

## Ruth Finkelstein, ScD

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### Professional Experience

#### Columbia University

2014-present

**Associate Director, Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center; Director, International Longevity Center; Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management, Mailman School of Public Health.**

Conduct applied research and translate interdisciplinary knowledge on aging and its implications for societies into policy-focused practice to maximize productivity, quality of life, and health across the life course.

- Direct the Age Smart Employer Awards program funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.
- Evaluate multi-site digital and in-person training programs developed by NCOA and funded by Verizon Foundation and many others.
- Direct “Exceeding Expectations,” a digital narrative project about the daily lives of New Yorkers living beyond average life expectancy funded by the New York Community Trust.
- Lead “Age Boom Academy” to educate selected journalists on aging and work.

#### The New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM)

1997- 2014

**Senior Vice President for Policy and Planning; Vice President, Health Policy**

2007 ---2014

Responsible for strategic integration of research, program, and policy initiatives to promote the health of the public through initiatives to promote healthy aging, improve population health and reduce disparities. Advise President and Board on strategic opportunities in the policy environment. Build progressively larger, more diverse, and complex staff teams to translate research to policy to action. Supervise a staff of 20; raise funds from diverse public and private sources.

Accomplishments include:

- Leadership in World Health Organization’s Global Network of Age-friendly Cities, including consulting with Mayors and top officials around the world;
- Design and lead implementation of “Age Smart Employer Award” for New York businesses using strategies to recruit, retain, enhance productivity of multi-generational work force funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation;
- Lead WHO Collaborating Center on Aging, Globalization, and Urbanization, which has responsibility for Age-Friendly Cities in the U.S.;
- Lead statewide policy center and coalition to develop structural approaches to reduce obesity that successfully promoted “Complete Streets” legislation in first year;
- Key role in transformation of drug policy from a criminal justice approach to a public health approach with resultant reform of the “Rockefeller Drug law” mandatory sentencing in New York;
- Key role in passage of “Good Samaritan” law to reduce deaths from drug overdose;

- Developed a public health approach to drug policy that was instrumental in the ending of New York State's Rockefeller drug laws;
- Convened a health re-entry public-private work group that successfully piloted reforms in health access for returning prisoners.
- Principal investigator of a national study demonstrating successfully treating opioid dependence with buprenorphine in AIDS care published as an issue of *JAIDS*;
- Lead the public-private partnership with the Mayor, City Council, and other stakeholders that earned New York City the World Health Organization first accreditation as an Age-Friendly City and winner of first international competition for Age Friendly Cities initiatives;
- Partnered with Trust for America's Health to conduct the return on investment (ROI) analysis that resulted in major funding for community prevention in the federal Accountable Care Act;

**Director, Division of Health Policy (NYAM);**

**Director, Office of Special Populations (NYAM)**

1997-2005

Designed, secured funding for, and directed research and evaluation of policies and services with direct policy implications. Focused on HIV/AIDS care, substance users, the elderly, and immigrants. Topics included adherence; community planning; access barriers; outcome evaluation; issues in financing and resource allocation; and the changing welfare system. Expanded department from one to 15 staff and increased grant support from one to 10-15 grants annually. Served as Principal Investigator (PI) on national studies.

Research with particular policy impact included:

- Publication of analysis revealing high numbers of older adults in New York City aging without Social Security or Medicare;
- Study demonstrated lack of linguistic access to prescription drug information led to City and State policy change;
- Evaluation of models of adherence support for HIV medications influenced federal guidance;
- Analysis of planning councils attention to substance users with HIV influenced reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act;
- Assessment of implementation of expanded syringe availability led to targeted assistance for pharmacies in the Bronx

**New Yorkers for Accessible Health Coverage (NYFAHC), Director**

1994-96

NYFAHC is a coalition of 40 voluntary health organizations advocating for affordable, accessible, appropriate health coverage for people with chronic diseases and disabilities. Accomplishments include leading successful campaign to pass New York State insurance laws: portability of insurance, requirements that HMOs provide comprehensive coverage, and a managed care bill of rights.

