

Representative Matt Baker

Rep. Matt Baker is serving his 11th term, representing all of Tioga County and western Bradford County. Prior to his election in 1992, he served as a district legislative aide for 12 years handling constituent services. Previously, he worked in a Wellsboro law firm for 12 years, serving people with disabilities. Rep. Baker is the majority chairman of the House Health Committee; a member of the Human Services Committee and Rules Committee, the Rural Caucus, Tax Reform Caucus and the Firefighters and Emergency Services Caucus. Rep. Baker is on the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, the Capitol Preservation Committee and the Marcellus Institute Resource Council. He authored the Pipeline Safety Act and was a lead supporter for passage of Act 13 of 2102. He helped create the Yellow Dot Program and the Emergency Contact Information Program. Rep. Baker has received many civic and humanitarian awards. He also attained a 20-year record of perfect attendance at every House floor session since becoming a state legislator. He has a Bachelor of Science degree as an honors scholar from Elmira College and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree from Mansfield University.

Kelly O'Shea Carney, PhD, CMC

Dr. Kelly Carney is the Executive Director of the Dementia Center for Excellence for Phoebe Ministries, a premier provider of services to older adults in northeastern Pennsylvania. She is a licensed psychologist with a specialty in geriatrics. At Phoebe Ministries, Dr. Carney oversees development of comprehensive services provided to individuals with dementia and their caregivers. A subject matter expert in assessment and management of challenging behaviors associated with dementia, Dr. Carney has provided training at the state and national level to professional caregivers. She is a frequent speaker on eldercare topics to professional groups including: the American Psychological Association, the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers, the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Pennsylvania Community Providers Association, and the Pennsylvania Long Term Living Training Institute. Dr. Carney earned her bachelor's degree summa cum laude in psychology from St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind., and her master's degree and PhD in counseling psychology with an emphasis in geropsychology from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill. She obtained her certification as a care manager from the National Academy of Certified Care Managers in Colchester, Conn.

Brian M. Duke, MHA, MBE *Committee Chair*

Brian Duke was nominated by Governor Tom Corbett to be the Secretary of Aging on February 3, 2011, and confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate on May 3, 2011. At that time he was Director of the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging. Previously he served as Executive Director of the New Jersey Foundation for Aging. Mr. Duke had served as a consultant with the U.S. Administration on Aging and the AARP Foundation to develop statewide care-giving coalitions in 12 states. He also co-chaired the Caring Community, a coalition of more than 100 organizations convened by WHYY, the public broadcasting station in the Philadelphia region. He was a consultant with the Family Caregiver: Outreach and Assistance in Our Communities Project with the Pennsylvania State University, as Director of Geriatric Program Initiatives with the Institute on Aging of the University of Pennsylvania Health System; and Secretary of the Board of the Pennsylvania Association of Area Agencies on Aging. Mr. Duke holds a BS in Business Administration from the University of Scranton, an MHA (Health Administration) from George Washington University and an MBE (Bioethics) from the University of Pennsylvania. He is an Associate Fellow of the Institute on Aging of the University of Pennsylvania.

Michael Ellenbogen

Michael Ellenbogen was diagnosed with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease in 2008 at the age of 49. His position at the time was network operations manager for a Fortune 500 company. Difficulty with work-related tasks such as organization, processing, concentration and communication eventually led to early retirement. Since the diagnosis, he has become a world renowned 'Alzheimer's Advocate' through social media, links to "4,000 of the brightest minds that have anything to do with dementia," speaking engagements, media interviews and fundraisers for research and discovery of treatment. Mr. Ellenbogen has written for blogs, newspapers and websites and shared his perspective as guest speaker on teleconferences for caregivers and others with dementia. A regular participant at the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services quarterly meetings, he was featured in the Alzheimer's Disease International's 2012 World Alzheimer's Report addressing the stigma of the disease. He lives in Jamison, Pennsylvania, with wife, Shari. They have a daughter, Jamie.

