



Presenters Biographies

BeWellnm, the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange

Jeffery Bustamante, Chief Executive Officer - Jeffery started with beWellnm in May of 2015 and is currently the Chief Executive Officer. Born and raised in New Mexico, Jeffery previously worked for the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. He received his Bachelors in Political Science from the University of New Mexico and his Masters in Health Innovation from Arizona State University (ASU). Jeffery is currently working on his PhD in Nursing and Healthcare Innovation from ASU, with a research focus on Native American participation in the federal rulemaking process.

Maureen Manring, Director of Communication & Outreach. Maureen has been in the Strategic Marketing, Communications and Outreach for more than 28 years. Her areas of expertise include; Strategic Planning, Brand Awareness, Community Relations, Outreach, Program and Vendor Management, Sales, Service and Retention within the Health Insurance Industry.

Maureen is currently, the Director of Communication and Outreach for beWellnm. She leads a strategic team of vendors and talented staff to ensure success of promoting beWellnm the Health Insurance Marketplace, to all New Mexicans, community partners, and stakeholders. In providing education and resources to assist in closing the gap of the uninsured population in New Mexico.

Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI)

Russell Toal is the Superintendent of Insurance. He is focused on making OSI a leading consumer protection agency in the United States. Prior to becoming Superintendent, he served as a Deputy Secretary of the Human Services Department. Before moving to New Mexico, Superintendent Toal lived in Georgia and served as the Director of the State Cancer program, and the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Community Health, which was responsible for the state Medicaid program, State Health Planning, and Indigent Care Trust Fund programs, as well as the State Health Benefit Plan offering health benefits to all state and school personnel.

Human Services Department (HSD)

Lorelei Kellogg is a Deputy Director with New Mexico's Medical Assistance Division. Lorelei comes to MAD with a background in field work for the Income Support Division and acted as contract manager for New Mexico's eligibility system vendor before moving into her current role.

New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool (NMMIP)

Kristina Leeper has worked for the New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool since 2009 and prior to that was an insurance broker. She has a passion for helping people find solutions within the health care system. She is also a worship leader at her local church and performs at Vanessa's most Fridays.

Elizabeth Quirante joined NMMIP in 2019. She began working in the health insurance industry in 2007 with the NM Health Insurance Alliance and is a licensed insurance broker. In addition to having a passion for helping people navigate their insurance options, she is also a chef!

Official Carriers on the 2022 Marketplace

Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care

Darren Colledge - Darren worked as a financial advisor and wholesaler from 1993 to 2012. In 2013 he switched to Health Insurance as Operation Manager with GetInsured when ACA first began. He also managed the Oscar direct-to-consumer sales team in Tempe in 2015 to 2017. In 2018 he joined Ambetter and is currently the Lead Sales Representative for the Western team covering, AZ, KS, NE, NV, NM, and WA.

Best Life

Stephanie Ratliff, National Director of Sales - For over a year now, Stephanie Ratliff has been the Director of National Sales and Marketing for BEST Life. During her 11+ years with BEST, she has worked in many different positions and enjoys helping BEST Life achieve growth through all of the new challenges and opportunities that the ever-changing insurance industry provides. Native to Southern California, Stephanie went to college at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, TX and currently still resides in the area with her family. She enjoys spending time with her family, participating in community activities, playing tennis, gardening, and being outdoors as much as possible.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico

John Romero, Producer Sales Consultant. John has over 14 years of experience in the health care industry. He served in various roles at BCBSNM for 11 years, including benefits/claims research for Group business, as well as member enrollment/outreach for Medicare and Centennial Care lines of business. For the past two years, he served as an independent broker, but has now returned to BCBSNM as a Producer Sales Consultant for Individual and Medicare lines of business. In his current role, he serves as a liaison for the broker community (statewide) and is available to assist with broker training/education, benefit and operational questions, and general sales assistance.

fridays health plans

Eddie Burkhardt, Director of Sales, New Mexico and Nevada for Friday Health Plans - Eddie is the Director of Sales, New Mexico and Nevada for Friday Health Plans. He joined Friday Health Plans in mid 2020 in preparation for the company's launch to New Mexico and Nevada for the 2021 health plan year. Eddie represents Friday Health Plans throughout New Mexico for its individual and family health plans, both on and off the healthcare marketplace, as well as Friday's small group plans. Eddie has been active in the health insurance industry for more than 27 years and has provided his expertise to many residents and business owners. "I am very excited to be a part Friday Health Plans," he said. "particularly given our focus on entrepreneurs, gig workers, contractors, freelancers, service industry workers, early retirees and small business owners – people who make their own decisions about health insurance."

Molina Healthcare

Gene Wedgeworth - Marketplace Sales Manager for North Texas and New Mexico. Gene boasts over 26 years of experience in the industry, having worked in all markets in Texas for individual and group coverage, specifically the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Gene has also worked extensively in the El Paso, Albuquerque and Las Cruces markets. He is looking forward to working with you and supporting you in any way possible.

Presbyterian

Lenore Foreman, Individual Plan Account Manager - Lenore Foreman is the Individual Plan Account Manager for Presbyterian. She has been with Presbyterian for over 20 years and has been the Individual Plan Account Manager there since 2008. Lenore has over 30 years of experience in the medical and insurance industry in a variety of capacities including marketing and sales, premium billing, financial recovery, claims, customer service, and as a medical assistant. Working in the both the provider and insurance aspects of healthcare gives her a unique perspective in assisting prospects and members.

Lisa Droelle, Small Group Account Executive - Lisa Droelle is an Account Executive with Presbyterian, where she has been for the past 8 years. Lisa has been in the industry for nearly 18 years, where she has worked with various government programs, and worked in different lines of business to include individual and small business, in communities all across the State. Her husband is also a small business owner, so she understands the insurance needs and concerns that small business owners and individuals face in our industry today.