Webinar & Discussion Date: September 28, 2021

A Dialogue about Poverty in America

PRESENTER BIOSKETCHES

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Dr. Christine Muganda leads the Data & Analytics Team within County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. In this role, she directs incorporation of the best available data into measures of community health to guide local action. Prior to joining the County Health Rankings, Dr. Muganda worked as a population health data specialist and as an epidemiologist at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. Dr. Muganda holds a PhD in Population Health from the University of Wisconsin.

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David Riemer is a Senior Fellow at the Community Advocates Public Policy Institute in Milwaukee. He is Senior Advisor on the Workforce for Social Security Works, and served on the National Academy of Social Insurance’s Study Panel on Economic Security.
Mr. Riemer has been active for several decades in reshaping Wisconsin and U.S. policies on employment, poverty, and healthcare. He led the effort to design a work-based policy package to greatly reduce poverty in the U.S., which the Urban Institute estimated would cut the poverty rate by over 50%. He also played a major role in enacting the state's Transitional Jobs program, supplemental Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), BadgerCare health insurance program, and State Public Defender program. In addition, he has helped to craft federal legislation to create a permanent, nationwide, subsidized jobs program, the “Jobs for Economic Recovery Act.”

During 1975-1988, Mr. Riemer was legal advisor to Wisconsin Governor Patrick Lucey and counsel to U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy’s health subcommittee. From 1988-2001 he held positions as Budget Director, Administration Director, and Chief of Staff for the City of Milwaukee’s Mayor John Norquist. Mr. Riemer served in 2003 as the State Budget Director for Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle. Long active in Democratic politics, he ran in 2004 for Milwaukee County Executive against Scott Walker.

Mr. Riemer is a graduate of Harvard College (AB 1970) and Harvard Law School (JD 1975). He is the author of *The Prisoners of Welfare: Liberating America’s Poor from Unemployment and Low Wages* (Praeger, 1988); *Putting Government In Its Place: The Case for a New Deal 3.0* (HenschelHAUS 2019); and numerous articles and op-eds.