Carrie DeLone, MD

Carrie DeLone, M.D. was nominated by Governor Tom Corbett in April of 2013 for the position of Physician General for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Her role will be to advise the Governor and the Secretary of Health on health matters and policy. Her insights into prevention of injury and disease, safe delivery of quality healthcare, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles will support the continuing efforts of the Pennsylvania Department of Health. For the last nine years, Dr. DeLone has been the physician advisor to the medical staff of Holy Spirit Hospital in Camp Hill. This role included educating physicians regarding federal and state regulations, developing quality improvement strategies, and interacting with insurers. Dr. DeLone is committed to increasing access to medical care, especially in underserved and rural areas, modernizing the present system, with strategies to decrease prescription drug abuse, and health issues such as childhood obesity and immunization. After receiving a BS in biology from Villanova University and a MS in physiology from Georgetown University, Dr. DeLone attended Temple University School of Medicine and completed training at the Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, N.Y. She has been board certified in internal medicine since 1985.

Representative Florindo 'Flo' Fabrizio

Rep. Florindo 'Flo' Fabrizio, a lifelong resident of Erie, was elected to the State House of Representatives in 2002 and is now serving his 6th term. He is Democratic Chair of the House Health Committee, chairman of the Joint State Government Commission and also Deputy Whip for the Democratic Caucus. Rep. Florindo has also served on the Aging and Adult Services, Finance, Insurance and State Government committees. In addition he has been Co-Chairman of the Northwest Caucus and as Vice-Chairman of the Democratic Policy Committee. Having graduated from Strong Vincent High School in Erie, Rep. Fabrizio earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Pennsylvania State University and a Masters degree from Edinboro University.

Reverend George R. Gunn, Jr.

Following a successful 30-year career in marketing and advertising for Fortune 500 companies, Rev. George Gunn served from 1995-2005 as Chief Executive Officer, Board member and Chaplain of ACTS Retirement-Life Communities. ACTS provides residential housing and long-term care residences in several states to nearly 8,500 seniors. A partial list of Rev. Gunn's community and charitable affiliations includes: the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, 1999 to the present; received The Secretary's Award 2011, and the Paul P. Haas Lifetime Achievement Award from PANPHA 2005; Bible Theological Seminary; Philmont Christian Academy; The Salvation Army; Philadelphia Council, Boy Scouts of America; the Charles Morris Price School of Advertising & Journalism, Distinguished Alumnus 1979; the Philadelphia Presbyterian Home at 58th St.; Young life Campaign; The Greater Philadelphia Billy Graham Crusade 1992; The Union League of Philadelphia and many more. Rev. Gunn, a United States Navy veteran, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing, a Master's degree in Business Administration from Temple University, and a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Susan Bailey Heinle, RN., BSN

Susan Heinle is a nursing leader with 31 years of experience in home care, hospice, and private duty businesses. She owns and is President of Visiting Angels, a non-medical, in-home care service for adults and seniors. From concept, to start-up, to daily operations, Mrs. Heinle has developed a successful for-profit agency serving York and Hanover communities. Visiting Angels lives its mission each day by helping clients to stay at home rather than move to a nursing facility. In this way, Mrs. Heinle's business choice has dovetailed with the prime movement in aging services for the 21st century: aging in place. Before Visiting Angels, she was President of Comfort Care of Holy Spirit, Inc., and for a decade practiced her profession as staff and head nurse, clinical supervisor and Director of Home Health Services at York's Memorial Hospital. Recognized as a community business leader, she received the 40 Under 40 Award by the Central Pennsylvania Business Journal in 1999; the Pennsylvania's Best 50 Women in Business Award in 2007; and the 2010 and 2011 Central Penn Parent Healthcare Hero Award. Mrs. Heinle earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from York College of Pennsylvania.

