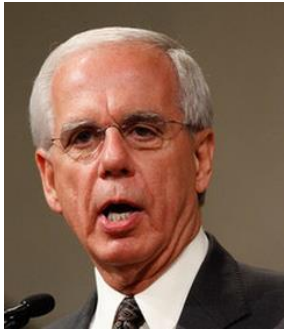


## 2021 PIPC Forum Speaker Bios



**The Honorable Tony Coelho**  
**Chairman, [Partnership to Improve Patient Care](#)**

Tony Coelho is a Forum United States congressman from California and primary author and sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Tony was elected to Congress in 1978 and served for six terms until 1989. He served on the Agriculture, Interior, Veterans Affairs, and Administration Committees during his tenure, specializing in disability rights.

In 1986 Tony was elected House Majority Whip. As the chief vote counter for his party, Tony oversaw a series of Democratic victories in the House on measures ranging from budget to cutting off funds for the war in Central America.

Tony was the original author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, signed into law by President George H.W. Bush. By 1994, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that some 800,000 more people with severe disabilities had found employment than were employed when the bill was first enacted. Tony currently serves as the DNC Disability Council Chair, seeking to ensure that the political process is accessible to people with disabilities.

President Bill Clinton appointed Tony to serve as Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, a position he held from 1994 to 2001. He also served as Vice Chair of the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. In 1998, Clinton appointed Tony as the United States Commissioner General at the 1998 World Expo in Portugal. Clinton also appointed Tony as Co-Chair to the U.S. Census Monitoring Board, a position he held until his appointment as general chairman of the Gore presidential campaign.

"In addition to formerly chairing Life Without Limits and the Disability Pride & Power Committee, he is the past chair of both the Epilepsy Foundation (2005-2007) and the American Association for People with Disabilities (2009-2011) Boards of Directors. He also served as the Acting President and CEO of the Epilepsy Foundation in 2011. In May, 2013, he co-authored an article for the American Journal of Public Health titled "Addressing Stigma Through Social Inclusion" with former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and former Surgeon General David Satcher.

In March 2009, Tony was named as Chairperson for the Partnership to Improve Patient Care (PIPC). In this capacity, Tony works to amplify the voice of the Partnership's diverse members, including people with disabilities, racial and ethnic communities and the elderly, among others.

Tony is the founder of the Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy and Innovation at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, which collaborates with the disability community to cultivate leadership and advocate innovative approaches to advance the lives of people with disabilities. Tony is also the chairman of the DNC's Disability Council. Tony participates annually at New York Law School for its Tony Coelho Lecture in Disability Employment Law & Policy. He has endowed a chair in Public Policy at the University of California in Merced and also in Neurology for Pediatric Surgery at UC-LA.



**Andrés Gallegos**  
Chairman, [National Council on Disability](#)

Andrés J. Gallegos, Esq. Andrés J. Gallegos, Esq. is the Chairman of the National Council on Disability. He is a shareholder with the law firm of Robbins, Salomon and Patt, Ltd., in Chicago, Illinois, where he focuses his practice on disability rights and healthcare law. He founded and directs the law firm's national disability rights practice, which has as its emphasis improving access to healthcare and wellness programs for persons across all types of disabilities. He is the immediate past Chairman of the Board of Directors of Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago, Chicago's Center for Independent Living, and is a two-term past-member of the Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois, having been appointed by the governor. He is also a board member of ADA 25 Advancing Leadership Institute, a Chicago-based non-for profit whose mission is to increase civic engagement and diverse leadership in the Chicago region by developing and building a network of leaders with disabilities. He is the 2015 recipient of the Paul G. Hearne Leadership Award from the American Association of People with Disabilities. He has written numerous articles for national and state professional healthcare and legal organizations on matters relating to the application of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act to healthcare providers, and is a highly-sought out lecturer on accessible healthcare and disability rights. He graduated with Honors from the University of Southern Mississippi, with a B.S. in Business Administration, and he attained a Juris Doctorate from the St. Louis University School of Law. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force, serving honorably for 14 years.



**Caitlin McCormick, JD**  
Associate Director, Public Policy; [Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute](#)

Caitlin McCormick, JD, is Associate Director, Public Policy, at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

Before joining PCORI, McCormick was an associate director and clinical instructor of law with the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation at Harvard Law School. She taught health law and policy to law students, focusing on the legislative process and tools for advancing policy goals in Congress. Before Harvard, McCormick was a policy attorney with the health policy practice groups at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP and Patton Boggs LLP in Washington, DC, where she advised healthcare companies and industry coalitions on a wide variety of legislative, regulatory, and government oversight matters.

McCormick earned her BA in international affairs from the George Washington University, and a JD from the Boston University School of Law.



