Sixteenth Annual California Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala

20th ANNUAL

New York Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023
SHERATON TIMES SQUARE HOTEL, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

@The_NHHF #NHHFGala

www.NHMAFoundation.org
November 2023

Dear Colleagues,

The National Hispanic Foundation (NHHF), the philanthropic arm of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), welcomes you to our Twentieth Annual New York Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala.

We are proud to announce the scholarship recipients from the Eastern United States, as well as the Hispanic Health Leadership Awardees who inspire us with their leadership for change in health care for our community.

Hispanics are the largest ethnic group in the United States, yet, there is a dearth of Hispanic health professionals with the cultural and linguistic skills to deliver quality care for this growing population. In addition, Federal, State, local government and private sector health care agencies have a shortage of Hispanic representation in top leadership positions who are decision-makers on policies and programs targeted to our communities.

NHHF is responding to these challenges by developing this unique national scholarship program to reward students in health professional schools for exceptional academic performance, leadership, and commitment to serving the Hispanic community. We believe they are the future Hispanic leaders of our nation.

With immense gratitude, NHHF thanks all of our scholarship gala sponsors across sectors for their generosity and dedication to supporting our mission to empower and diversify the next generation of health professionals. The Platinum Sponsors include: National Hispanic Medical Association, the United Heath Foundation, Fidelis Care/Centene Corporation. Gold Sponsor includes: SOMOS Community Care and PhRMA. Silver Sponsors include: AARP, AMA, AMGEN, DaVita, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and The Gloria J. Gonzalez Memorial Fund. Bronze Sponsors include: Cook County Health, Latino Commission on AIDS, NY Presbyterian Hospital, NYC Health + Hospitals –Elmhurst, Montefiore/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Novavax, Novo Nordisk, Otsuka, Princeton Area Community Foundation, and all of our media partners and friends.

We thank the Honorary Host Gala Committee for making your vision for leadership an inspiration to the scholarship recipients who are our future leaders for the health of all Americans.

We hope you enjoy the evening!

Sincerely,

Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, FACP
President
It is my pleasure to congratulate the National Hispanic Health Foundation on this year’s Annual Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala, to be held on November 17, 2023, at the Westin Pasadena Hotel in Pasadena, California and on November 30, 2023, at the Sheraton New York Times Square Hotel in New York City, New York.

The Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) is honored to collaborate with the National Hispanic Health Foundation (NHHF) to award these outstanding Hispanic graduate students and to help influence and support the growth of diversity within the health profession. We acknowledge the important work the NHMA and NHHF have accomplished through their support of health professional students to advance their careers and promote positive change in their communities. The HDA extends a warm welcome and a special congratulations to this year’s scholarship awardees for being leaders and advocates for their communities and demonstrating such passion as health professionals.

The National Hispanic Health Foundation continues to fund the success of countless Hispanic health professions students. Their accomplishments are commended as they serve an invaluable role in the health of our communities through their dedication to eliminating health disparities and advancing diversity in the health professions workforce.

On behalf of the Hispanic Dental Association, I offer my congratulations and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Christina Meiners
HDA President

Dr. Yanina Jouzy
HDA Secretary
Co-Chair of the Honorary Gala Host Committee

Dr. Isabel Garcia HDA Board of Trustee
Co-Chair of the Honorary Gala Host Committee

As the leading voice for Hispanic Oral Health, we provide service, education-research, advocacy, and leadership for all healthcare professionals to promote overall health of the Hispanic/Latinx and other underrepresented communities.
October 17, 2023

National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA).

It is with great pleasure that we send out our heartfelt congratulations to the National Hispanic Health Foundation for their outstanding Annual Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala, held in both California and New York.

We would also like to extend our warmest congratulations to this year’s scholarship awardees, whose exceptional dedication and unwavering commitment to success are truly commendable. These awardees have demonstrated a profound commitment to improving the health of the Hispanic community, and we are confident that their impact will be deeply felt.

The National Hispanic Health Foundation has played a pivotal role in promoting diversity among health professionals and health policy graduate students by recognizing and supporting exceptional Hispanic graduate students. Their ongoing efforts in funding the success of Hispanic health professions students are highly commendable. Their achievements are invaluable, as they continue to make a significant contribution to the well-being of our communities by tirelessly working towards eliminating health disparities and advancing diversity in the health professions workforce. It is indeed our honor to serve on the Honorary Gala Selection Committee.