Representative Tim Hennessey

A long-time community servant as legislator, dedicated attorney, trial attorney with the Public Defenders office from 1973 to 1992, and lifelong resident of Chester County, Tim Hennessey has represented the 26th District since 1993. He serves as the Republican Chairman of the Aging and Older Adult Services Committee. He wants to streamline government services for older Pennsylvanians for clarity and accessibility; and ensure that the Lottery Fund remains solvent for future generations. Hennessey also serves on the House Consumer Affairs Committee. During his tenure he has authored legislation helping local governments tackle urban blight and abandoned property. He is also a strong advocate for property tax relief and improving schools. In addition to committee work, Hennessey chairs the Steel and Irish caucuses. Prior to his election to the House, Tim Hennessey served as chairman of the Rotary Student Exchange Program; he was president of the Birthright of Pottstown and past president of the Alternatives Corporation of Pottstown, a shelter home for abused children. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from St. Joseph's University and a Juris Doctor degree in 1972 from Villanova University School of Law.

Beth Herold

For the past 25 years, Beth Herold has served the needs of the aging population and their families in Pennsylvania. Ms. Herold has the management experience to navigate any health system. As Clinical Manager of the acute care unit at Butler Memorial Hospital, she supervised the pilot project to privatize the community health clinic in Butler County. Ms. Herold next joined the Visiting Nurses of Western Pennsylvania where she was Manager of Complete Care Services, managed the private duty division, handled personnel issues for 80-110 employees, developed contracts and provided services to private pay individuals, insurance companies, private industry and waiver programs. In October 2011, she was named Director of the Butler County Area Agency on Aging. Ms. Herold is responsible for the financial management to meet both state and county standards and to ensure that quality programs are available to meet the needs of individuals 60 and older in Butler County. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Gannon University and an MBA Healthcare from Chatham University.

Senator Shirley M. Kitchen

Senator Shirley M. Kitchen was elected to the Senate of Pennsylvania on November 5, 1996. She subsequently won four-year terms in November 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012. Sen. Kitchen has proven to be an indefatigable advocate for her constituents in the 3rd District in Philadelphia County. She serves as the Democratic Chair for the Public Health and Welfare Senate Committee. She is also a member of the Senate committees on Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Policy, Transportation, Urban Affairs, Housing, Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness. Sen. Kitchen was also appointed to the Advisory Committee on Geriatric and Seriously Ill Inmates and the Pennsylvania Leadership Academy. Sen. Kitchen's crusade on behalf of the poor and disadvantaged has been a long and fruitful one. She has battled for daycare funding, housing for low-income families, community job opportunities and predatory lending as well as teenage suicide prevention. In 2005, Sen. Kitchen sponsored a bill giving Pennsylvania National Guard families top priority in obtaining subsidized child care. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Services from Antioch University.

Cynthia A. Lambert

A native of Allentown, Cynthia A. Lambert is Vice President for Government & Community Relations at Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network (GSRN), a Lutheran faith-based comprehensive medical rehabilitation network in the Lehigh Valley. Ms. Lambert is responsible for developing productive relationships with government and the community-at-large. She educates officials on public policy issues, legislation and regulations that affect persons with disabilities. Ms. Lambert was responsible for GSRN's multi-million dollar development program; and has also secured more than \$9 million in both capital and program funding to advance the work of the rehabilitation network. Ms. Lambert served as a Commissioner of Lehigh County from 2002-2004. A graduate of Muhlenberg College and Lehigh University, Ms. Lambert worked 12 years in county government and served as the Director of the Department of Human Services for Lehigh County. She conducted oversight of two county nursing homes, was Executive Administrator for the Area Agency on Aging, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, Children and Youth Services, and Adult and Residential Services.

David C. Leader

David Leader has been the Chief Operating Officer at Country Meadows Retirement Communities for the past 11 years, where he is responsible for the operations of 11 campuses of senior care communities providing services to more than 3,000 customers in Personal Care/Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing, Memory Care, Independent Living and Home care services. Under David's leadership, Country Meadow's Connections™ Memory Support program has grown to serve more than 800 Pennsylvania seniors with Alzheimer's disease (or other related forms of dementia) to live life as fully as possible. This program, covering all levels of care from home care to skilled nursing, includes specialized spiritual support, fitness programs, dining accommodations and therapeutic activities – all under the guiding umbrella of a Validation© approach to communication.

Prior to joining Country Meadows in 2002, David worked in International Marketing, Manufacturing Management and Oil Exploration with Fortune 500 firms. He attended Princeton University, where he received a BSE in Engineering and BA in Geology, and later earned his MBA from the Wharton School of Business.

