

**Gina Eleane Wood, Deputy Director  
Health Policy Institute  
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Gina E. Wood is the deputy director of the Joint Center's Health Policy Institute. She co-leads the implementation strategy for Institute programs, public and private sector partnerships, communications, research and policy analysis, and resource development. A national respected thought leader, she develops the conceptual framework and implementation strategy for Institute programs, partnerships, key stakeholder relationships, communications, research and policy analysis, fundraising and resource development. The Institute's strategic focus areas include, social determinants of health, prevention and health promotion, infant mortality, supporting youth, mental health, health care, and healthy aging. In addition, she promotes and maintains the Institute's relationships with foundations, government and corporate donors.

Ms. Wood has an extraordinary public service background working at the state and federal levels to improve the lives of children, youth and families in rural, suburban, and urban communities. She has held leadership positions guiding organizations in strategic planning, organizational development, effective communication strategies, program and resource development, and building public and private sector partnerships. Ms. Wood has led major federal interagency collaborations, such as the creation of a National Center on Education, Disabilities and Juvenile Justice and supporting efforts to address children exposed to violence. She advises government agencies, national foundations and nonprofit organizations about program conceptualization, development, implementation, evaluation, and sustainability strategies.

Ms. Wood began her career in Oregon, working in public affairs at a weekly newspaper and as a special assignment reporter covering major events, such as the Democratic National Convention. She has worked in the legislative and executive branches of government in Oregon and was tapped by form Governor Jim Hodges of South Carolina to join his Cabinet as the director of the Department of Juvenile Justice. Ms. Wood was recruited by the U.S. Department of Justice to serve as staff director for the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, chaired by the attorney general and comprised of the secretaries of Health and Human Services, Labor, Education, and Housing and Urban Development; the directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service and Office of National Drug Control Policy; commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization Service; and nine practitioner members. Her ability to build and sustain partnerships resulted in the launching of Cabinet-level signature initiatives. Her work history also includes serving as the interim executive director of a multi-service social service agency.

In addition to her public service, Ms. Wood was a managing associate at Caliber Associates where she led the development and implementation of two national training and technical assistance centers for the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office of Justice Programs' Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative. In addition, she developed an online learning tool to support AmeriCorps\*VISTA in strengthening the capacity of grassroots community- and faith-based organizations. She has worked with diverse populations to strengthen communications and enhance service delivery systems. She led one of the first national research and demonstration sites for the U.S. Department of Justice to address the disproportionate number of minorities in the juvenile justice system.

Former Governor Mark Warner appointed her in 2003, and she was confirmed by the General Assembly, to Virginia's Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice. She was reappointed by Governor Tim Kaine to a second 4-year term. She serves on the board of directors of Crittenton Services of Greater Washington serving as Vice Chair of Governance and Corporate Secretary and the National Crittenton Foundation. In addition, she serves on the executive board of the National Coalition for Juvenile Justice and Chair of the Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee, a nationally elected position by gubernatorial appointees. Ms. Wood currently is affiliated with the Women of Color Policy Network at the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at New York University and has a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Missouri.