

RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification: In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:

Private Sponsor(s):

Aspen Ideas: Health

Travel Dates:

06/22/2025 to 06/26/2025

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
\$1,130.00	\$1,017.00	\$205.00	\$3,000.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- The final **Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

7/25/2025

Date

Gabriella Vesey

Printed Name of Traveler



Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

07/28/2025

Date



Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
There were no changes to pre-approved travel expenses.		

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

From: [Lauren Ciarallo](#)
To: [Vesey, Gabriella \(Warnock\)](#)
Cc: kellyn.wardell@aspeninstitute.org
Subject: You're Invited: Join 2025 Aspen Ideas: Health as a Fellow
Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 2:29:47 PM



Dear Gabriella Vesey,

I am writing on behalf of the Aspen Institute and Aspen Ideas: Health, one of the flagship events of the Institute which takes place each summer in Aspen, Colorado. As a part of Aspen Ideas: Health, we offer Fellowships to remarkable leaders who are selected for their work, accomplishments, and ability to transform ideas into action.

You have been nominated by **The Commonwealth Fund** to be considered for an Aspen Ideas: Health Fellowship and selected by the Institute as a Fellow. We are thrilled to invite you to be a Fellow at Aspen Ideas: Health, June 22-25, 2025. The Fellowship includes the following:

- Round-trip domestic air travel
- Lodging for three nights (arriving June 22, departing June 25, 2025)
- Full Pass to attend Aspen Ideas: Health

Important Deadlines and Next Steps:

Friday, March 21, 2025 – Please confirm your participation by selecting one of the options below:

- [Accept and Confirm Registration](#)
- [Decline this invitation](#)

If you are able to accept, you will receive a follow-up email from our Underwriter Manager who will assist you with your ethics paperwork and review process to ensure compliance with gift and ethics regulations.

Once your Event Registration Form is received, we will secure your lodging reservation (individual rooms).

Monday, April 14, 2025 – Submit your [Air Travel Request Form](#). Please review and respond promptly to emails from Travel Leaders, as flight itineraries can only be held for 24 hours.

More About Aspen Ideas: Health

Aspen Ideas: Health will begin on June 22, 2025 around 3:00pm and ends on June 25, 2025 at 12:00pm. Please visit the [Aspen Ideas: Health](#) website where you can find more information about Aspen Ideas: Health, program tracks, and an up-to-date speaker list as the event gets closer. You are welcome to attend any of the sessions offered during Aspen Ideas: Health. As we get closer to the event, I will be in touch with ways to connect with other Fellows prior to your arrival in Aspen, as well as with further logistical information.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at Lauren.Ciarallo@aspeninstitute.org with any questions. I am happy to provide more information about Aspen Ideas: Health, the Aspen Institute, or Aspen in general. I look forward to hearing from you and meeting you this summer!

I join Dan Porterfield, Elliot Gerson, and Ruth Katz in extending to you a warm welcome. We sincerely hope you will join us.

Best,

Lauren Ciarallo

Aspen Ideas Festival, Fellows Program
Aspen Institute

If you no longer want to receive emails from Aspen Ideas: Health, please [Opt-Out](#).



RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

05/19/2025

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Gabriella Vesey

Employing Office/Committee:
WARNOCK, RAPHAEL

Private Sponsor(s):
Aspen Ideas: Health

Destination(s):
Aspen, CO

Travel Dates:
06/22/2025 to 06/26/2025

NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

As Senator Warnock's health legislative assistant, I will be attending the event to represent Senator Warnock's health policy agenda and make connections with other experts in the health policy field.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

05/19/2025

Date

Gabriella Vesey

Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms,
Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I

Senator Raphael Warnock

(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Gabriella Vesey

(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

☒ (signify "yes" by checking box)

05/19/2025

Date

R. Warnock

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

The Aspen Institute (Aspen Ideas Health): Aspen Ideas: Health

 Gabriella Vesey

Title:

Legislative Assistant

Employing Office/Committee:

WARNOCK, RAPHAEL

Duty Station:

WASHINGTON, DC

Destination(s):

Aspen, CO

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As Senator Warnock's health legislative assistant, I will be attending the event to represent Senator Warnock's health policy agenda and make connections with other experts in the health policy field.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:

None

Organization Information

Organization Name

The Aspen Institute (Aspen Ideas Health)

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?☒ Yes ☐ No**§501(c)(3) Organization Type**

Public Charity

Address

2300 N St. NW

Address 2 (Optional)

Suite 700

City, State Zip

Washington, District Of Columbia 20037 United States

Phone Number

202-736-5859 (Lisa Jones, Dep Gen Counsel)

Organization URL<https://www.aspeninstitute.org>

History of Congressional Travel

The Aspen Institute has an over 40 year history of conducting non-partisan educational forums, which often include Members of Congress and staff. Aspen Ideas Health has previously invited Members of Congress and staff to attend and speak at the event and/or to attend as an Ideas Health Fellow.