Bob Marino

Bob Marino has been a member of the Alzheimer's Association Delaware Valley Chapter Board of Directors since 2004. He is also Co-Chair of the Pennsylvania Public Policy Coalition and Chairman of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Advocacy Committee. Most recently he became a National Board Member of the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM). With more than 25 years experience in management, development, and telecommunications as a principal of RFM industries, the Lafayette Hill resident was honored with the Maureen Reagan Outstanding Advocate Award in 2006. Mr. Marino has a personal connection to Alzheimer's, for both his parents and an aunt were afflicted with the disease. Marino's dedication to raising awareness about Alzheimer's among lawmakers, in order to secure legislative action, resulted in: passage of MEPAS (Missing Endangered Person Advisory System); one of the highest large-state percentages of Congressional co-sponsorships for the National Alzheimer's Project Act, signed into law by President Obama, Dec. 2010; and, the first change to the PA Family Caregiver Support Act since inception, signed into law by Governor Corbett, Dec. 2011.

Cheryl A. Martin, PMP, MPA

Cheryl A. Martin is Acting Chief of Staff in the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare's Office of Long-Term Living. In this position, she supports and directs program development and project completion, data analytics and metrics. She manages Pennsylvania's All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Program, called Living Independently for Elders (LIFE) in Pennsylvania. From 2010 to January 2013, Ms. Martin was the OA/OIT Enterprise Project Manager in the Secretary's office, DPW. Directly preceding this position she was Information Technology Portfolio Manager for Children and Families for which she managed an annual IT budget in excess of \$30 million annually. Rounding out her immersion in the challenge of re-balancing Pa.'s long-term-care continuum, Ms. Martin served as Director of Home and Community-Based Services Project as the Human Services Policy, Research and Evaluation Consultant. Cheryl Martin earned a BS in Food Management from Indiana University of Pennsylvania; a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from the University of Pittsburgh; and retains a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.

Senator Bob Mensch

Senator Bob Mensch represents the 24th District (Bucks, Lehigh, Montgomery and Northampton counties), with more than 35 years of leadership, business, management and public service experience. He is Chairman of the Senate Aging and Youth Committee, and Vice-Chairman the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee. A member of four other Senate Committees: Appropriations, Communications and Technology, Intergovernmental Operations, and Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness. Prior to his election to the state Senate, Senator Mensch served in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for the 147th Legislative District. He also has oversight as a co-chair of the Senate Economy, Business and Jobs Caucus, as well as chair of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee. In addition, Senator Mensch has long been dedicated to preserving Pennsylvania's farmland and open space, as well as improving the transportation infrastructure. With a firm understanding of issues facing the Commonwealth and his natural strength as an advocate, Sen. Mensch is poised to take on the major challenges that will characterize the work of the Pennsylvania Alzheimer's Disease Planning Committee.

Robin Mozley

Robin Mozley of the Lutheran Services Society has been the Manager of the Jeannette Senior Center in Westmoreland County since 2006. Her scope of work ranges from supervision of the cook, van driver, volunteers, to all aspects of kitchen duty, including food safety and sanitation procedures set forth by the Departments of Public Welfare and Agriculture, training personnel, coordination of center activities such as exercise and nutrition classes, fundraising, scheduling speakers, health screenings and fairs, computer classes, and tax preparation. Other trainings for which she has oversight include CPR and First Aid Certifications, Serve Safe training, Food Safety training by Nutrition, Inc. and training for the development and implementation of new programs for seniors by the Westmoreland County Area Agency on Aging. Ms. Mozley was well equipped to take on the herculean tasks demanded by her position at Jeannette Senior Center after seven years as the Seton Hill Child Services Food Manager. Robin Mozley earned an Associate Degree in General Business from the Penn Commercial School of Business.

