



**25 Years of Improving Women's Retirement Security  
Where We Stand: Possibilities & Progress!  
October 29, 2021**

**PRESENTER BIOS**

**Ramsey Alwin**

Ramsey Alwin is the President and CEO of the National Council on Aging (NCOA). Ms. Alwin notably designed a new measure of economic security for older adults and worked to introduce the Measuring American Poverty Act in Congress to redefine the federal poverty measure to better account for older adults' cost of living. Her efforts lead to the U.S. Census Bureau formally implementing the Supplemental Poverty Measure that more accurately demonstrates the elder poverty count and their true needs. Prior to her role as President and CEO of NCOA, Ms. Alwin was the Director, Thought Leadership and Financial Resilience at AARP. She holds a bachelor's degree from Simmons University and a master's degree from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University.

**Karen Andres**

Karen Andres is the Director of Policy and Market Solutions as well as the Project Director of the Retirement Savings Initiative at the Aspen Institute Financial Security Program. In this role, Ms. Andres works to deliver promising solutions to American families and their most pressing financial security challenges. Previously, Ms. Andres worked at the Financial Health Network for over ten years and led the development of the Financial Health Network itself. Her career began in the retirement industry as a bilingual 401(k) plan educator for both Wells Fargo Institutional Trust Services and Strong Funds. Ms. Andres holds an M.B.A and M.P.P from the University of Michigan and earned a bachelors from Indiana University in Spanish and Art History.

**Toni Brown**

Toni Brown is the Head of the Senior Retirement Strategy at Capital Group. Ms. Brown has been with Capital Group for six years and has 30 years of investment industry experience. Ms. Brown holds an MBA from Arizona State University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Denver. Before her work at Capital group, Ms. Brown was the director of U.S client consulting and the U.S defined contribution leader for Mercer Investment Consulting. Ms. Brown holds a Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is based in San Francisco.

**Catherine Collinson**

Catherine Collinson is CEO and president of the nonprofit Transamerica Institute and Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies. Ms. Collinson is a retirement and market trends expert and champion for Americans who are at risk of not achieving a financially secure retirement. She oversees all research and outreach initiatives, including the Annual Transamerica Retirement Survey. In 2016, she was honored with a Hero Award from the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER) for her tireless efforts in helping improve retirement security among women. Ms. Collinson earned her bachelor's degree in British and American literature at Scripps College, Claremont, California, and her master's of business administration at the University of California, Irvine.

### **Richard Eisenberg**

Richard Eisenberg is the Managing Editor of Next Avenue as well as the editor of Next Avenue's Money and Work & Purpose Channels. In this role, Mr. Eisenberg seeks to help individuals manage their personal finances, find jobs, switch fields, volunteer and help find purpose in the individual's life. He is also a graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and has spent decades working in the various spheres of work and personal finance. Mr. Eisenberg is an avid reader, blogger, and author of two books: *How to Avoid a Midlife Financial Crisis* and *The Money Book of Personal Finance*. He has made it his mission to write and edit stories that are both practical and useful to help relieve the stress of career topics and finances for his readers.

### **Mary Beth Franklin**

Mary Beth Franklin is a Contributing Editor at Investment News specializing in Social Security, Medicare, and retirement income. Prior to her work at Investment News, she was a financial journalist for more than forty years and covered topics ranging from the federal budget and tax policies as a Capitol Hill reporter for United Press International to Consumer Finances as a writer and editor at Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine. She also received a bachelor's degree in Journalism from American University, where she mentors' journalism students. Not only is Ms. Franklin a Certified Financial Planner, but she is also the author of "Maximizing Your Social Security Retirement Benefits" and host of the Retirement Repair Shop podcast.

### **Dr. Mildred Garcia**

Dr. Mildred Garcia is the President of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). As President of AASCU, Dr. Garcia works as an advocate for public higher education as well as influencing federal policy and regulations on behalf of AASCU's member colleges and universities. Prior to Dr. Garcia's role as the AASCU President, Dr. Garcia was the President of California State University, Fullerton, where she was an active member of the AASCU, including chairing the AASCU Council of State Representative and serving on the AASCU Board of Directors. Notably, Dr. Garcia is the first Latina to lead one of the six presidentially based higher education associations in Washington, D.C. as well as to be named one of Washington's Most Influential People by Washingtonian Magazine in 2021.