Educational Activities

The Aspen Institute, Inc. holds numerous educational activities including conferences, roundtable briefings, and other nonpartisan forums on critical issues facing the U.S. and the world.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

The Aspen Institute hosts the Aspen Ideas: Health conference annually. Aspen Ideas: Health is an opportunity for individuals to attend and participate in the health program tracks. The three-day health conference (June 22-25 in Aspen, CO) features inspiring and provocative experts who dive into topics of medicine and health. Some 170 presenters, 60 sessions and 1,000 attendees comprise the annual conference. Lectures, panel discussions, and interviews fill the schedule. The Aspen Ideas: Health Fellows are a group of leaders from around the world who were invited for their accomplishments and ability to transform ideas into action. The fellowship includes travel to the conference, three-night lodging during the conference, and an Aspen Ideas: Health pass.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies nonprofit whose mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and drive change through dialogue, leadership, and action to help solve the greatest challenges of our time. Aspen Ideas Health does this by bringing together a global community of over 1,000 attendees – including healthcare and public health practitioners, researchers, business leaders, policymakers, advocates, artists, and journalists – to elevate and accelerate bold approaches to better health for all.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- ☒ The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- ☒ No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- ☒ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- ☐ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

Continuation of the Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

i Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
06/22/2025 @ 10:00 AM



Trip End Date/Time:
06/25/2025 @ 09:43 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$1,130.00 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	\$1,130.00
Note Round trip		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$1,017.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
06/22/2025	06/25/2025	Inn at Aspen	Aspen	Colorado	United States	3	\$339.00	Yes
Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason This is the group lodging rate for Aspen Ideas Health fellows and attendees for an event organized without regard to congressional participation.								

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$205.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
06/22/2025	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	Aspen	Colorado	United States	Yes
Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason The cost of breakfast, lunch, snacks and receptions are included in the Aspen Ideas Health pass (waived) as a part of the Aspen Meadows daily meeting charge below. The separate cost of dinners is noted above and does exceed the per diem. The dinner expense is the contracted rate for the event and is reasonable and necessary for an event of this size and caliber and that is organized without regard to congressional participation.									

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
06/23/2025	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Aspen	Colorado	United States	No
06/24/2025	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00	Aspen	Colorado	United States	Yes
Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason The cost of breakfast, lunch, snacks and receptions are included in the Aspen Ideas Health pass (waived) as a part of the Aspen Meadows daily meeting charge below. The separate cost of dinners is noted above and does exceed the per diem. The dinner expense is the contracted rate for the event and is reasonable and necessary for an event of this size and caliber and that is organized without regard to congressional participation.									
06/25/2025	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Aspen	Colorado	United States	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$3,000.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Other (Aspen Ideas: Health pass (waived))	\$3,000.00	The \$3000 conference pass is the all-inclusive ticket price for the public to purchase a ticket; however, the registration pass price is waived for all fellows. The price includes a per day meeting package cost of \$300 which includes Aspen Meadows Resort conference hosting fees, facilities setup, IT, staffing, shuttle service, equipment rentals, enhanced security, food and non-alcoholic refreshments for breakfast, lunch, snacks, reception.

Additional Attachments

Document Name
There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: Aspen Ideas: Health

Travel Date(s): 6/22-6/25

Travel Destination(s): Aspen, Colorado

Sponsor: The Aspen Institute (Aspen Ideas: Health)

Elliot Gerson

(printed name of sponsor representative)

EVP of Policy Programs

(title)



(signature of sponsor representative)

May 5 , 2025

(date)

Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form Attachment
The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Aspen Ideas: Health)

Invitees list: The following Senate employees were invited because they are experts in health policy who will contribute to and learn from the overall Aspen Ideas: Health program through their engagement with other fellows and other leaders in the field.