**Sara van Geertruyden**  
Executive Director, [Partnership to Improve Patient Care](#)

Sara van Geertruyden counsels and manages PIPC, a diverse group of healthcare organizations representing patients, healthcare providers, researchers and innovators, and other groups to promote comparative effectiveness research that supports patient access, informed healthcare decision-making and continued medical progress. In this role, she is responsible for assuring that the voice of PIPC's members is heard by those implementing CER programs, including PCORI. She came to PIPC as a healthcare and welfare policy expert with 20 years of experience. Previously, she worked for former Senator John Breaux from 1996-2003. In 2003, she joined the healthcare policy group at Patton Boggs LLP, and in 2011 she joined Thorn Run Partners. She received a BA from Wake Forest University and a JD from Catholic University.



**Jennifer McNary**  
Patient Advocate

Jenn McNary is a trusted voice in the rare disease community, as a mother, public speaker and fierce advocate. Her work in the rare disease space as a thought leader earned her the Ryan's Quest Ryan's Hero award in 2013, and the prestigious 2017 Meyer- Whalley instrument of change award. Formerly as the director of outreach and advocacy at a Massachusetts based non-profit foundation, she was responsible for the organization of the largest FDA advisory committee hearing in history, with over 1000 duchenne advocates, families, clinicians and researchers in attendance. There are currently only three drugs approved for Duchenne, Exondys51, Vyondys53 and Emflaza, though in various roles, Jenn was involved in the approval process for all three. Jenn has unique experience in the drug development field, as a parent of children enrolled in the clinical trials, an advocate engaging with the regulators and as a patient engagement professional in the life sciences.

Currently, Jenn is the Executive Director, Head of Patient Advocacy and Engagement at Fulcrum Therapeutics and consulting in the biotechnology space with an expertise in caregiver/patient engagement. Her other activities include serving as the Founder of One Rare, a non-profit formed to meet the needs of young adults with rare and chronic conditions and raising her children in Massachusetts.



**Meghan Moyer**  
Director of Public Policy, Disability Right Oregon

Meghan Moyer has been at DRO since March 2021. As Disability Rights Oregon's Public Policy Director, Meghan leads the organization's efforts to promote the civil and human rights of people with disabilities and people with mental health conditions through legislation and policy advocacy. As a registered lobbyist, Meghan leads development of Disability Rights Oregon's legislative agenda and coordinates the organization's response to legislative and administrative policy.

Before joining Disability Rights Oregon's staff, Meghan spent two years as Director of Government Relations at Portland Community College and eight years as SEIU Local 503's lobbyist and political and policy strategist. At SEIU Local 503, Meghan led the union's efforts to pass SB 1452 to allow non-Medicaid seniors and people with disabilities to purchase home care services through the Oregon Home Care Commission and lobbied for Oregon's K-Plan waiver resulting in savings of more than \$100 million and significant reinvestment in services for seniors and people with disabilities.

Meghan worked in Washington, D.C., at the National Parent Teacher Association where she lobbied on TANF, childcare, child abuse, foster care, juvenile justice, social services, and afterschool programs, among other issues.

Between working in policy, politics, and lobbying, Meghan is a third generation contractor. She owned and operated MW Moyer Construction. Meghan serves as Vice Chair of the Oregon Trade Women's Board of Directors.

Meghan is former staff at the Oregon Legislature. Meghan is a dedicated coalition builder committed to social, economic, and racial justice.



**Richard Xie, PhD**

**Health Economics and Outcomes Research (HEOR) Manager, [Innovation and Value Initiative](#)**

Richard Xie, is a health economist and serves as Health Economics and Outcomes Research (HEOR) Manager at the Innovation and Value Initiative. He has a track record of conducting HEOR studies to inform health policy design and valuation of pharmaceutical therapies. Formerly he was a HEOR consultant at the Analysis Group, managing a portfolio of studies to demonstrate the value of novel therapies for pharmaceutical clients. Xie was also a health policy researcher at the Leonard D. Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics at the University of Southern California, examining policy questions in medication non-adherence, health disparities, and healthcare innovation evaluation. His work has been published in leading journals including Journals of the American College of Cardiology, Journal of General Internal Medicine, and PLOS One. Xie earned his doctorate in economics from the University of Southern California.



**Elisabeth M. Oehrlein, PhD, MS**

**Assistance Vice President, Research and Programs; [National Health Council](#)**

Elisabeth M. Oehrlein, Ph.D., MS, is Assistant Vice President, Research & Programs, at the National Health Council, joining the organization in July 2018. Dr. Oehrlein is a mixed-methods researcher with expertise in value/health technology assessment, outcomes research, and patient-focused medical product development. Her research interests include patient journey/experience mapping and applying patient experiences when developing real-world research to ensure studies reflect the "real world" as closely as possible. She is an active member of HTAI's Patient and Citizen Involvement Group, as well as

the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research, where she holds leadership roles in the Patient-Centered and Real-World Evidence Special Interest Groups. She has published widely in medical, economic, and health policy journals and serves as an Associate Editor of Value in Health.

Dr. Oehrlein holds a BA from Franklin & Marshall College, an MS in Epidemiology from the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Department of Epidemiology and Human Genetics, and a Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.