### **Kerry Hannon**

Kerry Hannon is a leading expert and strategist on work and jobs, entrepreneurship, personal finance and retirement. She is a frequent keynote speaker and podcast and radio commentator. Ms. Hannon is a columnist and regular contributor to *The New York Times*, *MarketWatch*, *Forbes* and the PBS website *NextAvenue.org*. Ms. Hannon is also the author of more than a dozen books, including *Great Pajama Jobs: Your Complete Guide to Working From Home*; *Never Too Old To Get Rich: The Entrepreneurs Guide To Starting a Business Mid-Life*; *Great Jobs for Everyone 50+*; and *Money Confidence*.

### **Shawn Hausman**

Shawn Hausman is Chair of the Women's Institute for Secure Retirement (WISER) Board of Directors. She has over 35 years of experience as a public affairs and communications professional. Ms. Hausman recently retired from the American Council on Life Insurers, where she served many years as Senior Vice President, Public Affairs. As a member of senior management, she directed all aspects of the association's communications strategies on federal

and state issues. This included overseeing major advocacy campaigns on tax and retirement security issues that encompassed message development and research; media and advertising on traditional and digital platforms; and grassroots outreach and coalition building.

### **Pam Hess**

Pam Hess is the Vice-President of research and member engagement at Defined Contribution, Institutional Investment Association. Prior to her role as Vice-President for DCIIA, Ms. Hess served as the Director of Retirement Research at Aon Hewitt where she created and directed the retirement research efforts. She also worked on the financial side of Aon Hewitt as well as Smith Barney. In addition to being a CFA, Ms. Hess also received a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Illinois, Chicago, as well as a master's in business administration from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

### **Amy Hinojosa**

Amy Hinojosa is the President and CEO of MANA, A National Latina Organization. Previously, she served as Executive Director of the National Association of Hispanic Publications, Inc. (NAHP), NAHP Media LLC, and the National Hispanic Press Foundation (NHPF). Ms. Hinojosa serves on the Board of Directors of the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility and the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, the Hispanic Technology and Telecommunications Partnership. She is a member of the Diversity Council for the El Rey Network. Ms. Hinojosa is a Huffington Post contributor and writes about issues impacting Latinas. Originally from Baytown, Texas, she is an alumna of the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas.

### **Cindy Hounsell**

Cindy Hounsell is the President of the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER), a nonprofit organization that she founded in 1996 to improve opportunities for women to secure retirement income and to educate the public about the inequities that disadvantage women in retirement. An attorney and retirement expert, Ms. Hounsell has testified before Congress and has served as a delegate for a number of White House summits and conferences, including the last two White House Conferences on Aging, the White House Social Security Conference and each of the National Retirement Saver Summits. She has authored many chapters, columns, articles, op-eds, papers and booklets on women and retirement, and has been widely quoted in various media and publications including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes/PBS Next Avenue*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *CNN*, *CNBC* and *NPR's All Things Considered*, *Morning Edition* and *Marketplace*. Ms. Hounsell provides technical assistance to national organizations as well as trainings to leaders and grassroots advocates as the director of the National Resource Center on Women and Retirement Planning. WISER has operated the Center for 23 years with the U.S. Administration on Aging. In 2018, Ms. Hounsell was awarded a lifetime achievement award by the Plan Sponsor Council of America. Ms. Hounsell was also named a 2015 Influencer in Aging by Next Avenue. She was named by *Women's eNews* as one of 21 Leaders for the 21st Century, and *Money* magazine named her one of its 40 Money Heroes.

### **Jenny Johnson**

Jenny Johnson is President and Chief Executive Officer of Franklin Resources, Inc. In this role, Ms. Johnson is responsible for not only the operation of all aspects of the business but also long-range strategic objectives and driving corporate priorities. Since joining Franklin Resources in 1988, she has worked in various roles such as the Chief Operating Officer where she was responsible for global retail and institutional distribution efforts. She also oversaw client services and the company's high net worth business, Fiduciary Trust

Company International. She earned her bachelor's in economics from the University of California at Davis. Ms. Johnson has been recognized as one of the Most Influential Women in Bay Area Business in 2010 and 2011. She was also one of ten executives named to Money Management Executive's inaugural list of Top Women in Asset Management in 2014.

### **Karyne Jones**

Karyne Jones is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Caucus and Center on Black Aging, Inc. (NCBA) and NCBA Housing Management and Development Corporation. Previously, Ms. Jones was the Executive Director of Federal Relations with SBC Telecommunications, now AT&T. During this time, she represented the company's corporate political action committee with national political organizations. She was also a Legislative Aide to Congressman Andrew Young and went on to serve as the Public Affairs Officer and White House Liaison during his tenure as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. Ms. Jones is a graduate of Clark Atlanta University where she received her bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Northern Illinois University with a master's degree in Public Affairs. She also earned a second master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University.