Heidi Owen

Director of Hospice/Oncology Services, Neighborhood Health Agencies, Inc. – West Chester, Ms. Owen has more than twenty-five years of combined nursing experience in hospice, home care, and multiple critical care areas. Currently she manages 200 hospice team members, establishes and maintains the hospice budget, markets the agency to physicians, vendors and hospitals. In addition she conducts community outreach and understanding of what hospice brings to the life journey. She is also an expert in implementing the inpatient hospice unit as well as outpatient palliative care programs. Heidi Owens is the 'nurse's nurse' in flexibility, competence, team player and management credentials. Her experience throughout intensive care settings has made her the essential medical professional equipped to lead patients and colleagues to new horizons in medical and hospice care. The Pennsylvania resident earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Radford University, Virginia, in 1986.

Maura L. Pelinsky

From 1994 to the present, Maura Pelinsky has served as the Adult Day Services Director of Saint Mary's East in Erie County. During her tenure she has increased clientele enrollment, creation and usage of services, maintained financial stability and received multiple deficiency-free inspections. While Assistant Director of Activities at St. Mary's, Ms. Pelinsky, a professional violinist with the Erie Philharmonic from 1985 to the present, placed special emphasis on music, having practiced as a music therapist at the Rouse-Warren County Home in Youngsville, Pennsylvania. Other highlights of her career include committees and affiliations with the Erie Philharmonic Board of Directors, Pa. Adult Day Services Assoc., American Music Therapy Assoc., Caregivers Coalition of Erie County, National Council on Aging, American Society on Aging, and Alzheimer's Support Group Facilitator. Ms. Pelinsky is also an Adult Instructor contracted by the Personal Care Resource Center, Inc. to develop and teach subjects for Personal Care Administrators' certification requirements. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy, Cum Laude, from the State University College of New York at Fredonia and a Graduate Certificate in Management from The Pennsylvania State University.

Charles F. Reynolds III, MD

Charles F. Reynolds III, MD, is the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Endowed Professor in Geriatric Psychiatry at UPMC and Professor of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences at the Graduate School of Public Health. He directs the Aging Institute of the UPMC and the NIMH sponsored Center of Excellence in the Prevention and Treatment of Late Life Mood Disorders. Dr. Reynolds is internationally renowned as the recipient of a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Research Scientist Award and a MERIT award for Maintenance Therapies in Late-Life Depression. He has been named several times as one of The Best Doctors in America and is the 2012 recipient of the APA Jack Weinberg Award for lifetime contributions to geriatric psychiatry. Dr. Reynolds graduated magna cum laude from the University of Virginia before earning his medical degree from Yale University School of Medicine in 1973. His writings include 625 publications in peer-reviewed journals such as JAMA, the New England Journal of Medicine, and The Lancet. Associate Editor of American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, Dr. Reynolds has also served on the board, American Journal of Psychiatry and Archives of General Psychiatry.

Representative Steve Samuelson

Rep. Steve Samuelson is the Democratic Chair of the House Aging and Older Adult Services Committee, a committee he has served on since first becoming the state representative for the 135th Legislative District in 1999. Serving the state's senior citizens has always been a priority, as exemplified by the fact that his constituent service office assisted more than 800 senior households with the property tax and rent rebate program last year, and may surpass that figure this year. Before his election, Rep. Samuelson was a legislative aide and clerk to the board for the Lehigh County Commissioners from 1989 to 1998, an experience that gives him a great understanding of the challenges facing local governments. A Bethlehem resident, Rep. Samuelson earned a bachelor's degree in government from Lehigh University and is a graduate of Leadership Lehigh Valley. He has always been active in his community having served as a PTA Board member at Spring Garden Elementary School, president of the Bethlehem Area Jaycees and a board member of Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley.

Jill Fortinsky Schwartz

Ms. Schwartz is the owner of Fortune Fabrics, Inc, a weaving mill in North East Pennsylvania. She is also the owner of Gosh Yarn It!, a beautiful yarn boutique.

Currently, she is Vice-Chair of the Luzerne Bank, on the board of Penn State Wilkes-Barre, and a co-founder of Circle 200, a leadership group for senior-level executive women. She has been on several community boards and has served on their financial and investment committees. She has chaired the Alzheimer's An Affair to Remember sponsorship drive for the past three years. Ms. Schwartz is a past Athena winner, sponsored by the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, and was named one of the top women in business. She is a graduate of Meyers High School and earned her Bachelor of Science and Masters Degrees from Boston University.

