About the Faculty

**JENI KAPLAN** is a senior health law attorney at Massachusetts Law Reform Institute specializing in eligibility for and access to services and supports for older adults and individuals with disabilities. Since joining MLRI in 2024, Jeni dedicates her time to working with community groups and advocacy coalitions to improve MassHealth members’ access to health care, through administrative and legislative advocacy, training, technical support, and litigation. Prior to MLRI, she worked at the Center for Public Representation as a senior litigation attorney, providing individual representation and co-counseling in a systemic reform lawsuit focused on community integration.  Jeni also spent ten years in the federal courts as a career law clerk for three judges. (January 2025)

**SONIA AMADO i**s the Director of Health Access and Wellness services at the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). Sonia has been with BPHC since 2015 and has served in her current role for the past five years overseeing the Mayor’s Health Line (MHL). Sonia’s work concentrates on ensuring that client needs and the program goals are being met. She manages the day-to-day operations of MHL, including health insurance enrollment, education, and connecting residents to social services. Prior to working at BPHC, Sonia worked at the University of Miami Hospital and South Shore Hospital’s Case Management department on quality improvement initiatives. She earned her B.S. in Public Health from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and her M.P.H from the University of Miami.  (January 2025)

**ANDREW P. COHEN**has nearly two decades of experience as a consumer advocate, community organizer, and health care policy expert. He is the Director and Lead Attorney for HLA’s Access to Care and Coverage (ACC) Practice. Since joining HLA in 2014, Andrew has helped over 1000 Massachusetts residents access needed health care services. His advocacy has led to landmark policy changes that have improved access to care for thousands of MassHealth members, new arrivals to the United States, trans and gender-diverse people, and people living with disabilities. Prior to HLA, Andrew led a Medical Debt Resolution Program at The Access Project, a non-profit health policy group, and worked as a Senior Policy Analyst at UMass Medical School’s Center for Health Law and Economics where he focused on implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act. Andrew graduated from Northeastern University School of Law where he was a Public Interest Law Fellow. He holds a Master’s degree in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelor’s degree with High Honors from Wesleyan University, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. Andrew is admitted to practice in Massachusetts and in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.  (December 2024)

**HANNAH FRIGAND** is the Director of Education & Enrollment Services at Health Care For All. Hannah has been with Health Care For All since 2006 and oversees HCFA's public program portfolio including enrollment, education, policy and advocacy. Hannah manages the day-to-day operations of the consumer HelpLine and an online community for enrollment assisters across the state. Hannah also guides HCFA’s policy work related to state public programs, including MassHealth and the Health Connector. Using the insights gained from HelpLine callers and enrollment assisters statewide, Hannah plays a crucial role in ensuring that HCFA’s policy and advocacy work meet the needs of consumers throughout Massachusetts. She received her B.A. in Public Policy from Suffolk University.

**ASHLEY JONES-PIERCE** is a staff attorney in Elder, Health and Disability Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services. In her role, she works to ensure her clients access to health care through direct representation and policy advocacy. She received her B.A. from Colby College, J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law and M.P.H. from Tufts University School of Medicine. (January 2025)

**KATE SYMMONDS** is a senior health law attorney at Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI). Through policy advocacy and community lawyering, Kate focuses her work on access to health care for children, pregnant and postpartum people, immigrants, and older adults. Prior to joining MLRI, Kate spent 6 years as a trial attorney working in civil litigation in California. Her practice focused on representing low-income clients enrolled in both Medicaid and Medicare, who were abused or neglected in long term care and skilled nursing facilities. (January 2025)