On behalf of the Latino Caucus for Public Health, we take great pride in being partners in our joint mission to represent and advocate for the health interests of the Latino community. We extend our wholehearted congratulations and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Cynthia N. Lebron, PhD, MPH
President, Latino Caucus for Public Health
October 13, 2023

National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA),

It is my pleasure to congratulate the National Hispanic Health Foundation on this year’s Annual Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala, to be held on November 17, 2023, at the Westin Pasadena Hotel in Pasadena, California and on November 30, 2023 at the Sheraton New York Times Square Hotel in New York City, New York.

I also wanted to congratulate this year’s scholarship awardees for leading and demonstrating such passion as health professionals. The National Hispanic Health Foundation has been influential in fostering the growth of diversity among health professions and health policy graduate students by awarding outstanding Hispanic graduate students. Their goal has been to provide opportunities for members of the Hispanic community by supporting health professionals advance in their careers and promote change in their communities.

The National Hispanic Health Foundation continues to fund the success of countless Hispanic health professions students. Their accomplishments are commended as they serve an invaluable role in the health of our communities through their dedication to eliminating health disparities and advancing diversity in the health professions workforce.

On behalf of the National Hispanic Pharmacists Association, I offer my congratulations and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Maria Gil-Flores, Pharm.D.
President of the Board
National Hispanic Pharmacists Association
It gives us great pleasure to welcome you on behalf of the entire Physician Associates for Latino Health organization. Our relationship with the National Hispanic Health Foundation grows stronger each year, as demonstrated by our collaboration to find multiple ways to close the medical disparity gap in the Hispanic community. Bringing more medical providers to underserved communities, and networking to ensure all our healthcare professionals are working together toward the common goal of improving outcomes for those most in need. As such, I am honored to serve as Co-Chair of the Honorary Gala Host Committee for the Annual Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala.

Our organization also recognizes the need to help cultivate our young and upcoming healthcare professionals and foster the next generation through leadership, advocacy and service to our underserved communities.

PAs for Latino Health congratulates all the scholarship recipients. You have demonstrated your unique understanding of caring for our community. Your academic excellence, service, outreach, and aspirations to work with the Latino community are truly outstanding, and we could not be prouder to stand beside you and help you achieve these goals. Your contributions will help bridge the gap in the service to our community within the multiple disciplines of the U.S. healthcare system.

PAs for Latino Health encourages you to join our group and take part in the opportunity to engage with fellow PA Students and Physician Assistants who are here to support you on your journey. We also have a PA Student Scholarship that you can apply for in the spring of 2024, to support you further in your career path.

Best Wishes,

Paola Gonzalez, MPAS, PA-C
President

704 Riverhead Drive Wylie, TX 75098 Phone (346) 360-3882
✉ physassoclatinoh@gmail.com 🌐 www.palh.org
November 1, 2023

Welcome to the Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala!

This is an exciting time for the National Hispanic Health Foundation (NHHF) as this celebration recognizes the achievements and future of our Latino Health care workforce. As the Host Committee Co-Chairperson this year, I had the pleasure of learning about our nursing scholarship nominees and reading about their commitment to advancing health equity. Pursing their professional goals of becoming registered nurses and/or obtaining advanced degrees in nursing as nurse practitioners, administrators, and researchers would lead them one step closer to achieving their dreams.

I was deeply inspired by the stories shared, and each students’ vision of how they saw themselves as a key piece to improving health outcomes within the Latino community. And You Are! It is an honor to be among future health care professionals, who are preparing themselves to be health care leaders, policy change-makers and clinical experts.

Each story shared was a prime example of the importance of the NHHF scholarship and how it brings students closer to reaching their professional goals. I hope each scholarship applicant continues their journey, as they will soon be the role models to aspiring students.

And to all the award winners tonight- Congratulations! I look forward to seeing the impact you will have within the health care setting, and for our Latino community.

All the best,

Adrianna Nava, PhD, MPA, MSN, RN
NAHN President
Dear friends:

I am writing to congratulate the National Hispanic Health Foundation on your Annual Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala. Founded on the principles of equity and inclusivity, NHHF works tirelessly to address the unique healthcare challenges faced by Hispanic individuals and families. This is vital work, as Hispanics and Latinos face a wide range of health disparities that must be addressed. Through your efforts to increase representation in the medical field and foster the development of Hispanic healthcare professionals, NHHF is helping to create a healthier future for the Hispanic population of the United States.