- Bill Cassidy, U.S. Senator for Louisiana
- Maddison Dillon, Health Policy Legislative Assistant for Sen. Barrasso
- Bernard Sanders, U.S. Senator for Vermont
- Gabriella Vesey, Legislative Aide for Sen. Warnock



AGENDA

AS OF 6.17.25

(PLEASE NOTE: SESSION TITLES, DESCRIPTIONS, DATES, VENUES ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

9:00am Depart Washington, DC (DCA) AA #1978

11:30am Arrive Dallas-Ft Worth (DFW)

12:30pm Depart Dallas-Ft Worth (DFW) AA #6434

2:00pm Arrive Aspen, CO (ASE)

2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Aspen Ideas: Health Registration

Ideas Pavilion

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Fellows Meet and Greet

Marble Garden Tent

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

Explainer: Where is Bird Flu Headed?

All 50 states—and at least 23 countries—have reported cases of avian influenza carried by H5N1. The US alone has detected the virus in almost 170,000 wild birds, commercial poultry, and hobbyist flocks. It has also been found in more than 1,000 dairy herds. The costs of culling animals has been vast, but so far the risk to humans has been minimal. Will it stay that way? Are we prepared if it does not? How are the triumphs and errors from past viral outbreaks shaping the response today?

Demetre Daskalakis

Introducer: John Torres

East Lawn Tent

5:00 pm - 7:15 pm

Opening Session and Welcome Reception & Dinner

Join us to kickoff Aspen Ideas: Health 2025 with welcome remarks from Aspen Institute leaders, 10 Big Ideas from Aspen Ideas: Health speakers, and a special performance from mentalist Vinny DePonto.

Uché Blackstock, Vinny DePonto, Kafui Dzirasa, Nita Farahany, Bill Frist, Atul Gawande, Rachel Herz, Marty Kaplan, Ruth Katz, Steve Magami, Dan Porterfield, Bonnie Tsui, Nora Volkow, Olajide Williams

Greenwald Pavilion

Immediately following Opening Session, please join us for the Welcome Reception & Dinner in the Doerr-Hosier Center.

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Behind the Vote: How the ACA Became Law

As the Affordable Care Act came to a vote in Congress in 2010, advocates and opponents alike held their breath because its passage was anything but certain. In this behind-the-scenes look back, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, then speaker of the House of Representatives (and now speaker emerita), reveals the twists, turns, policy debates, and compromises that led to the most sweeping reform of the nation's health care system in decades. Joining her are Kathleen Sebelius and Sylvia Burwell, secretaries of the US Department of Health and Human Services when the ACA was developed, enacted, and implemented. The insiders tell all!

Sylvia Burwell, Nancy Pelosi, Kathleen Sebelius

Introducer: Dan Porterfield

Moderator: Charlie Dent

*Paepcke Auditorium **

MONDAY, JUNE 23

9:00 am - 9:50 am

Fellow will select one of the following two sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

Health Philanthropy's Role in a Changing Landscape

Philanthropies are pivotal players in the health ecosystem, providing financial support for public health, medical research, health systems, workforce development, access to care, and so much more. With significant cutbacks in government investment looming, philanthropic leaders are reassessing their roles and considering how best to deploy resources to maximize impact and drive change. Beyond bridging funding gaps, the path forward can energize innovation, strategic partnerships, system redesign, and policy advocacy.

Brooke Anderson, Richard Besser, Karen McNeil-Miller

Moderator: Bertha Coombs

Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Health Policy through a Crystal Ball: Predictions from Federal and State Officials

Governors are on the frontlines of state health policy, grappling with budget-busting health care costs, reproductive health, the opioid epidemic, access to care for undocumented populations, and other challenges. At the federal level, leadership rests with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, who oversees the nation's vast biomedical, public health, public insurance, and research apparatus. The dynamic landscape for Medicaid, a shared state/federal responsibility, affects them both. What is the future of health care in the public sector? Hear from former governors and HHS secretaries on both sides of the political aisle as they predict the challenges and opportunities to come.

