

# 2015 Government Relations Academy | *Influencing Public Policy:* Enhancing the Voice of Essential Hospital Advocates

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# Staff and Consultant Biographies

Beth Feldpush, DrPH Senior Vice President of Policy and Advocacy America's Essential Hospitals

Feldpush oversees advocacy, policy, and communications work for America's Essential Hospitals. In this role, she provides strategic leadership and advocacy on behalf of essential hospitals and health systems. Feldpush directs the association's federal government affairs portfolio, as well as the organization's policy development activities. She oversees the association's internal and external communications efforts. Feldpush also manages the association's participation in and leadership of coalitions and allied organization activities, acting as a liaison to other trade associations.

Feldpush previously served as a senior associate director for policy at the American Hospital Association (AHA), where she worked on health care delivery system reform and hospital quality and patient safety issues. Before joining AHA, Feldpush worked at the U.S. Government Accountability Office, where her work focused on Medicare payment policy, end-of-life care, geographic variation in service delivery, and health care workforce adequacy. She also serves as adjunct faculty for The George Washington University School of Public Health Department of Health Policy.

Shawn Gremminger, MPP Director of Legislative Affairs America's Essential Hospitals

Gremminger joined America's Essential Hospitals in April 2009 and oversees all federal government relations activities for the association. He came to America's Essential Hospitals from the National Association of Children's Hospitals, where he served as associate director, federal legislative affairs.

Since January 2012, Gremminger has served as chair of the Partnership for Medicaid, a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition made up of organizations representing physicians, health care providers, safety net health plans, counties, and labor. Gremminger holds a master of public policy from The George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Mary Washington College.

William Kreisberg Consultant to America's Essential Hospitals Vice President Schrayer & Associates, Inc.

Kreisberg oversees many of Schrayer and Associates' client relationships and manages advocacy activities. He focuses primarily on strategic planning, advocacy training, and event management,

including policy conferences and lobby day programs. Before joining the firm, Kreisberg was director of customer services for INSLAW, Inc., a legal software development and management consulting firm, for nearly 20 years. In that position, he developed marketing strategies and oversaw all client relationships, working with many Fortune 500 companies. Kreisberg holds a bachelor's degree from Tufts University and a law degree from The George Washington University. He is active in his local community and serves in leadership positions on a number of nonprofit boards.

Alana Mallory Meetings and Events Coordinator America's Essential Hospitals

Mallory has been with America's Essential Hospitals since May 2011. In her role, she manages speaker logistics for the association's annual conference; manages the association's distance learning calendar; and supports the logistics functions for various association initiatives, including the Government Relations Academy and the Gage Awards Program. Mallory serves as the association's junior meeting planner and is a member of the member services team. She holds a bachelor's degree in business with a concentration in hospitality and tourism management from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Pamplin College of Business.

Erin Sclar, MSW Legislative Affairs Associate America's Essential Hospitals

Sclar supports advocacy efforts that advance America's Essential Hospitals' legislative priorities on Capitol Hill. Sclar helps implement grasstops engagement activities with members of America's Essential Hospitals and coordinates the Partnership for Medicaid, a coalition committed to preserving and improving the Medicaid program. Sclar holds a master of social work degree from Washington University in St. Louis and a bachelor of arts in political science and peace studies from the University of Notre Dame.

Liz Schrayer President Schrayer & Associates, Inc. Consultant to America's Essential Hospitals

Schrayer & Associates, Inc., is a political consulting firm in Washington, DC, created with an eye toward helping nonprofit organizations, trade associations, and businesses create strategies and organizational structures to engage citizen advocates and advance their public policy agendas.

Before starting the firm in 1995, Schrayer served 11 years as national political director for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, where she played a significant role in creating and leading the Jewish community's national political operation. Schrayer has worked on Capitol Hill and in state government, and has helped organize activists in all 50 states. In addition, Schrayer serves as the founding executive director of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, a broad-based coalition of 400 businesses and nongovernmental organizations chaired by former Secretary of

State Colin Powell. Schrayer graduated from the University of Michigan with a double major in political science and American studies.

Jocelyn Wiles Manager of Legislative Affairs America's Essential Hospitals

Wiles helps implement America's Essential Hospitals' advocacy efforts, primarily as a lobbyist on Capitol Hill. Wiles collaborates with other associations and interest groups, particularly around the 340B Drug Pricing Program and children's issues. Wiles came to America's Essential Hospitals from the Health Resources and Services Administration HIV/AIDS Bureau, Division of Policy and Data. She has also worked for several members of Congress including Reps. Kathy Castor (D-FL), Barbara Lee (D-CA), and Danny Davis (D-IL). Wiles holds a bachelor's degree in American studies from the University of Maryland.

Amanda Walsh, Esq. Manager of Legislative Affairs America's Essential Hospitals

Walsh works as a lobbyist on Capitol Hill to further America's Essential Hospital's legislative priorities and educate policymakers on the importance of essential hospitals. She also works to engage members of America's Essential Hospitals in federal advocacy. Walsh came to America's Essential Hospitals from Capitol Hill where she worked for Rep. Richard Hanna (R-NY) as legislative assistant and education policy advisor and Sen. David Vitter (R-LA) as legislative correspondent. Walsh holds a bachelor's degree from James Madison University and a law degree from the University of the District of Columbia.