### **Nancy LeaMond**

Nancy LeaMond is the Chief Advocacy and Engagement Officer at AARP. In this capacity, Ms. LeaMond leads government affairs, legislative campaigns and manages public education programs as well as community engagement. Prior to her work at AARP, Ms. LeaMond served as the Chief of Staff and Assistant U.S. trade representative for Congressional Affairs at the office of the United States Trade Representative. She also served in the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Education, and on Capitol Hill as Chief of Staff to a senior member of Congress. Significantly, Ms. Lemond also received the first Lifetime Achievement award from the Women in Government Relations and has been named as a "Top Lobbyist" every year since 2011. She holds a bachelor's degree from Smith College and a master's in public policy and city planning from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

### **Susan K. Neely**

Susan K. Neely is the president and CEO of the American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI), the nation's leading trade association dedicated to providing products and services that contribute to Americans' financial and retirement security. As president and CEO, Ms. Neely drives public policy and advocacy on behalf of ACLI's member companies that represent 95 percent of industry assets and serve 90 million families. Ms. Neely has long been recognized as a leading voice in public policy and advocacy in Washington, D.C. She served as special assistant to President George W. Bush and helped create the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and later became the first DHS Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs. Most recently, she led the American Beverage Association (ABA) for 13 years as president and CEO. A native of Iowa, Ms. Neely holds an undergraduate degree in journalism and French civilization from the University of Iowa and a master's degree in public administration from Drake University.

### **Mikaylee O'Connor**

Mikaylee O'Connor is a Vice President, Senior Defined Contribution Strategist for PGIM D.C. Solutions. In this capacity, Ms. O'Connor provides leadership to Defined Contribution plans on investment issues, plan design, investment structure, and best industry practices. Her leadership supports innovative solutions that help individuals accumulate wealth for their retirement. Before Ms. O'Connor's role at PGIM, she was the Head of Defined Contribution

Solutions for RVK, INC. where she focused on the ongoing development of RVK's D.C practice. Ms. O'Connor is actively involved with several industry organizations such as Defined Contribution Institutional Investment Association (DCIIA), and the National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators, Inc. She holds a bachelor's in Finance from Portland State University.

### **Madeline Rapp**

Madeline Rapp has worked in the financial industry for over 10 years. In her current role as an Associate in Dimensional's Retirement Distribution Channel, she supports the Platform Defined Contribution team in analysis and research, reporting and operations, and virtual content strategy and execution. Ms. Rapp assists the team's Regional Directors in relationship management and business development initiatives with defined contribution, 529, and HSA platform clients. Ms. Rapp joined Dimensional in 2019 after serving for five years as a Senior Service and Operations Specialist for Business Financial Group, an advisory firm in San Antonio, where she managed client service and operations for the Corporate Retirement and Individual Financial Planning groups, with a focus on the implementation, maintenance, and development of retirement plans and client relationships. Ms. Rapp is an Accredited Investment Fiduciary® and has a BA from St. Lawrence University, where she studied Government and Economics.

### **Anna Rappaport**

Anna Rappaport is an internationally recognized expert on the impact of change on retirement systems and workforce issues. She is also an actuary, consultant, author, and speaker. Ms. Rappaport has focused on specific issues such as women's security, disability, phased retirement, contribution plans, and improving the ability for an individual to plan. Ms. Rappaport is the past- President of the Society of Actuaries and chairs the Committee on Post-Retirement Needs and Risks. She also received an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. In 2005, Ms. Rappaport started Anna Rappaport Consulting and was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017 from the Plan Sponsor Council of America and the Lillywhite Award from ERBI in 2018.

### **Aron Szapiro**

Aron Szapiro is the head of retirement studies and public policy for Morning Star. Before this role, Mr. Szapiro was the Head of Policy Research and Director of Policy Research for Morning Star as well. In 2016, Mr. Szapiro testified in front of the Senate Committee on Aging and discussed innovations that could improve retirement security. Prior to his time at MorningStar, he was a Policy and Financial Expert at HelloWallet. Mr. Szapiro holds a bachelor's in history from Grinnell College and a master's in Public Policy from the John Hopkins University.

### **Kara Watkins**

Kara Watkins is the Senior Manager for Bipartisan Commission Policy's (BPC) Funding Our Future campaign. Prior to Ms. Watkins's role at BPC, she worked as the Director of national programs for the Friends of the National Museum of the American Latino Campaign for The Raben Group. Ms. Watkins began her career on Capitol Hill and received her bachelor's from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she earned a major in both Political Science and Latin American Studies.