Alex Azar, Roy Cooper, Kathleen Sebelius, Christopher Sununu

Moderator: Julie Rovner

Greenwald Pavilion

10:20 am - 11:10 am

Fellow will select one of the following four sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

UNCOMMON ALLIES

Learning from the Global South

Countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America are pioneering powerful models of care that have important lessons for their wealthier peers. Despite much more limited resources in the global South, doing-more-with-less creatives are strengthening maternal and child health services and primary care using community-based systems, mobile diagnostics, thoughtful task reallocation, and other high-impact public health approaches. Can the US, where population health data document uneven service delivery and maternal mortality is a crisis, learn from their innovations?

Mohamed Aburawi, Joseph Betancourt, Peggy Clark

Moderator: Apoorva Mandavilli

Koch Building, Lauder Room

DECODING THE BRAIN

Breakthroughs in Brain Disease

Armed with deepening knowledge of biology and innovative technology, scientists are breaking new ground on notoriously hard-to-treat brain diseases. Among the cutting-edge research: using ultrasound to deliver drugs that penetrate the brain/blood barrier; reengineering the brain's electrical activity to calm the skewed cell signaling associated with mental health disorders; identifying molecules with anti-inflammatory properties that could slow cognitive decline, or even reverse it. The brain remains the most complex instrument we know, but science offers new hope for combatting Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, depression, addiction, and more.

Roberta Brinton, Kafui Dzirasa, Ali Rezai

Moderator: Jon Hamilton

Greenwald Pavilion

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

Matters of the Heart

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the United States, but tremendous strides are being made in personalized prevention and treatment. Innovation is driving progress in cardiology, with novel imaging techniques, artificial intelligence, and other cutting-edge technology taking center stage. New attention is also being directed at gender disparities in care—cardiovascular disease looks different in women and sometimes goes unrecognized, worsening outcomes. The recipe for better heart health blends medicine, engineering, data, and collective societal commitment.

Martha Gulati, Herman Taylor

Moderator: Elizabeth Cohen

Madeleine K. Albright Pavilion

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

Follow the Money, For Good

What transactions truly create transformative change? When we hear 'follow the money' in healthcare, our minds often go straight to institutional bottom lines—and the lagging health outcomes across our nation. It's time for an audit of our impact. How can we re-envision our organizational resources, structures, systems, and power to achieve generational health? What is possible when we go beyond clinical care to reimagine how we invest in our communities? Attendees will engage with an honest, and hopeful, conversation on how shifting stewardship and investment principles and practices can help their

organizations support and sustain more thriving people and places. (Presented by Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.)

David Ansell, Alyson Niemann, Jaime Wesolowski

Moderator: John Quiñones

East Lawn Tent

11:40 am - 12:30 pm

Fellow will select one of the following three sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

Imagine a World Without Disease

Is a world without disease possible or merely a utopian fantasy? Humanity has already conquered daunting health threats such as smallpox and transformed other diseases from death sentences to manageable conditions. A disease-free world is achievable if we're bold enough to pursue seismic shifts in the health care system. With global coordination, collaborative research, and investments across industry and government, we can shift from offering reactive treatment once symptoms appear to a proactive approach that predicts, prevents, and intervenes before any signs of disease emerge. (Presented by Eli Lilly and Company)

Daniel Skovronsky

Interviewer: Alice Park

Koch Building, Lauder Room

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Affordable Care Act at 15: Legacy, Lessons, and the Road Ahead

Fifteen years after its enactment, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is settled law. Although legislative and legal debates continue, with the Supreme Court currently weighing limits on preventive services, the statute seems likely to remain on the books. This milestone is a good time for a clear-eyed assessment from different political perspectives of how reform has reshaped health care. Is the ACA living up to its promise of expanding access to care? Has it been a sound investment? What has worked well, where has it fallen short, and are any changes needed to make it more effective?

Lanhee Chen, Nancy-Ann DeParle

Moderator: Julie Rovner

Greenwald Pavilion

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

Can We Cure Medical Debt?

More than 40 percent of American adults owe a total of some \$220 billion in medical debt, a burden that falls disproportionately on uninsured adults, women, people of color, and parents. The single largest reason for bankruptcy filings, medical debt sometimes forces families to make significant financial sacrifices, neglect other bills, and alter housing and education plans. The movement afoot to forgive medical debt could transform lives, especially if coupled with cooperative efforts by policymakers, industry leaders, and health providers to change billing practices, tighten insurance regulations, and expand financial support.

