheimer's.** Catherine is the Acting COO at UsAgainstAlzheimer's, collaborating with teams across the organization to ensure that UsA2 can achieve its vision of eradicating Alzheimer's.

For over 15 years, Catherine has provided strategic guidance, policy expertise, and public health know-how in service to achieving better health for all. Prior to joining UsA2, Catherine served as the Co-Executive Director of CityHealth, an initiative devoted to passing evidence-based policies in the nation's 75 largest cities. Before joining CityHealth, Catherine worked in philanthropy for over a decade, serving as the Managing Director for Urban Health and Policy at the de Beaumont Foundation. Catherine also worked at the Pew Charitable Trusts, where she led campaigns to improve children's dental health across the country. Catherine began her career as an early childhood educator, working directly with children and families.



**George Vradenburg, Chairman and Co-Founder, UsAgainstAlzheimer's.** George is Chairman of UsAgainstAlzheimer's, which he co-founded in October 2010 with his late wife, Trish (1946-2017). He was named by U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to serve as a founding member of the Advisory Council on Research, Care, and Services established by the National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA Council) and has testified before Congress about the global Alzheimer's pandemic. Under his leadership, UsAgainstAlzheimer's co-convenes both the Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease (LEAD) Coalition and the Global CEO Initiative on

Alzheimer's Disease. In 2021, again under his leadership, UsAgainstAlzheimer's launched a Swiss and U.S.-based global initiative to prevent Alzheimer's called the Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative, where Mr. Vradenburg serves as Founding Chairman. He is also a founding member of the World Dementia Council. He has long been a dedicated member of Washington's civic and philanthropic community, serving as Chairman of the Phillips Collection for 13 years. Mr. Vradenburg is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Economic Club of Washington. He has served in senior executive and legal positions at CBS, FOX, and AOL/Time Warner.

### Keynote



**Rachel F. Buckley, PhD, Associate Professor of Neurology, Mass General Brigham and Harvard Medical School.** Dr. Buckley is an Associate Professor of Neurology at Mass General Brigham and Harvard Medical School. She is a past recipient of an NIH-NIA K99/R00 Pathway to Independence award and an NIH DP2 New Innovator Award. After initially completing her PhD in Neuropsychology at the University of Melbourne, Australia, with the Australian Imaging Biomarker and Lifestyle Study of Aging, she then moved to Boston to train in PET neuroimaging and cognitive decline under the mentorship of Dr. Reisa Sperling at the Harvard Aging Brain Study. Her research interests lie in sex differences in risk for Alzheimer's disease, and she holds multiple NIH grants seeking to optimize women's brain health in neurodegenerative disease, with a specific focus on the role of menopause, sex hormones and the X chromosome to impact risk and resilience to Alzheimer's disease. Rachel is the recent past Chair of the Sex and Gender Differences in Alzheimer's disease Professional Interest Area for the Alzheimer's Association; she is a co-lead of the Sex and Gender in Neurodegeneration (S|GN) Consortium for the Alzheimer's Disease Data Initiative and sits on the editorial board for Neurology.

### Setting the Stage – Women's Real-World Experiences



**Meryl Comer, Co-Founder, UsAgainstAlzheimer's, caregiver (Moderator).** Meryl Comer is the UsAgainstAlzheimer's representative of the Global BBP BrainTrust and Vice Chair, WHAM (Women's Health Access Matters). For more than a decade (2007-2019), Meryl served as President and CEO of the Geoffrey Beene Foundation Alzheimer's Initiative, a catalyst funder targeting early diagnosis through spirited public engagement campaigns, early assessment technologies, support of the first "virtual registry", and pre-clinical AD research to modify disease risk. She served on the NIH National Advisory Council on Aging (NACA) from Sept 2018-Jan 2022. In 2012, she led the formation of the 21st Century BrainTrust® (21CBT), a non-profit partnership to advance mobile health technologies and brain health. Comer was also Co-Principal Investigator for the PCORI Alzheimer's Patient/Caregiver Research Network in partnership with the Mayo Clinic, UCSF's Brain Health Registry, and UsAgainstAlzheimer's. In 2009, she served on the bi-partisan Alzheimer's Study Group, charged with presenting a National Strategic Plan to Congress. A former veteran broadcast journalist, 100% of Meryl Comer's New York Times bestseller, "**Slow Dancing with a Stranger**" (HarperCollins), supports Alzheimer's research.