Stuart H. Shapiro, MD

Dr. Shapiro has a Medical Degree with honors from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a Masters Degree in Public Health from Harvard University and is Board Certified in Radiology, Nuclear Medicine, and Public Health. He has authored numerous articles on management and healthcare. Dr. Shapiro has enjoyed a successful and diversified career as a businessman and entrepreneur, a top government official and a physician. In both the public and private sectors, he has had extensive experience in public policy development, fund raising, and in media/crisis management. Since mid 2006, Dr. Shapiro has been the President and CEO of the Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PCHA), a statewide advocacy organization representing the elderly and disabled as well as their providers of care. He has been on the faculty of Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and Georgetown University School of Medicine. Dr. Shapiro is currently a member of the Board of Visitors of the Temple University College of Health Professions and Social Work.

John Q. Trojanowski, MD, PhD

Dr. Trojanowski obtained his MD/PhD in 1976 from Tufts University Boston. He has held numerous major leadership positions at the University of Pennsylvania: Previously: Principal Investigator of a NIA Program Project Grant on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease (1990-2010), Director of Medical Pathology (1988-2002). Currently he is Director of a National Institute of Aging (NIA) Alzheimer's Disease Core Center (1991-present). Director (2002-present) of the Institute on Aging, founding Co-Director (1992-present) of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease Research; Director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease) Research Center of Excellence (2007-present), the first William Maul Measey-Truman G. Schnabel, Jr., M.D., Professor of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology (2003-present), Co-director of the Marian S. Ware Alzheimer Drug Discovery Program (2004-present). Dr. Trojanowski has received many awards for his research, from a MERIT Award (1986-1994) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to the 2012 John Scott Award (established in 1822; given for inventions contributing in some outstanding way to the "comfort, welfare and happiness" of mankind by the City of Philadelphia). Because of the broad impact of his research, Dr. Trojanowski is among the top 10 most highly cited Alzheimer's Disease researchers, and he has been recognized as ISI Highly Cited Researcher, which has placed him among the top 10 most highly cited neuroscientists from 1997 to 2007.

Senator Patricia H. Vance

Sen. Patricia H. Vance is the only professional nurse in the Pennsylvania Legislature. She has been a member of the Senate since 2005, having served 14 years in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. She is chair of the Senate's Public Health and Welfare Committee and a member of the Appropriations, Banking and Insurance, Communications and Technology, Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, Finance and Policy committees. She also serves on the Capitol Preservation Committee. Sen. Vance has authored 16 laws. Among them: defining procedures for filing complaints of abuse, neglect and exploitation of adults with cognitive or physical disabilities; requiring nurses to obtain 30 hours of continuing education every two years; and blending the state's prescription drug program for low-income seniors with Medicare Part D. While a member of the House, she authored more than a dozen laws. Among them, originating an HMO bill of rights; prohibiting discrimination against domestic violence victims by insurance companies; expanding the Commonwealth's prescription drug program for 100,000 low-income seniors. Sen. Vance has received numerous awards for her legislative and community stewardship. Each reflects her concern and commitment to the individual, the family, and older adults.

Senator LeAnna M. Washington

Senator LeAnna M. Washington is the Minority (Democratic) Chair of the Senate's Aging and Youth Committee. She has served on the Appropriations, Urban Affairs and Housing, Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness committees. For two decades Sen. Washington has been a driving force in the community and continues to work diligently for her constituents. She began her political career in 1993 when she won a special election seat serving the 200th District; she served in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for 12 years before winning the seat in the Pennsylvania Senate serving the 4th Senatorial District, parts of Montgomery and Philadelphia counties. Although Senator Washington experienced some daunting early life challenges, her tenacity, perseverance, and faith in God have led her from victim to survivor to success. One of the Senator's priorities for the 2013-2014 legislative session is elder caregiver background checks. Sen. Washington has been honored on numerous occasions for community and civic contributions. She holds a Master's degree in Human Services from Lincoln University.