Maanasa Kona, Naquetta Ricks, Jared Walker

Moderator: Alan Weil

Madeleine K. Albright Pavilion

12:30 pm - 1:40 pm

Lunch

Lunch provided in the Paepcke Tent, Doerr-Hosier Center, Marble Garden Tent, and various food trucks across campus.

(Paepcke Tent, Marble Garden, Doerr-Hosier)

1:40 pm - 2:30 pm

Fellow will select one of the following two sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

New Frontiers in Cancer

The march against cancer continues, with remarkable progress in diagnostics and treatment. As our understanding of cancer grows, advances in blood-test screening, immunotherapy, CRISPR technology, artificial intelligence, and precision medicine bring us to a new frontier of hope. Yet both data and personal experiences remind us that much work lies ahead. Cancer rivals heart disease as a leading killer, disease rates are rising among young people, and broad access to cutting-edge medicine remains limited. Refining, scaling, and sharing innovative techniques and technology are key scientific goals.

Rodney Gillespie, Alexander Marson, AmirAli Talasaz

Moderator: Elizabeth Cohen

Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room

UNCOMMON ALLIES

Finding Common Ground on Firearm Safety

The Second Amendment affirms “the right of the people to keep and bear arms” but no one favors the health harms associated with firearm injury—in 2022 alone, the use of guns in suicides, homicides, and accidents killed some 47,000 Americans. Recognizing that firearm safety shouldn’t be a partisan issue, allies in some unexpected places are looking through a public health lens to support effective regulation. In Tennessee, for example, advocates across the political spectrum are promoting comprehensive background checks, safe storage requirements, and temporary transfer laws. How do we apply the lessons of such partnerships more broadly?

Bill Frist, Megan Ranney

Moderator: Céline Gounder

Greenwald Pavilion

3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Fellow will select one of the following two sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

In Conversation: Two Leaders on the Frontlines of Health Equity

A shared commitment to equitable health care systems, and determination to dismantle the racism undermining that goal, bring Uche Blackstock and Richard Besser together onstage. Recognized as one of Time Magazine’s “100 Most Influential People in Health,” Dr. Blackstock is the bestselling author of *Legacy: A Black Physician Reckons with Racism in Health*. Dr. Besser leads the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which has identified structural racism as one of the biggest barriers to good health in the United States.

Richard Besser, Uché Blackstock

East Lawn Tent

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

Strengthening the Caregiving Economy

Caregiving, whether it is for children, older adults, or ailing family members, often blends love, duty, burden, and reward. While caregivers are pillars of a good society and a strong economy, they often lack the systemic support needed to stay healthy and financially secure themselves. Investing in family leave policies, wage subsidies, and tax credits could transform the lives of both paid and unpaid caregivers, most of whom are women. By acknowledging our collective responsibility to these workers, we all stand to gain.

Allison Applebaum, Sarah Jones, John Kao, Ai-jen Poo

Moderator: Margot Sanger-Katz

Greenwald Pavilion

4:20 pm - 5:10 pm

Fellow will select one of the following two sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

DECODING THE BRAIN

Anxious Girls, Lonely Boys

The youth mental health crisis is getting a lot of attention, but there has been less emphasis on the gender gap that highlights the differing needs of girls and boys. While young women report high levels of anxiety and depression, they also tend to have richer networks of trusted friends and confidantes. In contrast, far too many young men are being swept up in an epidemic of isolation, social disconnection, and aimlessness. Distinctive, but equally urgent, these mental health challenges call for a dedicated response that respects and supports the emotional lives of our children.

Lisa Damour, Christopher Pepper, Sema Sgaier

Moderator: Jacqueline Howard

Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Global Health at a Turning Point

Two global health superstars talk about upheavals, risks, and opportunities. Hear Atul Gawande, a former senior health official in the Biden Administration, and Deborah Birx, who held senior health positions in both the Bush and Trump administrations, tackle evolving health challenges around the world. As the US pulls back from its traditionally dominant role, where do we go from here?

Deborah Birx, Atul Gawande

Moderator: Apoorva Mandavilli

Greenwald Pavilion

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

Is There Anything GLP-1s Can't Do?

For anyone locked into the discouraging cycle of weight gain-loss-gain or dealing with the health consequences of excess weight, a new class of medication is transformative. Use GLP-1 drugs and you'll not only shed weight, but also keep it off — as long as you keep taking the medicine. GLP-1 drugs have been approved to treat obesity and diabetes and scientists are excited about their promise in cardiology, brain health, addiction treatment, liver disease, and even sleep disorders. Why are these drugs so powerful? What do we know about their long-term risks and benefits? How do we ensure broad, affordable access?

