

DO CHILDREN HAVE A SEAT AT AMERICA'S FISCAL TABLE?

Speaker Biographies

Jennifer L. Brooks, an independent consultant, provides advice and support to philanthropy, nonprofits, and governments on using evaluation, metrics, and evidence-based practice to strengthen the impact of programs for children and families. Most recently, Brooks served as senior program officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, helping shape the foundation's strategic investments in high-quality public early learning programs. Before joining the foundation, Brooks managed technical assistance to states on human services, workforce, and economic development programs at the National Governors Association and led a research and evaluation portfolio for the federal Head Start program. She also served on a National Academy of Sciences panel evaluating methods for promoting better use of economic evidence in social programs for children. Brooks received her doctoral and master's degrees in human development and family studies from Penn State University and a master's degree in public policy from the University of Chicago.

Indivar Dutta-Gupta is coexecutive director at the Georgetown Center on Poverty and Inequality, where he leads work to develop and advance ideas for reducing domestic poverty and economic inequality, with particular attention to gender and racial equity. Dutta-Gupta also serves on the National Academy of Social Insurance's board of directors and is a member of the Institute for Research Poverty, Employment and Self-Sufficiency Network, and the Research Task Force for the Gates Foundation's Postsecondary Value Commission. Previously, Dutta-Gupta was project director at Freedman Consulting LLC, leading strategic initiatives for major philanthropies, children's groups, and workers' organizations. He served as senior policy advisor at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, focusing on budget and tax policies and cross-cutting low-income issues. Earlier, he served as Ways and Means Committee professional staff in the US House of Representatives. Dutta-Gupta was an Emerson National Hunger Fellow at DC Hunger Solutions and the Center for American Progress. He was named a First Focus Campaign for Children Champion for Children and received the Congressional Hunger Center Alumni Leadership Award (2016). He was named one of *Washington Life* magazine's most influential 40-and-Under Leaders (2013) and a 40 and under rising star (2016). Dutta-Gupta is an honors graduate of the University of Chicago and a Harry S. Truman Scholar.

Heather Hahn is a senior fellow in the Center for Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute. She is a national expert on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) with two decades of experience conducting nonpartisan research on the well-being of children and families, including TANF, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and other supports for low-income families, as well as education, labor, and other policy issues. She coleads Urban's From Safety Net to Solid Ground initiative, providing timely and rigorous analyses of state and federal policy changes, and the Kids' Share project, examining federal spending and tax expenditures on children. Hahn co-led the Work Support Strategies evaluation of state efforts to modernize families' access to nutrition assistance, child care, and Medicaid. She has extensive experience leading projects and designing and conducting implementation case studies related to supports for low-income families. Hahn has authored dozens of reports and has considerable experience disseminating research to diverse audiences. She has testified before Congress and has been interviewed and quoted by major print and radio media, including NPR, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, *National Review*, the *Atlantic*, and *USA Today*. Before joining Urban, Hahn was an assistant director for education, workforce, and income security issues at the US Government Accountability Office. She received a master's degree from Duke University and a doctoral degree in political science from Stanford University.

Julia B. Isaacs, a senior fellow in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute, is an expert in child and family policy with wide-ranging knowledge of government programs and budgets. She leads Urban's Kids' Share analyses of public spending on children; directs research studies on Head Start and child care; and is evaluating state efforts to modernize families' access to nutrition assistance, child care, and Medicaid. Isaacs spent half her career in government: as a budget analyst at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and a senior civil servant at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). While at the CBO, she was responsible for estimating the costs of legislation affecting food stamps, child nutrition, child care, and child welfare programs. At HHS, she directed a team of data analysts in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, providing senior officials with analyses of legislative and budgetary proposals related to welfare reform, child care, and other human services policies. Since her days at the CBO, she has retained her interest in cost estimation and nonpartisan analysis. Before joining Urban, Isaacs was a Brookings Institution fellow, coauthoring the Pew-funded study, *Gaining or Losing Ground: Economic Mobility in America*, and studying the school readiness of low-income children and the effects of the recession on children. She has also conducted research at the American Institutes for Research and the Institute for Research on Poverty. Isaacs has a master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

Mattie Quinn is a health policy journalist and writer and spent the past four years at *Governing* magazine before it folded in August. There she wrote extensively about health disparities and the social safety net, with a particular focus on mental health, women's health, and Medicaid. She also launched the magazine's first podcast, *The 23 Percent*, where she interviewed prominent woman politicians at the state and local levels. Her health writing has appeared in various other media outlets, from *SELF Magazine*, *City and State New York*, and *Politico*. She has a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University, where she concentrated on health reporting.

C. Eugene Steuerle is Richard B. Fisher Chair at the Urban Institute, cofounder of the Tax Policy Center, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Treasury for Tax Analysis, former President of the National Tax Association, and originator of the Kids Share series of studies. Steuerle is also author, coauthor, or coeditor of 18 books and over 1,500 articles, briefs, reports, and congressional testimonies. His books include *Dead Men Ruling*, which won the Teachers Insurance Annuity Association of America-College Retirement Equities Fund's Paul Samuelson award, and *Contemporary US Tax Policy* (2nd edition). He also writes a column, *The Government We Deserve*.

Sarah Rosen Wartell is the president of Urban Institute, the third president of the Urban Institute since it was founded in 1968. During her tenure, Urban has "elevated the debate" by bringing more of its insights from research to federal, state, and local government and practice; becoming a leader in research communications and data visualization; and undertaking an ambitious program of business systems and technology modernization. Previously, Wartell was deputy assistant to the president for economic policy and deputy director of the National Economic Council. At the US Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1993 to 1998, she advised the federal housing commissioner on housing finance, mortgage markets, and consumer protection. Later, she was a consultant to the bipartisan Millennial Housing Commission. After government service, Wartell was the founding chief operating officer and then executive vice president of the Center for American Progress. Before her tenure in government, she practiced law with the Washington, DC, firm Arnold & Porter. Wartell serves on the board of the Center for Law and Social Policy and on Bank of America's National Community Advisory Council. She previously served on the boards of the Low Income Investment Fund, the Center for Urban Science and Progress at New York University, and the Corporation for Enterprise Development. Her areas of expertise include community development, consumer finance, asset building, and housing finance. Wartell has a bachelor's degree with honors in urban affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. She has a doctoral degree from Yale Law School.