**Wendy Nelson, PhD President & Founder, Boston Biotech Forum LLC, living with APOE4 gene, caregiver.** Dr. Wendy Nelson has over 25 years of biopharma industry experience in roles spanning corporate development, project management, operations, business development, R&D and strategic advisory. She is currently a Partner at Dreavent Capital, a venture firm specializing in biotech that has deployed \$48M in the life sciences space. Her experience includes tenures as CEO at LeadingBiotech, Chief Business Officer at Danforth Advisors, an executive level, biopharma strategic consultancy, as well as positions at Alkermes, Alantox Pharmaceuticals, and multiple preclinical and early stage clinical life sciences CROs.

Dr. Nelson is also the President & Founder of the Boston Biotech Forum, a series of highly curated events that consist of discussions on relevant biopharma industry topics and valuable networking for life science executives and investors. She founded the Forum in Kendall Square, Cambridge, MA in 2011 and has since expanded it to San Francisco, San Diego, Philadelphia, New Haven and the Boston Seaport. The network consists of over 2500 investors and biopharma executives from more than 600 biopharma companies and

## Advancing Women's Brain Health: A Policy Convening April 23, 2026 Speaker Bios

VC firms. Dr. Nelson serves on the Board of Directors for SciSure, as a Strategic Advisor to both Tolion Health and ModernVivo, is a Venture Partner for Waterman Ventures, and is a member of the APOE4 Alzheimer's Alliance. Dr. Nelson earned her MS in Engineering and PhD in Medical Sciences (Artificial Organs, Biomaterials & Cellular Technology), both from Brown University. In her free time, Wendy competes in triathlons and enjoys climbing mountains.



**Angela F. Williams, JD, MDiv, Immediate Past President and Chief Executive Officer United Way Worldwide, caregiver.** Angela F. Williams is the Immediate Past President and CEO of United Way Worldwide, leading a global network serving 48 million people across 1,100 communities in 36 countries. Angela's family, culture, and early life experiences culminated in her role at United Way and have influenced her entire career. Growing up as the child of civil rights activists, Angela learned early on the power of community, the importance of resilience, and the impact that individuals can make by standing up for justice. Her recently released book, *Navigating the Age of Chaos*, introduces a new way of thinking about our future and how we can best engage with accelerating upheaval. It offers a lens through which we can identify the various ways in which our present and future chaos will manifest, allowing us to recognize and focus on possible paths forward through that chaos.

Angela is bi-vocational, serving as an ordained Christian minister, attorney, and civil society executive. With over 30 years of leadership experience across nonprofit, public, and private sectors, Angela has held key roles at Easterseals, a disability service organization; YMCA of the USA; Sears, Roebuck & Co.; U.S. Senate Staff of the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy; the U.S. Department of Justice; and the U.S. Air Force. Angela's leadership is grounded in service and community-driven solutions. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, OpenAI's Ethics Council, and the Wall Street Journal's CEO Council. She has been recognized by USA Today as a 2025 Women of the Year, the NonProfit Times, Forbes, and Inside Philanthropy. Angela holds degrees from the University of Virginia, University of Texas School of Law, and Virginia Union University's School of Theology.

### Advancing Research on Sex Differences in Dementia



**Jennifer Luray, Senior Vice President, Strategy and Public Engagement, Research!America (Moderator).** Jenny is the Senior Vice President for Strategy and Public Engagement at Research!America, the U.S.-based nonprofit research advocacy alliance. While in leadership positions in government, industry, and the nonprofit sector, Jenny has championed a range of issues across the medical and public health ecosystems. This includes closing gaps in women's health research, securing access to innovative diagnostic tests, safeguarding government-to-industry technology transfer and strengthening engagement between scientists and the public.

Jenny was Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski, Legislative Director to Congresswoman Nita Lowey, and Deputy Assistant to the President in the Clinton White House. She directed U.S. policy and government affairs for two global life science companies, BD and Abbott, and led the Susan G. Komen Advocacy Alliance as its president.

