



2019 | FamilyVoices Leadership Conference

Families as Partners Shaping Systems Change

CONFERENCE KEYNOTERS



Wednesday, May 8th
12:30 Opening Session

Frederick Isasi, JD, MPH

Executive Director
Families USA

The Health Care Justice Movement: Our Time is Now!

Frederick Isasi was selected to be Families USA's second-ever Executive Director in January 2017 because of his life-long commitment to achieving high-quality, affordable health care for all. Mr. Isasi is a well-known national speaker on Medicaid, state innovation, health system transformation, behavioral health, and the social determinants of health as well as health care quality, payment, and equity issues. Mr. Isasi's passion for health care reform began when he was growing up in North Carolina as the son of Cuban immigrants. There, he saw firsthand many of the barriers to health care experienced by the poor, people of color, people with language barriers, and rural communities. Before joining Families USA, Mr. Isasi served as the Health Division Director at the bipartisan National Governors Association's (NGA) Center for Best Practices. Prior to NGA, Mr. Isasi served as Vice President for Health Policy where he founded its Health Policy Department. Prior to this work, Mr. Isasi served as Senior Legislative Counsel for Health Care on both the U.S. Senate Finance Committee and Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) for former Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), the only Democrat serving on both committees during the creation of the Affordable Care Act. Earlier in his career, Mr. Isasi served as a health care attorney with Powell Goldstein, where he worked closely with states on Medicaid reforms and represented public hospitals; prior to that, he served as Senior Policy Advisor to the District of Columbia Primary Care Association. Mr. Isasi holds a JD from Duke University, an M.P.H. from the University of North Carolina, and a B.S. in Cellular Biology and a second major in Spanish from the University of Wisconsin.



Friday, May 10th
12:30 Closing Session

Rebecca Cokley

Director, Disability Justice Initiative
Center for American Progress

The State of the Disability Union 2019

Rebecca Cokley is the Director of the Disability Justice Initiative at the Center for American Progress. She joined CAP after leading the National Council on Disability, an independent agency charged with advising Congress and the White House on disability policy. From 2009-2013 she worked in the Obama Administration at the Departments of Education, Health & Human Services, and the White House where she oversaw diversity and inclusion. Rebecca began her advocacy at the Institute for Educational Leadership, building tools and resources to empower and educate disabled youth. Rebecca serves on the boards of Common Cause, the Community Justice Reform Coalition, and ACLU DC. She has been featured on CNN, Vox/Netflix's "Explained" and "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver." In 2015 she was inducted into the Disability Mentoring Hall of Fame and received the Frank Harkin Memorial Award by NCIL. In 2008 she helped lead the first Presidential Campaign Disability Policy Advisory Board, for then-Senator Obama. She has spoken at Netroots Nation, New York City Comic-Con, Google, and the U.S. Commission for Civil Rights. Rebecca has a B.A. in Politics from UC Santa Cruz, is the proud spouse of Patrick and mother of three and is writing her first two books.