
PARTICIPANTS

Mark Baldassare is president and CEO of the Public Policy Institute of California, where he holds the Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Chair in Public Policy. He is a leading expert on public opinion and survey methodology, and has directed the PPIC Statewide Survey since 1998. He is an authority on elections, voter behavior, and political and fiscal reform, authoring ten books and numerous reports on these topics. He often provides testimony before legislative committees and state commissions, and regularly hosts PPIC's Speaker Series, a public forum featuring in-depth interviews with state and national leaders. Previously, he served as PPIC's director of research. Before joining PPIC, he was a professor of urban and regional planning at the University of California, Irvine, where he held the Johnson Chair in Civic Governance. He has conducted surveys for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the California Business Roundtable. He holds a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

John Chiang is a candidate for governor and the current treasurer of the State of California. His priorities include ensuring more people have access to affordable housing, affordable higher education, and a dignified retirement. As state treasurer, he serves as the state's banker, overseeing trillions of dollars in transactions every year, and he is committed to conducting the state's business in the most transparent manner possible. He has made it easier for taxpayers to hold their government officials accountable by launching a website to make pay, benefits, and borrowing costs for state and local governments available online. Recognizing Californians deserve better when they plan and prepare for retirement, he was one of the architects of Secure Choice, a state-sponsored retirement plan that will help 7.5 million Californians—at almost no cost to the state. Previously, as state controller, he held government officials accountable by withholding the pay of state legislators when they failed to pass a balanced budget on time as required by the state constitution. He also identified more than \$9.5 billion in fraud and abuse of taxpayer dollars over the course of his service. He holds a JD from Georgetown University Law Center.

Chet Hewitt is president and CEO of Sierra Health Foundation and its independent operating unit, the Center for Health Program Management. Since beginning his tenure in 2007, he has focused foundation investments on health disparities, health equity, and the healthy development and well-being of vulnerable youth. Before joining the foundation, he worked for five years as the director of Alameda County's Social Services Agency. He is credited with transforming its failing child welfare system into a national model and using technology to improve the delivery of human services. He has received several national honors, including the Annie E. Casey Foundation Child and Family Leaders Fellowship and Child Welfare Administrator of the Year, the Robert T. Matsui Community Service Award, and the Grantland Johnson Intergovernmental Cooperation Award. He joined PPIC's board of directors in 2016, having previously served on the PPIC Statewide Leadership Council. He is a frequent lecturer on philanthropy and public sector leadership, and advises localities across the nation on issues related to the transformation of public systems.