Jenny currently serves on the Brown University School of Public Health Board of Governors, Coalition for Trust in Health and Science Board of Directors, National Academy of Medicine Communications Advisory Group, and the Johns Hopkins University Alacrity Center for Health and Longevity in Mental Illness Community Advisory Board. She earned a B.A. in Sociology from Brown University and a Master in Public Administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



**Kaitlin Casaletto, PhD, Associate Professor, UCSF Fein Memory and Aging Center, Ann S. Bowers Women's Brain Health Initiative.** Kaitlin Casaletto, PhD, ABPP-CN is a scientist-practitioner neuropsychologist and Associate Professor at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center. Dr. Casaletto's research program identifies factors that promote resilience in brain aging and prevent dementia. Her work has a particular lens towards sex differences and translational study designs that leverage biomarkers in human samples (plasma, cerebrospinal fluid, and brain tissue), neuropsychological phenotyping, and digital health approaches.

She directs the UCSF Hillblom Brain Aging Center, directs the Biomarkers Hub for the Ann S Bowers Women's Brain Health Initiative (WBHI), and co-leads the UCSF Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Genetics and Biomarker Core. Her work has been featured in the NYT, CNN, and The Guardian including a novel blood-based protein associated with exercise and brain rejuvenation, and identification of synaptic and inflammatory biomarkers as targets of exercise and cognitive resilience. Her work advanced our understanding in humans that "overactive" inflammation in the brains of women may represent a unique link to Alzheimer's disease pathology that is not present in men. She is deeply committed to raising awareness and equity in our understanding of the female brain.

She obtained her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the UCSD/SDSU Joint Doctoral Program and her fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center where she went on to join faculty.



**Lori Frank, PhD, Chief Scientist, AD PACE, UsAgainstAlzheimer's; Strategic Advisor for Research, Women's Health Access Matters.** Lori Frank, PhD is Chief Scientist, AD PACE, with UsAgainstAlzheimer's and Senior Research Fellow with the National Alliance for Caregiving, and serves as Strategic Advisor for Research with Women's Health Access Matters (WHAM). Her work focuses on outcomes measurement in brain aging and cognitive impairment along with caregiving research, spanning health disparities, sex and gender differences, and methods for incorporating stakeholder perspectives in healthcare decision making. She serves on the Memory Screening Advisory Board of the Alzheimer's

## Advancing Women's Brain Health: A Policy Convening April 23, 2026 Speaker Bios

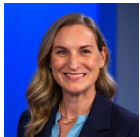
Foundation of America and on the Coalition for Women's Brain Health and is Past President of the International Society for Quality of Life Research, a professional society devoted to patient-centered health outcomes measurement, and she has served on the Board of the Personalized Medicine Coalition. She is past President, Women's Health Access Matters (WHAM), a nonprofit organization accelerating funding for women's health. Prior to joining WHAM she served as Senior Vice President for Research, New York Academy of Medicine. She completed her Health and Aging Policy Fellowship at the National Institute on Aging, through the Congressional Fellowship Program of the American Political Science Association.

Dr. Frank founded and led the Evaluation & Analysis Program at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), establishing the program to study stakeholder engagement, along with survey research and portfolio analysis functions. She has also led a global scientific team as Executive Director, Center for Health Outcomes Research, MEDTAP International/United BioSource Corporation, responsible for scientific and financial performance of 70+ scientific staff worldwide. She founded and served as Principal Investigator of the Cognition Initiative with the Critical Path Institute Patient-Reported Outcomes Consortium. She has held research and teaching positions with the RAND Corporation, the National Institute on Aging, the Georgetown University Department of Psychiatry, and Medimmune LLC/AstraZeneca. She completed postdoctoral training in geriatric mental health services research with the VA Health Services Research & Development program. Her PhD is in Human Development and Gerontology from the Pennsylvania State University and her MA is in Biopsychology from the Johns Hopkins University.



**Jill M. Goldstein, PhD, MPH, Founder & Executive Director, Innovation Center on Sex Differences in Medicine (ICON-X), Helen T. Moerschner Endowed MGH Research Institute Chair in Women's Health; Massachusetts General Hospital, Mass General Brigham Healthcare.** Dr. Goldstein is a clinical neuroscientist and expert on sex differences in disorders of the brain and comorbidity with general medicine. Her program of research (Clinical Neuroscience Laboratory of Sex Differences in the Brain, funded by NIH for >30 years) consists of an interdisciplinary team integrating brain imaging, neuroendocrinology, genomics/transcriptomics, immunology, and collaborations with basic scientists. Studies take a lifespan approach, beginning prenatally, to understanding causes of sex differences in the comorbidity of depression, cardiovascular disease, and Alzheimer's disease. She received numerous awards to support the work, served on scientific advisory boards for women's health, brain health, and Alzheimer's disease, and participated in strategic planning for NIH and National Academy of Medicine. She spent her career training the next generation in women's health/sex differences in medicine, including leading for >20 years a junior faculty training program on building interdisciplinary careers in women's health. In 2018, she launched ICON-X whose mission is to enhance discoveries about sex differences in medicine and incorporate them into developing novel sex-selective diagnostic tools and therapies.