Martha Gulati, Diana Thiara, Nora Volkow

Moderator: Alice Park

*Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room **

TUESDAY, JUNE 24**9:00 am - 9:50 am**

Fellow will select one of the following three sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

POP HEALTH**True or False: Deciphering Health Information**

At their best, credible government reports, thoughtful journalism, and reputable health-related businesses provide trustworthy, balanced health information. But with ready access to Dr. Google, social media, and vast amounts of personal data, people are turning to many other sources as well. The result? It is harder than ever for consumers to know what is actually true. How can we help individuals identify trusted messengers and reliable sources of medical advice—and recognize disinformation—in order to make informed health care decisions?

Garth Graham, Stefanie Ilgenfritz, Poppy MacDonald

Moderator: Jacqueline Howard

Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH**Gaining Momentum in Women's Health**

When women are healthy, their families and communities are far more likely to thrive, one reason the surge of attention to women's health is worth celebrating. Collaborative research networks around the globe are speeding scientific breakthroughs. Innovative financing models are attracting new investments. Enhanced data analytics and mechanisms for sharing results across borders allow evidence-based models to be quickly scaled. As knowledge of sex-based health differences sheds new light on cancer, cardiac conditions, dementia, and maternal health, we are unlocking the power of women.

Shyam Bishen, Caitlin Donovan, Regina Dugan

Moderator: Katie Drasser

Greenwald Pavilion

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE**Apple Powers Up Health Innovation**

Grounded in science and with privacy at the core, Apple and its research partner are rapidly expanding the company's role in health, impacting millions of people around the world. Already known for technology that allows users to monitor fitness, track vital signs, manage medication, and assess mental health, Apple is designing the future of health. Integrating AI and machine learning into software and growing the capabilities of its devices, giving users many more actionable insights into their health. Beyond individual benefits, access to powerful, real-world data can also change the future of health research and scientific insights.

Sumbul Desai

Interviewer: Alice Park

East Lawn Tent

10:20 am - 11:10 am

Fellow will select one of the following three sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

Building a Digital Doppelgänger

Imagine having a virtual set of your own organs available—a spare heart, a third lung, extra blood vessels, even a backup brain. The ultimate in personalized medicine, “digital twins” are 3D computerized models that mimic the body’s parts and systems, and are designed to tell doctors exactly how to treat you. Leveraging the machine learning that is already common in aeronautics, architecture, and engineering, these virtual guides are poised to advance surgery, predict chemotherapy responses, determine pregnancy outcomes, and help design custom-tailored prosthetics.

Caroline Chung, David Hoganson, Kristin Myers

Moderator: John Torres

Koch Building, Lauder Room

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

Living Better, Longer: The New Science of Healthspan

As life expectancy increases, a new challenge emerges: how do we not just add years to our lives, but life to our years? The emerging science of healthspan is focused on optimizing human health across the lifespan. From cellular therapy and nutrition to digital health tools and actionable data, meet the scientists blending genomics, regenerative medicine, engineering, artificial intelligence and clinical care delivery to translate science into reality, empower individuals, and redefine how we live. (Presented by Mount Sinai Health System)

Zahi Fayad, Brian Kopell, Sarah Millar, Sanjai Sinha

Moderator: Brendan Carr

East Lawn Tent

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Public Health Reimagined

It is time to rethink our approach to public health. Stressed by waning financial support, antiquated tools, and deep skepticism towards expert advice, all aggravated by the COVID pandemic, the field has faltered in recent years. Yet profound domestic and global challenges remain, including obesity, access to safe food and water, infectious diseases, reproductive health, and tobacco control. The urgent need for a more responsive and efficient approach to public health calls for creative partnerships, updated technology, and a fresh look at how we use data, deliver services, and train a nimble workforce.