In Congress, I am also working to eliminate health disparities for Hispanics and other underserved populations. As such, I am proud to be a part of the Honorary Gala Host Committee for this important event. NHHF’s scholarship gala is vital to uplifting outstanding health professional students working to improve the health of Hispanic populations and communities. The scholarships awarded tonight will help develop a new generation of health leaders and create positive change in the realm of healthcare equity and social justice.

I want to congratulate all of tonight’s scholarship recipients for the incredible work that they’ve done and all that they will accomplish moving forward with the support of NHHF. I also want to thank Dr. Elena Rios, NHHF leadership, the dedicated staff, and all the members for all you do to advance Hispanic health equity in the United States. I look forward to continuing to work with you to create a healthier and more equitable future for all. Congratulations again on your annual gala. I wish you a wonderful evening.

Sincerely,

Nidia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress
November 30, 2023

Dear Friends of the National Hispanic Health Foundation,

On behalf of the New York State Assembly, I am delighted to congratulate the National Hispanic Health Foundation on the occasion of its Annual Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala. This is the only program in the nation where we honor outstanding health professional students, as well as highlight the accomplishments of key leaders, who have made outstanding contributions towards improving the health of Hispanic populations and communities.

I would also like to congratulate this year’s scholarship awardees for their hard work and their willingness to do what is necessary to succeed. The awardees have shown their dedication to improving the health of the Hispanic community, and I am certain their efforts will make a difference.

The National Hispanic Health Foundation has been influential in fostering the growth of diversity among health professions and health policy graduate students by giving awards to outstanding Hispanic graduate students. They continue to fund the success of Hispanic health professions students, and their accomplishments are commended as they serve an invaluable role in the health of our communities through dedication to eliminating health disparities and advancing diversity in the health professions workforce.

Thanks to the National Hispanic Health Foundation, and all its supporters, for your tireless efforts on behalf of the Hispanic community. I wish you all continued success.

Sincerely,

Amy R. Paulin
Member of Assembly
Twentieth Annual New York Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala Program

6:30 pm  Reception  
7:30 pm  Dinner and Awards Ceremony  
9:30 pm  Dance/DJ Teddy

Mistress of Ceremonies

Lulu Gomez  
Noticias 41 Television Morning Talent  
TelevisaUnivision

Welcome Remarks

Anne Yau  
Senior Vice President  
United Health Group

George Rodriguez  
Vice President of Sales and Marketing  
Fidelis Care/Centene Corp

Mark Diaz, MD  
Chairman  
NHHF Board of Directors

Conchita Paz, MD  
Secretary/Treasurer  
NHHF Board of Directors

Gilbert Burgos, MD  
Chairman  
NHMA Board of Directors

Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP  
President  
NHHF Board of Directors

Presentation of Hispanic Health Leadership Awards

Ramon Tallaj, MD  
Chairman of the Board  
SOMOS Community Care

Lynne Holden, MD  
Senior Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH  
Chief Health Equity Officer and Senior Vice President  
American Medical Association

Israel Rocha  
Chief Executive Officer  
Cook County Health

Presentation of Scholarships

In Collaboration with the United Health Foundation  
Diversity in Health Care Scholarship Program  
Class of 2023
Class of 2023 Scholars

Dental Student

Edika Quevedo Dejesus
Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
Graduation Year 2026

Pharmacy Student

Gretel Morales Mendoza
Touro College of Pharmacy
Graduation Year 2025

Nursing Student

Christina Buliga
Herbert H. Lehman College
Graduation Year 2025

Public Health Student

Samantha Mendoza Stanteen
Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health
Graduation Year 2024

Physician Associate Student

Diego Castro Cumana
The City University of New York School of Medicine
Graduation Year 2026

Medical Students

Sebastian Acevedo
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
Graduation Year 2025
Medical Students

Melanie Anaya
AARP Scholar
The Warren Alpert Medical School
Graduation Year 2025

Richard Callum
Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
Graduation Year 2025

Daniela Guerra
FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Graduation Year 2026

Melissa Alejandra Hynds Cordova
Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons
Graduation Year 2026

Israel Ibarra
Tufts University School of Medicine
Graduation Year 2027

Melinda Kassandra Lopez
University of Minnesota Medical School - Duluth Campus
Graduation Year 2025
Medical Students

Karla Navarro  
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine  
Graduation Year 2026