### Women's Brain Health in the Clinical Pipeline



**Kathryn Godburn Schubert, MPP, CAE, President & CEO, Society for Women's Health Research (Moderator).**

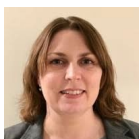
Kathryn "Katie" Schubert has served as President & CEO of the Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR) since April 2020. She is a trusted leader and consensus builder among women's health stakeholders, and previously served as chief advocacy officer at the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM). Schubert began her career on Capitol Hill and subsequently advised organizations on policy strategy in the health care space. She is a board member of the National Health Council, Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance, and ASPN Foundation. She is a previous president of

Women in Government Relations, and in 2020 was named Advocate of the Year by Professional Women in Advocacy for her work on inclusion of pregnant and lactating populations in research, and in 2024 and 2025 was named as one of the most influential people shaping policy in health care by the Washingtonian magazine. Schubert is a member of the Forbes Nonprofit Council. Schubert holds a bachelor's degree from Mary Washington College and a master's degree from the George Washington University. When not advocating for women's health, she's spending time with her husband, three kids, and dog George.



**Dawn A. Brooks, PhD, Global Development Leader, Alzheimer's Disease, Eli Lilly & Co.** Dawn Brooks, Ph.D. serves as the Global Development Leader for Alzheimer's disease efforts within Eli Lilly and Company. In this role, she leads the global teams to design and complete clinical trials, make regulatory submissions and scientific disclosures, define value generation and provide the foundation for the commercialization strategy in the US and around the world. These efforts resulted in approval of Kisunla™ (donanemab-azbt) for treatment of Alzheimer's

disease in multiple countries, including the US, EU, China, Japan and the UK. More broadly, Dr. Brooks oversees the development strategy planning for other early-phase clinical phase Alzheimer's disease assets. Previously she was the Global Development Leader at Lilly for the Type 2 diabetes medicines, Trulicity, and served as the Chief Operations Officer for the Phase 3 development program of Mounjaro (tirzepatide). Dr. Brooks joined Lilly with a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Indiana University in 1998 and has held roles in chemistry management, Six Sigma blackbelt, clinical development and Project Management leadership.



**Teresa Buracchio, MD, Director, Neuroscience, Food and Drug Administration (FDA).** Teresa Buracchio, MD, is Director of the Office of Neuroscience in the Office of New Drugs, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration (FDA). She oversees the review of new drug programs for neurologic and psychiatric diseases, including Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, neuromuscular diseases, neurogenetic disorders, major depressive disorder, and schizophrenia. Dr. Buracchio received her medical degree from Rush Medical College and completed a residency in neurology at Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL. Dr. Buracchio

completed fellowship training in geriatric neurology at Oregon Health & Science University and Portland VA Medical Center in Portland, OR. Prior to joining FDA in 2013, Dr. Buracchio worked at AbbVie as an Associate Medical Director for Neuroscience Clinical Development.

## Advancing Women's Brain Health: A Policy Convening April 23, 2026 Speaker Bios



**Suzanne Hendrix, PhD, CEO, Pentara.** Suzanne Hendrix, PhD, is the founder and CEO of Pentara, a specialty CRO dedicated to data management and statistics for Alzheimer's and neurodegenerative disease research. With over 35 years of clinical trial experience and a PhD from Boston University, she has overseen regulatory submissions for a diverse range of drugs, biologics, and devices. Under her leadership, Pentara has played an integral role in more than 80 Alzheimer's trials across all phases, partnering with pharmaceutical companies, non-profits, and academic institutions alike. A prolific researcher, Dr. Hendrix has authored over 200 peer-reviewed publications focused on clinical trial results and innovative statistical modeling. Her primary goal is to ensure effective treatments succeed in trials and ineffective ones fail definitively.