Richard Besser, Joseph Betancourt, Damōn Chaplin, Megan Ranney

Moderator: Céline Gounder

Greenwald Pavilion

11:40 am - 12:30 pm

Fellow will select one of the following three sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Driving Lower Health Care Costs through Litigation

While Americans are most familiar with high-profile legal battles over health care topics including reproductive rights and the Affordable Care Act, hundreds of other lawsuits that have the potential to upend power dynamics within the health care ecosystem are moving through the courts. These suits can be a powerful counterweight to anticompetitive market practices, and achieve a more affordable, accessible, and competitive health care system. Courts increasingly have the last word in matters such as hospital consolidation and surprise medical billing, drug pricing and access to care. A wide array of stakeholders—attorneys, of course, but also researchers, policymakers, businesses, and philanthropies—can play a critical role in making health care more affordable for families, employers, and taxpayers. (Presented by Arnold Ventures)

Brennan Bilberry, James Gelfand, Katie Keith
Koch Building, Lauder Room

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

Harnessing Next-Generation Health Data

A time-honored catchphrase says if you can't measure it, you can't improve it. Collecting, analyzing, and using the vast troves of available health information in new ways has never been more critical. Novel data sources and innovative analytical techniques that braid together different streams of data can produce fairer, more accurate, and actionable findings. AI can increase trust in the results, especially among those who are skeptical of government sources, but only if it draws on valid algorithms. Industry, researchers, and health systems are coming together to learn more and apply it broadly.

Jackie Gerhart, Megan Ranney, Sema Sgaier
Moderator: Margot Sanger-Katz
Greenwald Pavilion

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

The Future of Vaccine Science

Emerging technologies and deepening understanding of immunology herald a new era for vaccine research. Scientists are uncovering more evidence of how chemical signals regulate the human immune response and exploring novel delivery methods, such as intranasal vaccines, to accelerate the body's defenses. The quest for vaccines to treat cancer, personalized to the genetic makeup of individual tumors, is also gaining momentum. Other avenues of investigation: single-dose protection against the ever-mutating influenza virus, improved approaches to pediatric immunization, new disease targets, and needle-free vaccines.

Vinod Balachandran, Buddy Creech, Frances Lund
Moderator: John Torres
East Lawn Tent

12:30 pm - 1:40 pm
Lunch

Lunch provided in the Paepcke Tent, Doerr-Hosier Center, Marble Garden Tent, and various food trucks across campus.

(Paepcke Tent, Marble Garden, Doerr-Hosier)

1:40 pm - 2:30 pm

Fellow will select one of the following three sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

Rethinking Aging

Everyone deserves the opportunity to live the longest, healthiest life possible. New research demonstrates that we can not only extend our lifespan, but also our health span — the years we spend in good health. Medical care, lifestyle choices, and social connections all matter, but thriving in life's later years demands more than individual effort; it also requires thoughtful investments in our communities. That means reshaping the narrative about what it means to grow old and broadening access to support systems that respect autonomy, celebrate accumulated wisdom, enhance financial security, and encourage lifelong learning.

Kenneth Davis, Myechia Minter-Jordan, David Rehkopf
Moderator: Allison Aubrey

Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room

DECODING THE BRAIN

Partnering the Brain and Computer

Combine two of our most powerful tools—the brain and the computer—and vast medical breakthroughs come into focus. A paralyzed man signals his limbs to move, machines translate thoughts into words, and sight is restored with a bionic eye. Implants that stimulate specific brain regions and devices that analyze electrical activity are revolutionizing treatments for epilepsy, spinal cord injury, stroke, and much more. But as immense amounts of neural data are collected, privacy experts, ethicists, and regulators are thinking not only about the importance of improving health but also about safeguarding “cognitive liberty.”

Edward Chang, Jennifer Collinger, Nita Farahany

Moderator: Jon Hamilton

Koch Building, Lauder Room

UNCOMMON ALLIES

Universities as Engines of Health Innovation and National Prosperity

Collaborations between the US government and universities have historically been vital to strengthening public health and driving advances in biomedical and physical sciences, engineering, and other fields. Yale’s work in scaling up penicillin production during World War II and MIT’s contributions to NASA’s Apollo Program are but two examples of the many breakthroughs that have enhanced national competitiveness, driven economic growth, and contributed to US leadership on the world stage. How can we reinvigorate collaborations between higher education and the federal government to ensure the US remains at the forefront of global innovation and research? (Presented by Yale University)

Alex Azar, Maurie McInnis, Brett Zbar

Moderator: David Leonhardt

Greenwald Pavilion

3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Fellow will select one of the following two sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