Marianne Tissot Rodriguez  
Icahn School of Medicine - Mount Sinai  
Graduation Year 2027

Joshua Rosario  
University of Rochester Medical Center  
Graduation Year 2026

Daniela Schmulevich  
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine  
Graduation Year 2027

Marquise Soto  
Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University  
Graduation Year 2025

Natalie Ivette Toro  
Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Graduation Year 2025
Medical Students

Alina M. Torres
*Gloria J. González Scholar*
The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences
Graduation Year 2027

Rodnell Busigó Torres
Icahn School of Medicine - Mount Sinai
Graduation Year 2026

Continuing Scholarship Recipients

Class of 2021 Scholars

*Medical Students*

Norma Espinoza
University of California Riverside, School of Medicine, Class of 2026

Camila Hurtado
University of California Berkeley,
School of Public Health and University of California San Francisco,
School of Medicine Joint Medical Program, Class of 2024

Gabriel Urreola
University of California Davis, School of Medicine, Class of 2025

Raul Salazar
University of California Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine, Class of 2024

*Dental Student*

Carlos Villalvazo
University of California Los Angeles, School of Dentistry, Class of 2026
Class of 2022 Scholars

Medical Students

Laurel Barrios
University of California Davis School of Medicine, Class of 2024

Melinda Benavides
Baylor College of Medicine, Class of 2026

Osbaldo Camargo
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Sciences and University of California Los Angeles Medical Education Program, Class of 2026

Cassandra Molano
University of California Davis School of Medicine, Class of 2026

Monica Soto Noveron
David Geffen School of Medicine at University of California Los Angeles, Class of 2026

Raul Soto Jr.
Keck School of Medicine at University of Southern California, Class of 2024

Dental Student

Cristhian Martinez Hernandez
University of California San Francisco School of Dentistry, Class of 2025

Pharmacy Student

Jose Felipe Dominguez
University of Arizona R.K. Coit College of Pharmacy, Class of 2025

Nursing Student

Cecilia Pimental
University of California School of Nursing, Class of 2024
Mistress of Ceremonies

Lulu Gomez
Noticias 41 Television Morning Talent
TelevisaUnivision

Originally from Northern Mexico, Lulu Gomez began her artistic career in the state of Sonora. Graduated with honors from the University of Sonora with a Bachelor’s Degree in Performing Arts with a Dance Option, she was awarded a scholarship to study at the prestigious Debbie Reynolds School of Dance and Acting in Hollywood CA where she also decided to enter the world of Television and Radio presentation.

Throughout her career she has participated in international festivals in Mexico, USA and Cuba. In 2014, along with her dance partner, they created a performing arts project that was selected by the Mark Morris Dance Group company and brought them to New York City where Lulu Gomez continued her education at the Juilliard School of Arts.

Today, Lulu Gomez is studying to obtain a Master degree in Sports Journalism. In 2021, Lulu hosted Sabados Con los NY Giants along side Damaris Diaz and the legendary NFL player Victor Cruz. The show was a weekly program highlighting the NFL team season with player and fan interviews. Currently, she is a morning talent for Noticias 41 Univision’s morning show and correspondent for the Univision network in New York.

Welcome Remarks

Anne Yau
Senior Vice President
United Health Group

Anne Yau was named senior vice president of Social Responsibility, UnitedHealth Group, and president of the United Health Foundation in September 2023. In this role, she leads the corporate social responsibility strategy, employee giving and volunteering programs, America’s Health Rankings platform and all philanthropic, charitable and grant-making efforts through the United Health Foundation.

Yau joined UnitedHealth Group in 2010 and has led numerous enterprise-wide efforts to advance the company’s policy and advocacy priorities, and social responsibility initiatives. Prior to UnitedHealth Group, Yau worked in management consulting with Booz Allen Hamilton and CGI serving commercial, state and federal clients including the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, and a master’s degree in public policy from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

George Rodriguez
Vice President of Sales and Marketing
Fidelis Care/Centene Corp

George Rodriguez, Vice President of Sales & Marketing at Fidelis Care. George has been part of the Fidelis Care family for almost 18 years. A community leader who is driven by his roots in the community and passion to serve those less fortunate. Fidelis Care is the largest managed care company in the State of New York, insuring over 2.5 million residents of the State.
Conchita M. Paz, MD
Secretary/Treasurer
NHHF Board of Directors

Dr. Conchita M. Paz is a native of Las Cruces, New Mexico where she has practiced family medicine for ten years. During the past ten years, she has been appointed chairperson of the Family Practice Department, and a participating member of Critical Care, Executive, Performance Improvement, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations committees at Memorial Medical Center. Dr. Paz was secretary of the Dona Ana County Medical Society for four years. She was past president of the New Mexico Hispanic Medical Association from 1992-1994.