**Sarah Kleinpeter, Senior Vice President, Alzheimer's and Dementia Franchise Head, Biogen, Inc.** Sarah Kleinpeter is Senior Vice President and Global Head of the Alzheimer's and Dementia Franchise at Biogen, leading global efforts to drive innovation in Alzheimer's and dementia. With more than two decades of leadership experience across R&D, commercial strategy, and global market execution, she has played a central role in shaping the development and launch of innovative therapies across multiple therapeutic areas.

Before joining Biogen, Sarah served as Global Vice President for Alzheimer's Disease at Novo Nordisk, where she led the company's global strategy and helped expand its neuroscience and diagnostics capabilities. Earlier in her career, she held senior leadership roles at LEO Pharma and GlaxoSmithKline, where she guided major product launches and organizational transformations across the U.S., Europe, and Asia.

A chemist by training, Sarah is known for her ability to bridge scientific innovation with patient-centered strategy and cross-sector collaboration. She holds an M.S. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia and serves on the board of directors of Chitozan Health.

### Closing the Gender Gap – Public Health Strategies for Reducing Women's Dementia Risk

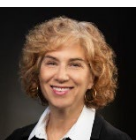


**John Auerbach, MBA, Senior Vice President, Public Health ICF (Moderator).** John Auerbach is the Senior Vice President for Public Health at ICF. Over the course of a thirty-year career, John Auerbach has held senior public health positions at the federal, state, and local levels in both governmental and non-governmental organizations.

He was previously the Director of Intergovernmental and Strategic Affairs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), serving as the strategic advisor on CDC engagement with the government agencies at the federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial levels, public health partners, and other external partners. Earlier in his career, Auerbach was the CDC Associate Director and oversaw policy and the agency's collaborative efforts with CMS, commercial payers, and large health systems.

For five years he served as the President and CEO of Trust for America's Health (TFAH), where he oversaw TFAH's work to promote sound public health policy and make disease prevention a national priority through research, reports, communications campaigns, and government relations.

During his six years as the Commissioner of Public Health for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, he developed innovative programs to promote health equity, combat chronic and infectious disease, and support the successful implementation of the state's health care reform initiative. As Boston's health commissioner for nine years, he directed homeless, substance abuse, and emergency medical services for the city as well as a wide range of public health divisions.



**Karen Hacker, MD, MPH, Adjunct Professor and Health Policy Fellow, Department of Health Policy and Management, Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health; Former Director, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.** Karen Hacker, MD, MPH, is the former Director of the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at the CDC where she served from 2019 to 2025. The Center housed 9 divisions, a staff of 1000 and a budget of \$1.4B of which almost 80% funded chronic disease prevention in the field. During her tenure, she spearheaded groundbreaking social determinants of health activities, expanded maternal mortality programming nationwide, oversaw a continued decrease in cigarette smoking, and shepherded the Center through the COVID-19 pandemic.

With over two decades of progressive leadership, Dr. Hacker's expertise spans healthcare systems, academia, chronic disease prevention, adolescent health, and health equity. Prior to CDC, she was the Director of the Allegheny County Health Department in PA where she achieved national accreditation, addressed the opioid epidemic, reduced air pollution, and launched the Live Well Allegheny initiative. Dr. Hacker uniquely bridges critical community needs with national health policy. She is recognized for her practical, solutions-focused approach to complex challenges, consistently delivering real-world impact through strategic vision and collaborative action. She is also widely published with over 100 peer-reviewed articles and an expert in community-based participatory research.

Dr. Hacker received her Bachelor of Arts (BA) from Yale University, her medical degree (MD) from Northwestern University School of Medicine, and a Master of Public Health (MPH) with Honors from Boston University School of Public Health. She completed her internship and residency in primary care internal medicine at Boston City Hospital, followed by an adolescent medicine fellowship at

## Advancing Women's Brain Health: A Policy Convening April 23, 2026 Speaker Bios

Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, and is board-certified in internal medicine. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at the Emory School of Medicine and Morehouse School of Medicine.