From Church to Clinic: Community-Focused Care Takes Center Stage

Improving community health means more than just offering a diagnosis. When families lack access to nutritious food, education, and critical health resources like data, ailing people may wait to enter the clinic until they are in survival mode, often for a condition that could have been prevented. Better health for all means addressing a host of risk factors through targeted community-based interventions, coalition-building, and allyship with those who have already established trust with their neighbors and understand their challenges. (Presented by Takeda)

Willie Bodrick, Sema Sgaier, Kristina St. Cyr, David Waters

Moderator: Andrew Kaplan

Koch Building, Lauder Room

AUDACIOUS SCIENCE

Ensuring the Promises of Bold Science

In recent decades, we have made huge strides in preventing or treating diseases that were once surefire killers. Many more biomedical innovations could be on the horizon, driven forward by an army of passionate researchers. But continued progress against the world’s most urgent challenges requires protecting and strengthening the essential building blocks of science—a stable workforce, empowered leaders, dedicated resources, and full-throated commitments from the public and private sectors. How do we ensure that the tools of innovation—training, talent, technology, and trust—are in place?

Mae Jemison, Seema Kumar, Mohit Manrao

Introducer: Aaron Mertz

Moderator: Jonathan Wosen

*Greenwald Pavilion***4:20 pm - 5:10 pm**

Fellow will select one of the following two sessions to attend that best correlates with her work in the Senate.

PAYOFF: INVESTING IN HEALTH

Venture Capital's Bold Bets

The entrepreneurs, seers, and risktakers who decide where to invest capital are transforming health care. Their trend-setting decisions can spur innovation in delivery systems and new technology, help commercialize research, and foster partnerships that strengthen the entire health ecosystem. Yet there are worries, too, about the influence of private capital on research priorities and how increased VC ownership of hospitals and health systems impacts cost, quality, and access. Where will venture capitalists make their next investments, and how do they consider the public good?

Nancy Brown, Jessica Owens, Jason Robart

Moderator: Erin Brodwin

Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

In Conversation with NIH Director Jay Bhattacharya

In one of his earliest public appearances since taking the leadership post at the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Jay Bhattacharya outlines his vision for what he has called "the crown jewel of American biomedical sciences." His top priorities include improving population health, fostering innovation, restoring public trust in science, and ensuring the reproducibility of NIH-funded research results.

Jay Bhattacharya

Interviewer: Stefanie Ilgenfritz

*Greenwald Pavilion***5:30 pm – 8:30 pm****Working Dinner**

Networking with other AIH fellows; Seating is arranged to expose fellows to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Moderated discussion on congressional health policy priorities with **Joseph R. Betancourt** (Facilitator), **Gabriella Vesey**.

*West End Social Restaurant***WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25****9:00 am - 9:50 am**

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

When Health Care Goes to Court

Court rulings can dramatically reshape health policy, affecting the health of millions of Americans. The Supreme Court is currently considering major cases that may impact on insurance coverage and the rights of Medicaid beneficiaries; earlier decisions altered the landscape for abortion, tobacco regulation, and regulatory authority. At the state level, courts are weighing reproductive rights, environmental restrictions, and prison health care. Two nationally recognized legal experts with differing interpretations of the law explore the nature and scope of court actions, consider how longstanding precedents should

be treated, and probe potential conflicts between the executive and judiciary branches of the federal government.

Melissa Murray, Kannon Shanmugam

Moderator: Kimberly Atkins Stohr

Doerr-Hosier Center, McNulty Room

10:15 am - 12:00 pm

Closing Session

Don't miss three riveting conversations that close out Aspen Ideas: Health 2025. Honoring the Aspen Institute's 75th anniversary, we build on its founding belief that the life of the mind, body, and spirit are interconnected. Renowned leaders will talk about why each domain is essential to good health and how together they can elevate individual well-being and strengthen the fabric of our society. The insights shared in these closing moments are certain to echo long after the curtain comes down on this year's gathering.

Kate Bowler, Deepak Chopra, IN-Q, Walter Isaacson, Sarah Jones, Ruth Katz, George Steinmetz, Sirish Subash, Wendy Suzuki, Dasia Taylor

Greenwald Pavilion

12:08pm Depart Aspen, CO (ASE) to Chicago (ORD) AA #6460

3:59pm Arrive Chicago (ORD)

5:50pm Depart Chicago for DCA AA# 2999

8:43pm Arrive Washington, DC (DCA)