

## WEBINAR FACULTY BIOS

**DANIEL CUKOR, Ph.D.**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn, NY where he has the roles of researcher, clinician, and educator. Daniel received his doctorate in Clinical Health Psychology from Ferkauf Graduate School/Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Cukor has a long-standing interest in the psychosocial needs of patients with medical comorbidity. He is the author of many articles on the topic and has been the PI on several trials studying the mental health needs of patients with end stage renal disease. His current interests include depression, non-compliance, sleep, anxiety and the adherence behaviors of patients with renal disease.

**DEREK FORFANG** is Chair of the Forum's Kidney Patient Advisory Council. He is Chair of Network 17's Patient Advisory Council and member of their Medical Review Board and Board of Directors. He is co-author of "Navigating the Dialysis System: An Interactive Guide for Dialysis Patients." Mr. Forfang has been an ESRD patient since 1999 utilizing various treatment modalities including transplantation, peritoneal dialysis, and in-center hemodialysis.

**JOSEPH KARAN** is Vice-Chair of the Forum's Kidney Patient Advisory Council and KPAC Representative to the Forum's Medical Advisory Council. He is the Subject Matter Expert for Network 7's new patient programs. Mr. Karan is the Director of Advocacy and Education for the National Kidney Foundation of Florida and has been the Director of the Annual Tampa Kidney Walk since 2012.

**ANNE PUGH, MSW, LCSW**, is a Patient Services Manager at Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network 17. She has more than 17 years of experience in healthcare, including five years in patient services for the Networks. Ms. Pugh's extensive knowledge of the Federal ESRD Conditions for Coverage allows her to maximize her experience in bio-psychological knowledge in chronic disease. She has worked as a dialysis social worker for 13 years, and uses her assessment skills to work with patients, staff, and family members, in both crisis and support situations, to meet the patient and their family "where they are at." Ms. Pugh specializes in facilitating patient and family adjustment to changes in health status. She helps clinical teams to improve their processes through practice redesign, including a focus on continuity of care, discharge planning, patient empowerment, and the avoidance of hospitalization.