

Clinton picks Salazar as chair of transition

Clinton-Kaine Transition Project leadership

Staff Member	Transition Team Role	Previous Experience
John Podesta	President (also Campaign Chairman)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Advisor, President Barack Obama • Founder, Center for American Progress • Chief of Staff, President Bill Clinton
Ken Salazar	Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary of the Interior • Senator from Colorado
Tom Donilon	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Security Advisor, President Obama
Jennifer Granholm	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor of Michigan
Neera Tanden	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President, Center for American Progress
Maggie Williams	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director, Institute of Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University
Rohit Chopra	(Not yet announced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Loan Ombudsman, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Sources: John Wagner, "Clinton's Campaign Team Grows as the Democrat Eyes the White House," The Washington Post, August 16, 2016; Kimberly Hefling and Michael Stratford, "Clinton Names Warren Ally to Transition Team," Politico, August 30, 2016.

John Podesta and Tom Vilsack top Clinton's chief of staff short list

Clinton's chief of staff short list

Candidate	Current Job	Details
John Podesta	Campaign Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Podesta is at the top of Clinton's short list, but the veteran Dem is eager to get back to private life He would likely only serve for a year and according to a Clinton ally, "get the administration stabilized and get hiring done" Podesta served as Bill Clinton's chief of staff from 1998 to 2001
Tom Vilsack	Secretary of Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vilsack is a longtime Clinton ally and has been widely discussed for the post He has campaigned for Clinton across the country and has made it clear he is committed to continuing his work in government service Clinton calls him regularly to discuss rural America and to pick his brain Vilsack is a well known name and he could be trusted to do the Sunday morning show circuit that Clinton does not enjoy doing He was passed over in the VP vetting process because of a perceived lack of foreign policy experience Clinton is looking for a chief of staff more focused on maintaining relationships on the Hill than with foreign allies
Ron Klain	Former Joe Biden Chief of Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Klain helped run Clinton's successful debate prep in the primary and general He is seen as a workhorse who knows the inside track in Washington Klain has been the chief of staff for two vice presidents: Al Gore and Joe Biden Clinton has been hesitant to bring him into the upper echelons of her team, viewing him more as a talented hired gun than a trusted Clinton loyalist

Source: Annie Karni, "Podesta tops Clinton's short list for chief of staff," POLITICO, October 27, 2016.

Some speculate Clinton will opt to appoint the first female White House chief of staff

Clinton's chief of staff short list

Candidate	Current Job	Details
Jake Sullivan	Clinton Policy Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sullivan is one of Clinton's most trusted advisors from the State Department and is considered the sleeper candidate for the post Sullivan's role has grown in importance at the campaign's Brooklyn headquarters, where he oversaw Clinton's policy shop and debate prep He is among a handful of aides who maintains a close relationship with Clinton and communicates directly and regularly with the candidate He would be a similar choice to Obama's current chief of staff Denis McDonough and wouldn't widen the Clinton circle of trust However, Sullivan's main strength is in foreign policy—something Clinton does not necessarily need in that position
Cheryl Mills	Former Chief of Staff to the U.S. Secretary of State (Hillary Clinton)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to working for Clinton while she was Secretary of State, Mills was Bill Clinton's lawyer during his impeachment trials However, some Democrats see this as a negative factor because Mills could represent Clinton's worst habits of self-protection and secrecy
Neera Tanden	President/CEO of Center for American Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tanden has emerged in Podesta's hacked emails as one of his closest confidantes and someone willing to deliver an honest assessment of Clinton's flaws and blind spots She was a top aide in Clinton's Senate office and in her 2008 campaign Tanden is considered on of Clinton's go-to advisors on domestic policy issues Clinton has expressed a commitment to place women in top jobs, and could choose to appoint the first female chief of staff to the first female president

Source: Annie Karni, "Podesta tops Clinton's short list for chief of staff," POLITICO, October 27, 2016.