

Jonah Kushner

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Education

Ph.D., Policy Analysis Pardee RAND Graduate School	Expected June 2025 Santa Monica, CA
Master of Public Policy The University of Chicago, Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy	June 2010 Chicago, IL
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science Reed College	May 2003 Portland, OR

Research Interests

Employment, workforce development, and the future of work; affordable housing and homelessness; health care delivery, health care payment, and social determinants of health

Experience

RAND Corporation Assistant Policy Researcher	Santa Monica, CA 10/2020 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authored sections of five peer-reviewed reports on military workforce and health care topics• Prepared literature reviews on simulation training, health care finance, and value-based payment• Helped conduct and analyze semi-structured interviews with 15 state and local health system officials• Used Stata to clean data and calculate descriptive statistics for housing and homelessness projects	
Center for Health Systems Effectiveness, Oregon Health & Science University Principal Research Associate Senior Research Associate	Portland, OR 10/2019 – 09/2020 04/2016 – 09/2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led federally required evaluations of state Medicaid reform with a total contract value of \$5.7 million• Created interview guides, interviewed Medicaid stakeholders, and analyzed interview data• Designed a survey questionnaire that was administered to 85 hospitals and 275 clinics across one state• Authored reports, briefs, and peer-reviewed manuscripts on evaluation findings and recommendations• Spearheaded successful research proposals to state Medicaid agencies and a philanthropic foundation	
Office of Health Analytics, Oregon Health Authority Evaluation Policy Advisor	Portland, OR 08/2014 – 04/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managed a \$1.0 million federal grant to help the Oregon Insurance Division use all-payer claims data• Staffed and facilitated a Technical Advisory Group on enhancing all-payer claims data collection• Authored three reports presenting statewide health care data to agency leaders and state legislators• Prepared a request for proposals to evaluate Oregon's pioneering statewide Medicaid reforms	
Cover Oregon (Oregon's State Health Insurance Exchange) Evaluation and Research Analyst	Portland, OR 09/2012 – 08/2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Devised an evaluation plan to assess impacts on health care access, quality, and customer service• Collaborated with contractors on configuring a business intelligence system to meet evaluation needs• Produced official reports on exchange enrollment for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services• Supported a Health Plan Quality Metrics Work Group and synthesized its recommendations report	

Experience (continued)

Social IMPACT Research Center, Heartland Alliance

Chicago, IL

Senior Research Analyst

10/2010 – 08/2012

- Planned and executed evaluations of subsidized and transitional jobs programs in Illinois and Michigan
- Authored a report on Chicago Neighborhood JobStart for the Chicago Community Foundation
- Conceptualized and executed a study on economic benefits of legal aid for the Chicago Bar Foundation

Service Employees International Union Local 503

Portland, OR

Researcher

07/2004 – 06/2008

- Researched and authored reports on nursing facility quality for consumers, policymakers, and media
- Formulated proposals and estimated costs for enhanced statewide nursing facility staffing regulations
- Calculated contract proposal costs for collective bargaining with 14 nursing facilities

Selected Publications

Horvitz-Lennon, Marcela, Jonathan S. Levin, Joshua Breslau, **Jonah Kushner**, Nicole K. Eberhart, Mallika Bhandarkar. 2022. *Carve-In Models for Specialty Behavioral Health Services in Medicaid: Lessons for the State of California*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, RR-A1517-1. www.rand.org/t/RRA1517-1.html.

Kushner, Jonah, Jordan Byers, Shauna Petchel, Deborah J. Cohen, Karen Jensen, Katie Bittinger, and K. John McConnell. 2021. “Washington’s Medicaid Transformation Project: Engaging the Health Care and Social Service Sectors to Improve Health Care Delivery and Address the Social Determinants of Health.” *Healthcare* 9 (3): 100560. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hjdsi.2021.100560>.

Kushner, Jonah, K. John McConnell, Kyle Tracy, Matthew Goerg, Anna Levy, Stephan Lindner, Jennifer D. Hall, et al. 2020. *Medicaid Transformation Project Evaluation: Baseline Report*. Portland, OR: Center for Health Systems Effectiveness, Oregon Health & Science University. <https://bit.ly/3NPjfte>.

Kushner, Jonah, and K. John McConnell. 2019. “Addressing Social Determinants of Health through Medicaid: Lessons from Oregon.” *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, Volume 44, Issue 6. <https://doi.org/10.1215/03616878-7785823>.

Kushner, Jonah, Kyle Tracy, Bonnie Lind, Stephanie Renfro, Ruth Rowland, and John McConnell. 2017. *Evaluation of Oregon’s 2012-2017 Medicaid Waiver*. Portland, OR: Center for Health Systems Effectiveness, Oregon Health & Science University. <https://bit.ly/3DHrq68>.

Kushner, Jonah, Kyle Tracy, Bonnie Lind, Stephanie Renfro, Ruth Rowland, and John McConnell. 2017. *Evaluation of Oregon’s 2012-2017 Medicaid Waiver*. Portland, OR: Center for Health Systems Effectiveness, Oregon Health & Science University. <https://bit.ly/3DHrq68>.

Kushner, Jonah. 2012. *Legal Aid in Illinois: Selected Social and Economic Benefits*. Chicago, IL: Social IMPACT Research Center. <https://bit.ly/3uWehT0>.

Kushner, Jonah. 2012. *Chicago Neighborhood JobStart Full Evaluation Report: A Transitional Jobs Response to the Great Recession*. Chicago, IL: Social IMPACT Research Center. <https://bit.ly/35HrztM>.

Software

Stata (beginner), R (familiarity)