

Maria Montanaro is a retired health care professional with over 24 years of senior executive management experience. She most recently served in the RI Governor's cabinet, overseeing the department of Behavioral Health, Hospitals and Developmental Disabilities. She dedicated her career to serving the medically underserved, most notably as the Chief Executive Officer of Thundermist Health Center for 14 years as well as serving in chief executive positions of two Medicaid Managed Care plans. Maria holds an M.S.W. from the University of Illinois in health policy and a B.S. from the University of Massachusetts. Maria has served a numerous non-profit board, including Festival Ballet of RI and the Jamestown (RI) Arts Center. A lifelong musician, she currently sings in the choir at First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington and has studied the cello. She and her husband of 39 years have three adult sons and two grandchildren. They make their home in Jamestown, RI and Wilmington, NC.