Dr. Paz has returned to private practice after seven years of service with a private HMO of New Mexico. Currently, she serves as a part-time faculty member for medical students attending University of New Mexico School of Medicine and Southern New Mexico Family Practice Residency Program.

In 1993, Dr. Paz was a participating member of the National Health Care Task Force. Prior to 1992, she worked in small community clinics in northern and southern New Mexico. For two years, she was medical director and supervised the ambulance service in northern New Mexico rural community.

Conchita Paz received a B.S. and a M.D. from the University of New Mexico. She received her internship from Mercy Medical Center in Denver, Colorado and her residency at Creighton University in Family Practice in Omaha, Nebraska. She is a Diplomat of the American Board of Family Practice.

Mark A. Diaz, MD
Chairman
National Hispanic Health Foundation Board of Directors

Mark Diaz, MD is a UC Davis College of Agriculture graduate. He was an undergraduate co-founder of UC Davis CHE, a Latino Pre-medical club. He was a cofounder of Clinica Tepati, a free clinic for Spanish-speaking patients. He is a graduate of the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine. He completed his Family Medicine Residency and a Song-Brown Family Medicine Fellowship at the University of California Davis Medical Center. He is Board Certified in Family Practice and Occupational Medicine. Dr. Diaz was a founding member of the National Hispanic Medical Association, the National Hispanic Health Foundation and the National Hispanic Pharmacists Association. He is currently the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Hispanic Health Foundation. He is a Volunteer Clinical Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine of the University of California, Davis. He is also a Volunteer Assistant Clinical Professor for California Northstate University School of Medicine. He is a Medical Consultant for the California Public Employees Retirement System.

Gilbert Burgos, MD, MPH, CPE
Chairman
National Hispanic Medical Association Board of Directors

Dr. Gilbert Burgos is the Executive Director of Medical Affairs for Elderplan/Homefirst, a Managed Care Organization. He works with utilization management, case management, quality, pharmacy and other major areas of the organization to improve the healthcare of members. Most recently, he was the Executive Director and Chief Medical Director for Nassua Queens PPS. He worked with the Department of Health and three major health systems within Queens and Nassau (Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Nassua University Medical Center and Catholic Health Services of Long Island) to implement the DSRIP (Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment) program, a major state initiative to restructure how Medicaid recipients receive health care in New York State.

Dr. Burgos is board certified in Internal Medicine and is also a Certified Physician Executive through the American Association of Physician Leaders. He has over twenty years of experience as a senior executive with physician groups, hospitals and health plans. Previous positions include Executive Director of Medical Management with Advantage Care Physicians (ACP) in New York, Executive Vice-President and Chief Medical Officer for Preferred Health Partners (PHP) in New York, Senior Vice-President and Chief Medical Officer of Mercy Memorial Hospital System in Michigan, and Chief Medical Officer for Care Choices Health Plan, part of Trinity Health System in Michigan.

He obtained his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed an Internal Medicine Residency at Montefiore Medical Center. In addition, he obtained a Master’s in Public Health from Harvard University’s School of Public Health with a concentration in Health Policy and Management.
Welcome Remarks

Elena V. Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP
President & CEO, National Hispanic Medical Association
President, National Hispanic Health Foundation

Dr. Rios serves as President & CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association, (NHMA), representing the interests of 50,000 Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of the organization is to improve and empower Hispanic health care professionals. Dr. Rios also serves as President of NHMA’s National Hispanic Health Foundation to direct educational and research activities.

Dr. Rios also serves on the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda Boards of Directors, Centene Health Policy Advisory Committee, Centene Health Equity Committee, and the VA National Academic Affiliations Council. Dr. Rios has lectured, published articles and has received several leadership awards, including awards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; the Congressional Black, Hispanic, Asian and Native American Caucuses; American Public Health Association Latino Caucus; Association of Hispanic Health Executives; Minority Health Month, Inc.; Hispanic Magazine; Latino Leaders Maestro and Top Latina 100; Verizon’s First Pollin Community Service; and Amerigroup and National Diversity Council Top Healthcare Leaders. Dr. Rios was appointed to the Minority Alumni Hall of Fame of Stanford University in October, 2006, as a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine in 2007, the Institute of Medicine Global Forum for Health Professions Education in 2014, as a Fellow (2016) and Master (2022) of the American College of Physicians, and as a member of the Society of Medical Administrators in 2017.

