Board of Directors

**ALAN J. ABRAMSON**

Abramson is a professor in the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University and founding director of the school’s Center for Nonprofit Management, Philanthropy and Policy. He also is a senior fellow at the Aspen Institute. For more than 10 years, he directed the Aspen Institute’s nonprofit program, overseeing the Nonprofit Sector Research Fund and other initiatives. He was on the research staff of the Urban Institute, where he worked on a variety of domestic public policy issues. He has authored books and articles, won two American Political Science Association awards, and been named one of the 50 most influential U.S. nonprofit sector leaders.

**HELEN FRARY**

Frary is a senior advisor at the United Nations Development System Transition Team. She currently is on loan to the United Nations Secretariat in New York as senior advisor in the Transition Team working on reform of the United Nations development system. She served two years in Lusaka as the country director for Zambia and five years as chief to UNAIDS Board and UN Relations. She has personal experience caring for a loved one with a neurodegenerative condition.

**ZENAWIT MELESSE**

Melesse is a communications and public information consultant. She has 20 years of international work experience in the United Nations, government, diplomatic and academic sectors. Her expertise is in strategic development and behavior change communications, community dialogue and engagement, and broadcasting and information communication systems analysis, and design and implementation. She was the communication advisor to the Ethiopian Minister of Health and lead communication specialist for UNAIDS’ Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office.

**BRUCE PACKETT**

Packett is the executive director of the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM). He worked for 14 years with AAHIVM directing programs supporting and educating HIV practitioners and promoting accessible, quality care for those living with HIV. He was first touched by chronic illness when his grandfather passed away from complications of pulmonary fibrosis and has a keen interest in helping people and families directly impacted by chronic illnesses. He studied at the University of Maryland and is a writer, consultant and part-time musician.
BRUCE RECTOR, M.D.  
Rector is co-chair of Doctors for America’s Drug Price, Value and Affordability Campaign, where he develops partnerships and leads physician members in efforts to make sure drugs are affordable and accessible for patients. He has 20 years of experience working on issues relating to care access and pharmaceutical innovation as well as leading international health care communications companies. He testifies on drug affordability and patient access and lectures at the Pritzker School of Medicine and the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He studied pharmaceutical policy and pharmacoconomics at Utrecht University in the Netherlands and attended the University of Minnesota Medical School.

JAMES ROCK  
(board chair)  
Rock is a primary caregiver to his wife, Sandra, who was diagnosed with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) in 2001. He spent 35 years as the founder and owner of Rock & Associates, a consumer products broker. His advocacy work to educate policymakers on IPF and its impacts, including five years of outreach to Members of Congress, resulted in the passing of a House Resolution identifying IPF as a terminal disease.

CHERYL SULLIVAN STAVELEY  
Sullivan Staveley has dedicated her life to Huntington’s disease (HD) awareness and care, having been a caregiver to her first husband and younger daughter, both of whom she lost to HD. She was first exposed to HD in nursing school and later left her job as a nurse to focus on HD caregiving, education and advocacy when it impacted her family. She created a support network for other families and travels across the world to attend health conferences and appeal to lawmakers.

GREG SMILEY  
As founder and CEO of Adira Foundation, Smiley is a nonvoting, ex officio board member.