**Gay Men's Health Crisis, Policy Director**

1991-94

Managed a staff of ten in policy development, advocacy, and community organizing in the nation's largest AIDS service organization. Issues addressed included health care access; access to appropriate entitlements; effective prevention policy; civil rights and anti-discrimination; effective substance abuse services; and HIV treatment research. Accomplishments include insurance reform, including open enrollment and community rating and limitation of preexisting condition exclusions; expansion of City HIV/AIDS services; expansion of Medicaid coverage. Represented people with HIV/AIDS during the 1994 federal health care reform debate.

**AIDS Action Council, Research Director.** Washington, D.C. 1990-91  
 Directed research and policy analysis for the national association representing the community response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In 1990, AIDS Action (with a staff of 6) spearheaded passage of the Ryan White CARE Act, was a leader in passing the Americans with Disabilities Act, and negotiated presumptive Social Security eligibility for people with HIV/AIDS. Monitored and maintained liaison with federal agencies. Represented the AIDS community in negotiations with HRSA as it drafted first Ryan White CARE Act guidance. Designed and delivered the first technical assistance conference on the Act.

**Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**  
**Chief, Division of Policy Analysis; Director, Governor's Advisory Council on AIDS** 1986-89  
 Managed six professionals in the Secretary's office to develop policy options on issues ranging from home health care to Medicaid case management. Staffed the nation's first Governor's Advisory Council on AIDS, advising on all AIDS-related policy, regulation and legislation. This Council, chaired by Dr. Edward Brandt, was the first to codify the framework for a state-level compassionate response to the epidemic that was emulated by many states.

**Planned Parenthood of Cleveland**  
**Acting Executive Director; Associate Director; Public Affairs Director.** 1981-4  
 Supervised clinics; education and training department; public information and advocacy; development and financial management. Coordinated Planned Parenthood Federation of America's targeted strategy to protect reproductive rights in key legislative districts. Conducted needs assessment, services evaluation, and plan resulting in the relocation and opening of three clinics.  
 Oversaw a resultant doubling in patient population and 50% increase in patient revenues.

## Education

Sc.D. **The Johns Hopkins University, School of Hygiene and Public Health** 1990  
*Delta Omega Honor Society*

MA **Case Western Reserve University, Medical Anthropology** 1979

BA **The University of Michigan,** 1977  
*High Distinction; Phi Beta Kappa*

## Professional Leadership and Awards (selected)

**Next Avenue's 2016 Influencer in Aging**, an award recognizing advocates, researchers, thought leaders, innovators, writers and experts at the forefront of changing how we age and think about aging.

**2016 New York State Press Association Award** for the Exceeding Expectations digital narrative project

**Winner, 2013 Summa Age Friendly Cities and Communities International Innovation Award** awarded for Age Friendly NYC initiative, **International Federation on Aging**

**The 2012 Havermeyer Award**, from the Education Legacy Fund for research challenging accepted perceptions in design, March 2012

**"Game changer, 2012"** national award selected by *Metropolis Magazine*, leading national magazine for architects and design professionals, January, 2012

Strategies to gain support of top leaders for Age friendly Cities. **Plenary Address, Second International Conference for Age-friendly Cities**, Quebec, September 7, 2013

Building an Age-Friendly City: An opportunity for all sectors. **Plenary Address, First International Conference for Age-friendly Cities**, Dublin, September 29, 2011

Strategies for Building an Age-friendly City. **World Demographic Congress, Plenary Session**, St Gallen, Switzerland, September 1, 2011

**EngAGeMent NYC** Planning Committee, 2010-2013

**National Center for Aging in Place, Advisory Board member**, 2010-2014

Age Friendly New York City, **Plenary Session, International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology (IAGG)** Paris, France, July 2009