Prior to her current positions, Dr. Rios served as the Advisor for Regional and Minority Women’s Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from November 1994 to October 1998. In 1998-2004, Dr. Rios served as Executive Director, Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools. In 1993, Dr. Rios was appointed to the National Health Care Reform Task Force as Coordinator of Outreach Groups for the White House. From 1992-94, Dr. Rios worked for the State of California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development as a policy researcher.

Dr. Rios has also served as President of the Chicano/Latino Medical Association of California, Founder of the National Network of Latin American Medical Students, member of the California Department of Health Services Cultural Competency Task Force, and Stanford Alumni Association, Women’s Policy Inc., Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield Board of Directors, Nurse Family Partnerships, Campaign Against Obesity, Better Medicare Alliance and Partnership for Prevention Boards of Directors, PacifiCare-UnitedHealthcare California Investment Committee, CDC Health Disparities Committee, ASU Health Futures Council, Cancer Treatment Centers of America Hispanic Advisory Council, AMA’s Disparities Commission and Minority Affairs Consortium Steering Committees, and NIH Office of Research on Women’s Health Advisory Committee.

Dr. Rios earned her BA in Human Biology/Public Administration at Stanford University in 1977, MSPH at the UCLA School of Public Health in 1980, MD at the UCLA School of Medicine in 1987, and completed her Internal Medicine residency at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose and the White Memorial Medical Center in East Los Angeles in 1990, and her NRSA Primary Care Research Fellowship at UCLA Division of General Internal Medicine in 1992.
Awardees

Ramon Tallaj, MD
Chairman of the Board of Directors
SOMOS Community Care

Dr. Ramon Tallaj, M.D., brings over 40 years of extensive medical expertise to his role as an accomplished internist. He earned his medical degree from the Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña, Escuela De Medicina in the Dominican Republic. Subsequently, he completed his residency at the St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York City. Dr. Tallaj’s notable background includes various governmental positions in the Dominican Republic before his relocation to the United States. His primary goal was to expand healthcare access to New York’s Hispanic immigrant communities.

In 2014, Dr. Tallaj founded the non for profit SOMOS Community Care, leading a network of over 2,500 physicians dedicated to delivering culturally sensitive healthcare to over 1 million Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries across New York City’s immigrant communities. Under his guidance, SOMOS has significantly enhanced preventive and chronic care management, resulting in an impressive reduction of over 35 percent in emergency room visits and hospital admissions. This accomplishment has translated into substantial savings, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars for New York State taxpayers. With a vast network encompassing more than 700 medical offices throughout the city, SOMOS facilitates over 25,000 patient visits daily, while integrating mental health screenings.

During the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Tallaj and SOMOS Community Care established a pioneering approach. They set up 125 tri-lingual sites, facilitating testing for over 1 million individuals and administering vaccines to 2 million New Yorkers. Additionally, they established call centers that provided free, multilingual health guidance and essential personal protective equipment (PPE) to immigrant communities across the nation. Their efforts further extended to aiding over 2 million individuals with access to food resources.

Dr. Tallaj’s visionary approach to equitable healthcare is underscored by his commitment to linguistic and cultural proficiency. His remarkable work within SOMOS Community Care was prominently featured in an Emmy Award-winning documentary titled “Doctor Tallaj: The Hispanic Who Faced COVID-19 in New York.” His dedication to underserved communities garnered significant recognition, including the Pontiff’s Medal (Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice) from Pope Francis in July—an esteemed accolade from the Vatican. Dr. Ramon Tallaj’s unwavering commitment continues to be evident, as demonstrated by his recent hosting of a roundtable discussion in Washington Heights, addressing the pressing need for mental health services in immigrant communities. Esteemed participants included New York Governor Kathy Hochul, Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff, and US Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra.

Throughout his illustrious career, Dr. Tallaj has demonstrated his humanitarian spirit through various missions. He played a pivotal role in post-hurricane recovery efforts in both the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico following Hurricane Fiona. Dr. Ramon Tallaj’s legacy is one of healthcare innovation, equity, and compassionate service on a global scale. A former health official, Dr. Tallaj is originally from the Dominican Republic.