**Paula F. Nickelson, Founder + CEO, Impact-Leader; Former state health officer, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.** Paula Nickelson served as Missouri's State Health Official and Director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services from March 2022 to March 2025. As well, Nickelson was Missouri's lead for public health and healthcare for all emergency responses during her tenure. As Director, Nickelson was responsible for the oversight and management of the department and the administration of its programs and services overseeing 2,000 staff and a budget of \$2.8 billion to protect the health and safety of Missourians.

As Director, Nickelson led the state-wide adoption of Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) to modernize and standardize the governmental state-local public health system including efforts to train, cost and conduct performance measure planning for the systemic transformation. As well, the Department used CDC funds to enable adoption of accreditation by more than half of the state's local public health agencies. Nickelson was involved in the state's H1N1 response and planning efforts following the 9/11 attacks. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Nickelson helped establish the state's first PPE warehouse, led the mitigation strategy for long-term care facilities, oversaw the state's antigen testing program, led the implementation of the state's decontamination system for N95 masks for healthcare workers, and established state-funded monoclonal antibody infusion sites.

Nickelson is the Founder and CEO of Nickelson Consulting LLC dba Impact Leader providing professional consultation services in a broad array of topics inclusive of leadership and organizational development, policy development and execution, strategic counsel to move past partisanship in issues specific to public health and healthcare, and public health/healthcare emergency preparedness and response. She is a certified facilitator/trainer and coach in the evidence-based The Leadership Challenge® model.



**Judy Pa, PhD, Professor, Neurosciences; Co-Director, Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study, University of California, San Diego.** Dr. Judy Pa, PhD is Professor of Neurosciences at UC San Diego where she serves as Co-Director of the Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study (ADCS) and holds the Shiley Endowed Chair of Alzheimer's Disease Research. Dr. Pa has more than 20 years of human neuroimaging experience, Alzheimer's disease, mild cognitive impairment, and lifestyle factors and directs a research lab focused on factors underlying dementia prevention. The primary goal of Dr. Pa's research program is precision prevention: to better understand which protective factors best serve who and why, to develop tailored interventions with a particular focus on sex-specific factors and women's brain health. Dr. Pa is co-PI of the new Longitudinal Menopause Project (LMP) that aims to conduct a large, longitudinal investigation of the menopausal transition with a particular focus on perimenopause and brain health. She also serves as a Co-Lead of the international S|GN Consortium focused on harmonizing global data for sex and gender differences in neurodegenerative diseases convened by the Alzheimer's Disease Data Initiative (ADDI) and Gates Venture.

### Policy Priority Setting - Audience Discussion



**Erika Sward, Chief Advocacy Officer, UsAgainstAlzheimer's (Moderator).** Erika Sward is Chief Advocacy Officer of UsAgainstAlzheimer's, where she is responsible for leading the organization's advocacy and policy, coalitions, and communications work. She has extensive experience in patient advocacy, having served as the American Lung Association's lead lobbyist for 19 years with Congress and the executive branch on access to care, tobacco control, appropriations, and lung disease and lung health issues.

Erika serves on the board of directors on the Partnership to Protect Coverage, a coalition committed to ensuring affordable, adequate and accessible healthcare for everyone. She is also president of the board of directors of the Coalition for Health Funding, a membership organization that works to preserve and strengthen federal funding investments for health agencies.

### Closing Remarks



**Jill Lesser, Board Member, UsAgainstAlzheimer's; Founding President, WomenAgainstAlzheimer's.** Jill is Founding President of WomenAgainstAlzheimer's, a Network of UsAgainstAlzheimer's. In that role she has led campaigns to find, fund and implement a cure for Alzheimer's with a focus on the impact on women. Lesser also serves as a founding member of the UsAgainstAlzheimer's board. She was a caregiver for her mother, who suffered from Alzheimer's, 2007-2023.

Jill is also a veteran communications and policy executive with over 30 years of experience in advocacy, communications, brand strategy and change management. She is currently a Partner at FGS Global, where she advises both for-profit and non-profit clients across a range of industries and issue areas. This is Jill's third stint with the former Glover Park Group, beginning with her collaboration with the firm in 2006. Most recently, Jill served as Vice President, Corporate Communications and Brand Strategy at National Geographic Partners, a joint venture between The Walt Disney Company and the National Geographic Society. In that role, Jill led teams responsible for the company's internal and external communications, synergy across multiple lines of business and global brand strategy.

Jill also serves on the Boards of Hilarity for Charity, The Sitar Arts Center and The Capital Jewish Museum.