**New York State Health Foundation Board member**, 2006-8

**Public Health Association of New York City**, Board member, 2007-8

**New York City HIV Prevention Planning Group member**, 1998-2002

**The New York Academy of Medicine**, elected Fellow, 1998

**Stonewall Community Foundation, Distribution Committee member**, 1996-2000

### **Grants & Other Funding (Columbia Aging Center: 2014-2017 only)**

Grant St. Settlement, Principal Investigator "Needs assessment to develop new concept for senior programming in Grand St. Settlement House." 2017-18. \$25,000

IKEA Business Strategy, Co-Investigator (with U. Staudinger). Expert support in the area of lifelong development and aging. 2017-20. \$750,000

President's Global Initiative Fund, Columbia University, Principal Investigator on "Relevance of Generativity in low-resource contexts (slums of Nairobi, Calcutta, and among Haitian immigrants). 2017-18. \$20,000

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Principal Investigator "Age Boom Academy." 2016-18. \$467,837

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Principal Investigator "Age Smart Employer Award, Cycle III" 2016-18. \$450,000

CDC/NIOSH, Principal Investigator "Case studies of Age Smart Employers." 2016-17. \$25,000

NCOA/Cargill Foundation, Principal Investigator "Aging Mastery Program evaluation." 2016-18. \$75,000

New York Community Trust, Principal Investigator "Exceeding Expectations." 2014-17 (renewal) \$225,000

Atria Senior Living, Principal Investigator (with U. Staudinger) "Development of Diagnostics Assessment Tool and Intervention Programs. 2016-7. \$250,000

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Principal Investigator "Age Smart Employer Award, Cycle II" 2014-15. \$659,000

NCOA/Smith Foundation, Principal Investigator "Aging Mastery Program evaluation." 2016-17. \$10,000

Columbia Global Fund, Co-Investigator "Designing Cities for Aging in China (planning grant)." 2016 \$20,000

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Principal Investigator "Age Smart Employer Award, Cycle I" 201X-1X. \$650,000

NCOA/Verizon Foundation, Principal Investigator "Effects of digital learning." 2015-16. \$120,000

## Publications (selected)

Staudinger, UM, [Finkelstein, R.](#), Calvo, E., and Sivaramakrishnan, K. A Global View on the Effects of Work on Health in Later Life. *The Gerontologist*. April, 2016. 56 (2): S281-S292.

Staudinger, UM and [Finkelstein, R.](#) "Maximizing our Aging Potential," AARP International. 2015

Block, D. and [Finkelstein, R.](#) "Age Smart Industry Guides." Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center. 2015.

Goldman, L., [Finkelstein, R.](#), Shafer, P. and Pugh, T. "Resilient Communities: Empowering Older Adults in disasters and Daily Life." *The New York Academy of Medicine*. 2014.

[Finkelstein R.](#), Kamber Tom. "The Aging City." *Toward a 21<sup>st</sup> Century for All*. Ed. John H. Mollenkopf. New York: The Graduate Center, CUNY. June, 2013. 298-335.

Pugh T., Netherland J., [Finkelstein R.](#), Frederique K., Sayegh G., Meeks Simone-Marie. Blueprint for a Public Health and Safety Approach to Drug Policy. March 2013.

[Finkelstein R.](#), Owusu S., Roher R., Age Smart Employer NYC: Compendium of Strategies and Practices. March 2013.

Vlahov D., Agarwal S., Buckley R., Caiiffa W., Corvalan C., Ezeh A., [Finkelstein R.](#), Friel S., Harpham T., Hossain M., Faria Leao B., Mboup G., Montgomery M., Netherland J., Ompad D., Prasad A., Quinn A., Satterthwaite D., and V. Watson. Roundtable on Urban Living Environment Report: Urban Health Metrics. *Journal of Urban Health* 2011. 88:793-857.

[Finkelstein R.](#), Netherland J, Sylla L, Gourevitch MN, Cajina A, Cheever LW. Policy implications of integrating buprenorphine/naloxone treatment and HIV care. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2011;56.