Lynne Holden, MD, MPH
Senior Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Dr. Lynne Holden is a national leader in diversifying the healthcare workforce. She received her undergraduate degree from Howard University and her medical degree from Temple University. She completed her residency training in Emergency Medicine from the Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx, NY. Dr. Holden is a Professor of Emergency Medicine, Vice-Chair for Diversity Equity and Inclusion in the Emergency Department and serves as the Senior Associate Dean for Diversity Enhancement and Inclusion at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, NY. Dr. Holden is the co-founder and President Emeritus of Mentoring in Medicine, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the diversity of the health and science workforce from elementary school through career, which has helped over 525 students to realize their dream of becoming a physician. She is a Deacon at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, NY and a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. She is also a member of WellMet, a NYC female giving circle, focused on funding nonprofit organizations that are finding solutions for social justice issues in NYC.
Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH
Senior Vice President and Chief Health Equity Officer
American Medical Association

Dr. Aletha Maybank is a pediatrician and preventive medicine physician, a public health professional, and a Senior Vice President at the American Medical Association. She joined the AMA in April 2019, to launch AMA’s Center for Health Equity as their inaugural Chief Health Equity Officer.

Prior to joining the AMA, Dr. Maybank served as the Founding Deputy Commissioner for the Center for Health Equity at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (2014). Aimed at strengthening equity efforts and transforming organizational culture, the Center became a model of success recognized by NYC leadership, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization. She was instrumental in infusing equity at the neighborhood level and advancing the Department’s place-based approach to addressing health inequities. She also set precedence with groundbreaking work at the Office of Minority Health in the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (2006) while serving as the Founding Director.

She is a highly sought-after health expert appearing on national and influential media outlets such as NPR, MSNBC, NewsOne, Roland Martin, the Lancet, Journal of the American Medical Association to name a few. More recently, due to her leadership in the COVID response efforts, she has been interviewed by Oprah Winfrey and authored the New York Times Op-ed, “The Pandemic’s Missing Data” to bring more awareness to the structural inequities in the United States. She moderates the AMA monthly web series, “Prioritizing Equity” that elevates the voices and stories of physicians centering equity in COVID-19 response efforts. Dr. Maybank holds a BA from Johns Hopkins University, a MD from Temple University School of Medicine, and a MPH from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

Israel Rocha
Chief Executive Officer
Cook County Health

Israel Rocha Jr. joined Cook County Health (CCH) as Chief Executive Officer in December 2020. CCH has a storied 185 year legacy of caring for all patients, regardless of ability to pay or immigration status. Today, it includes two hospitals, including the Midwest’s largest trauma center, more than a dozen community health centers, Cermak Health Services the medical provider at the Cook County Jail and Juvenile Temporary Detention Center, the Cook County Department of Public Health and CountyCare, a Medicaid managed care plan. The health system serves more than 600,000 individuals each year and has a $4 billion budget. At CCH, Mr. Rocha guided his team in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, the world’s biggest public health crisis in a century. CCH was among the first health systems in the nation to achieve one million doses of COVID vaccine milestone the communities it serves.

Committed throughout his career to social justice and health equity, Mr. Rocha launched the Office of Equity & Inclusion at CCH in early 2021 to bring together disparate parts of the health system in a collaborative way to affect real change. In April 2022, Mr. Rocha announced the establishment of The Change Institute of Cook County Health, a think- and do- tank designed to address health equity, improve patient outcomes including the prevention of premature death. The Change Institute will convene a broad spectrum of stakeholders from health care, business, academia, and government to tackle diseases like cancer, diabetes, cancer and stroke that disproportionately impact the health and livelihoods of minority communities. Mr. Rocha’s aim is to leverage all available resources.