Egan JE, Netherland J, Gass J, [Finkelstein R.](#), Weiss L, BHIVES Collaborative. Patient perspectives on buprenorphine/naloxone treatment in the context of HIV care. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2011;56,

Altice FL, Bruce RD, Lucas GM, Lum P, Korthuis PT, Flanigan T, Cunningham C, Sullivan LE, Vergara-Rodriguez P, Fiellin DA, Cajina A, Botsko M, Nandi V, Gourevitch M, [Finkelstein R.](#) BHIVES Collaborative. HIV Treatment Outcomes among HIV-infected, Opioid-Dependent Patients Receiving Buprenorphine/Naloxone Treatment and HIV Care: Results from a Multi-site Study. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr*. 2011;56.

Schackman BS, Leff J, Botsko M, Fiellin DA, Altice FL, Korthuis PT, Sohler N, Weiss L, Egan JE, Netherland J, Gass J, [Finkelstein R.](#) BHIVES Collaborative. The cost of integrated HIV care and buprenorphine/naloxone treatment: results of a cross-site evaluation. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2011;56.

Weiss L, Egan JE, Botsko M, Netherland J, Fiellin DA, [Finkelstein R.](#) BHIVES Collaborative. Organization and Evaluation of a multi-site evaluation of integrated buprenorphine/naloxone and HIV treatment: overview of the BHIVES collaborative. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2011;56.

Weiss L, Netherland J, Egan JE, Flanigan T, Fiellin DA, [Finkelstein R.](#) Altice FL, BHIVES Collaborative. Integration of buprenorphine/naloxone treatment into HIV clinical care: lessons from the BHIVES collaborative. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2011;56.

[Finkelstein, R.](#) and Netherland, J. *Age-friendly Cities/New York* in *Urban Health: A Global Perspective*, Vlahov, D. and J Boufford (Eds). 2010: 91-104, New York: Jossey-Bass.

Netherland, J., [Finkelstein, R.](#) and P. Gardner. *Environmental Interventions to Strengthen Resilience: Age-*

*friendly Cities, the New York Experience* in The Handbook of Resilience in Aging: the Key to Successful Aging. Resnick, B., Roberto, K. and L. Gwyther, 2010, Towson: Springer Press.

Lucas G, Chaudhry A, Hsu J, Woodson T, Lau B, Olsen Y, Keruly J, Fiellin D, Finkelstein R, Barditch-Crovo P. Clinic-Based Treatment of Opioid-Dependent HIV-Infected Patients Versus Referral to an Opioid Treatment Program. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 152:704-711. 2010

Netherland, J., Botsko, M., Egan, J., Saxon, A., Cunningham, C., Finkelstein, R., Gourevitch, M., Renner, J., Sohler, N., Sullivan, L., Weiss, L., Fiellin, D. and the BHIVES Collaborative. Factors affecting willingness to provide buprenorphine treatment. *J of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 2009: 36:244-251.

Garcia A, Levi J, Finkelstein R. Evaluation Community-based Prevention Programs. *Journal of Urban Health*, Vol.86:5 August 2009.

Chin J, Botsko M, Behar E, Finkelstein R. More than ancillary: HIV Social Services, Intermediate Outcomes and Quality of Life. *AIDS Care*. 2009

Schackman B, Dastur Z, Rubin D, Berger J, Camhi E, Netherland J, Ni Q, Finkelstein R. Feasibility of Using Audio Computer-Assisted Self-Interview (ACASI) Screening in Routine HIV Care. *AIDS Care*. Vol.21:8. 992-999. August 2009.

Finkelstein R, Garcia A, Netherland J, Walker J. Toward An Age-Friendly New York City: A Findings Report. Fall 2008.

Levi J, Segal L, Juliano, C. (Contributors: Cantor J, Finkelstein R, Netherland J, Garcia A, Ormond B, et al). Prevention for a Healthier America: Investments in Disease Prevention Yield Significant Savings, Stronger Communities. Trust for America's Health. July 2008.

Becker WC, Fiellin DA, Merrill JO, Schulman B, Finkelstein R, Olsen Y, Busch SH. Opioid use disorder in the United States: Insurance status and treatment access. *Drug & Alcohol Dependence*. 94(1-3):207-13, Apr 1, 2008.

Gray B, Scheinmann R, Rosenfeld P, Finkelstein R. Aging without Medicare? Evidence from New York City. *Inquiry*, Vol. 43: 211-221. Fall 2006.

Weiss, L., French, T., Waters, M., Netherland, J., Agins, B., and Finkelstein, R. (2006). Adherence to HAART: Perspectives from Clients in Treatment Support Programs. *Psychology, Health and Medicine*. 11(2); 155-170.

Mannheimer R, Mukherjee R, Hirschhorn LR, Dougherty J, Celano SA, Ciccarone D, Graham KK, Mantell JE, Mundy LM, Eldred L, Botsko M, Finkelstein R. The CASE Adherence Index: A Novel Method for Measuring Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy. *AIDS Care*, Vol. 18(7): 853-861. October 2006.

Schackman, B., Finkelstein, R., Lewis, L, Eldred, L. The Cost of HIV Medication Adherence Support Interventions: Results of A Cross Site Evaluation. *AIDS Care*, Vol. 17(8): 927-937. November 2005.

Finkelstein, R. Ryan White CARE Act Reauthorization 2005: Title I and Title II Health Services Expenditures Patterns. In: *Examination of Fiscal Management and the Allocation of CARE Act Resources*. 1-6 U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. May 2005.

Finkelstein R, Netherland J. The Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in Cities in Handbook of Urban Health: Populations, Methods, and Practice. Galea, S. and Vlahov, D. (Eds.) Springer Science and Business Media, 2005

Finkelstein, R., Tiger, R., Netherland, J. Towards an Understanding of Meeting HIV-infected substance users' needs. Appendix I in Public Financing and Delivery of HIV Care. Institute of Medicine. May 1, 2004.

Weiss, L., McCoy, K., Finkelstein, R. Access and Use of Health Care: Perceptions and Experiences among People who use Heroin and Cocaine. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 2004.

Palen, J., Finkelstein, R., Parrish, B., and Netherland, J. (2004). Resource Guide to the Development of a Community-Based Behavioral Health System for Ryan White CARE Act Clients. Human Resources and Services Administration: Washington, D.C.

Weiss, L., French, T., Finkelstein, R., Waters, M., Mukherjee, R., Agins, B. "HIV Related Knowledge and Adherence to HAART", *AIDS Care*, October 2003, Vol. 15 No. 5 pp 673-679

Tesoriero J, French T, Weiss L, Waters M, Finkelstein R, Agins B. Stability of Adherence to Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy over time among clients enrolled in the Treatment Adherence Demonstration project. *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*. August 2003; 33:484-493

Vlahov, D, Fuller, C., Finkelstein, R., Coffin, P, Blaney, S, Vadnai, L, Dorris, S, Sisco, S, Des Jarlais, D.C., McKnight, C, Bramson, H., Deren, S, Johnson, B, Tortu, S, Golub, A, McMahon, J, Rosenblum, A, Durrah, T, Pouget, E, Kang S, Walker, R, Andia, J. "New York State Expanded Syringe Access Demonstration Program (ESAP) --- Evaluation Report to the Governor and State Legislature". 2003.

Finkelstein, R., Tiger, R. The Public Policy Context of Drug Use in New York City. P. 255-279 in Manual for Primary Care Providers: Effectively Caring for Active Substance Users. The New York Academy of Medicine. 2002.

Finkelstein R. Ramos S. (editors) Effectively Caring for Active Substance Users: A Manual for Primary Care Providers. The New York Academy of Medicine. 2002

Weiss L, Fabri, A., McCoy K, Coffin P, Netherland J, Finkelstein, R. (2002). A Vulnerable Population in a Time of Crisis: Drug Users and the Attacks on the World Trade Centers. *Journal of Urban Health*. 9(3); 392-403.

Finkelstein R., Tiger R, Greenwald R., Mukherjee R. Implementation Issues in Pharmacy Syringe Sale Practices During the First Year of Expanded Syringe Availability in New York City. *Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association*. November/December 2002

Enhancing Community Planning for Active Substance Users in Title I EMAs. With Behar A, and Tiger R. Report for the Human Resources and Services Administration, April 2001.

Towards a comprehensive plan for syringe exchange in New York City. With Amanda Vogel. New York: New York Academy of Medicine, Office of Special Populations, 2000.

Investigation of the adequacy of the adequacy of the community planning process to meet the HIV care needs of active substance users. With Greenberg A, and Lubinski C. In: *Directions in HIV Service Delivery and Care. A Policy Brief. Number 1*. A publication of the Department of Health and Human Services, 1999.

Greenberg B, Berkeman A, Thomas R, Hoos D, Finkelstein R. Astemborski J, Vlahov D. Evaluating supervised HAART in late-stage HIV among drug users: A preliminary report. *The Journal of Urban Health*, December 1999.

Report of the health status of gay men and lesbians in New York City. Bureau of HIV Prevention, New York City Department of Health, June 1999.

Jessop DJ, Finkelstein R. Rosenberg T, Foti H, Ford V, Rautenberg E. The impact of recent immigration policy changes on the receipt of WIC services: An aggregate analysis. *Medical and Health Research Association*. 1998.

The changing environment. A report to the *HIV Health and Human Services Planning Council of New York*.

September 1997.

The Managed Care Consumers' Bill of Rights. A Health Policy Guide for Consumer Advocates (with Cathy Hurwitt and Richard Kirsch). Published by *Robert Wood Johnson*. 1995

Access Barriers to Care for Women with HIV. In: *Treatment Issues*. June 1992.

Abortion: The Politics of Necessity and Choice.(with Elizabeth Fee) *Feminist Studies*. Summer 1986.

Millions of Medical Care Dollars for Indigents. With L. Emmons and J. Burnett. *Journal of Community Health*. Fall 1984.

### **Presentations (selected)**

(2016, November) "Lessons From the Field: Strategies to Change Employment Practices for An Aging Work Force," Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting. New Orleans, LA.

(2016, October) "Age Smart Employer Awards: A Strategy to Encourage Businesses to Hire, Engage, and Retain Older Workers, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. Denver, CO.

(2016, October) "Power of Narrative: Exceeding Expectations," American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. Denver, CO.

(2016, October) "Design for Age-Friendly Living," Panel at The Columbia-Fudan Global Summit on Aging & Health. Shanghai, China.

(2016, July) "Boomer Cities," Panel at The New York Times: Cities for Tomorrow Conference. New York, NY.

(2016, June) Presented at the World Health Organization Global Strategy Meeting on Aging and Health. Geneva, Switzerland.

(2016, May) "The Age Friendly Business Initiative," Age Friendly Business Forum. Ottawa, Canada.

(2016, March) "Strategies of Award-Winning Businesses That Value Older Workers," Workshop at the Aging in America Conference. American Society on Aging. Washington, DC.

(2015, November) "Age Smart Employer Awards: A Strategy to Change Employer Behavior," Age in the Workplace Research Network. Limerick, Ireland.

(2015, October) "Reframing Paradigms: Age Smart Employers," Presentation at X Fórum da Longevidade Bradesco Seguros. São Paulo, Brazil.

(2015, September) "Creating Guiding Principles for Sustainable Age-Friendly Movement," Roundtable sponsored by Grantmakers in Aging. Washington, DC.

(2015, June) "Value Proposition for Age Friendly Communities," Roundtable with Atlanta Regional Planning Commission and Department for the Aging. Atlanta, GA.

(2015, June) "The Benefit of Older Adults in the Workplace." Presentation at Aging 2.0 New York Chapter Meeting. New York, NY.

(2015, June) "Reframing paradigms: Age-smart companies, Age-smart cities, Age-smart governments," Presentation at the Amplify Festival. Amplify: Innovation and Thought Leadership. Sydney, Australia.