Mr. Rocha’s early experience includes serving as the CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals Elmhurst and Queens hospitals. He serve also as the CEO of Doctors Hospital at Renaissance Health System in Edinburg, Texas and working on Capitol Hill in Washington DC. He holds a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from the Wagner School of Public Service at New York University and a Bachelor’s of Arts in Political Science & Environmental Science from Columbia University, NY.
Honorary Gala Host Committee 2023

The Honorable Pete Aguilar  
U.S. Congressman D-CA

The Honorable Tony Cárdenas  
U.S Congressman D-CA

The Honorable Jim Costa  
U.S Congressman D-CA

Honorable Henry Cuellar  
U.S. Congressman D-TX

The Honorable Adriano Espaillat  
U.S. Congressman D-NY

The Honorable Jimmy Gomez  
U.S Congressman D-CA

The Honorable Juan Vargas  
U.S. Congressman D-CA

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez  
U.S. Congresswoman D-NY

The Honorable Jim Wood  
Chair, Health Committee, California State Assembly

The Honorable Patricia Fahy  
Chair, Standing Committee on Higher Education, New York General Assembly

The Honorable Amy Paul  
Chair of the Health Committee, New York General Assembly

Paola González, MPAS, PA-C  
President and Chief Delegate, Physician Associates for Latino Health

Christina Meiners, DDS, FICD  
President, Hispanic Dental Association

Cynthia LeBron, PhD, MPH  
President, Latino Caucus for Public Health

Maria Gil-Flores, Pharm. D  
President, National Hispanic Pharmacists Association

Adriana Nava, PhD, MPA, MSN, RN  
President, National Association of Hispanic Nurses

Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP  
President, National Hispanic Health Foundation

Mark Diaz, MD  
Chair, Board of Directors National Hispanic Health Foundation

Gilbert Burgos, MD, MPH  
Chairman, Board of Directors National Hispanic Medical Association

Jeanne Duvall  
Chief Financial Officer, NHHF

Guadalupe Pacheco  
Director of Programs, NHHF

Guillermo Avilés-Mendoza, JD  
Associate Director of Programs, NHHF

NHHF Team:  
Jeanne Ponsa, Candice Jimenez, Viviana Garcia  
Sasha Martinez, Desire Omotoye

NHMA Team:  
Yvonne Malloy, Fernanda Durand, LaShawn Mallow  
Yanecia Green, Vito Gearthly, Jose Carlos Villegas, Jason Hernandez,  
Julia Lopez, Wesley Perez, Valeria Ramis Evely Reyes,  
Monica Ramirez, Juana Ruiz
At Otsuka, we hold a deep respect for the value of every mind.

We will not rest until mental illnesses and brain diseases are approached with the same priority and urgency as our physical health and recognized as chronic diseases that warrant early, equitable, and accessible intervention.

Through products, programs, policies, and advocacy, Otsuka-people will defy any limitation that stands in their way until every mind is valued.
NHMA Chapter Chairpersons

NHMA Central California Chapter
Chair: Rebecca Rivera, MD

NHMA Northern California Chapter
Chair: Jessica Nunez de Ybarra, MD, MPH
Co-Chair: Ramiro Zuniga, MD

NHMA Southern California Chapter
Chair: Martha Preciado, MD

NHMA Chicago Chapter
Chair: Emma Olivera, MD, FAAP
Co-Chair: Geraldine Luna, MD, MPH, MBAc
Co-Chair: Susan Lopez, MD

NHMA Gulf Coast Chapter
Chair: Nereida Parada, MD
Co-Chair: Ricardo Gomez, MD

NHMA Nebraska Chapter
Chair: Hope Voto, MD
Co-Chair: Juan Santamaria, MD

NHMA Nevada Chapter
Chair: Jose Cucalon Calderon, MD
Co-Chair: Anayansi Lombardero, MD

NHMA New England Chapter
Chair: Enrique Caballero, MD, MPH

NHMA New Mexico Chapter
Chair: Valerie Romero-Leggott, MD

NHMA New York City Chapter
Chair: Judith Flores, MD, FAAP, CHQM
Co-Chair: Christina Guillen, MD

NHMA Philadelphia Chapter
Chair: Ana Maria Lopez, MD, MPH, MACP

NHMA Phoenix Chapter
Chair: Petra Fimbres, MS
Co-Chair: Ricardo Correa, MD

NHMA Texas Chapter
Chair: Jaime Estrada, MD
Co-Chair: Robert Johanssen, MD

NHMA Washington, DC Metro Chapter
Chair: Sergio Rimola, MD
Co-Chair: Giselle Plata, MD

NewYork-Presbyterian celebrates the
National Hispanic Health Foundation
Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship
2022
The Honorable Robert Rodriguez
New York State Secretary of State
Debra Furr-Holden, PhD
Dean New York University School of Global Public Health, Dean Public Health Integration, Director of the NIH-funded Flint Center for Health Equity Solutions
Niesha Foster
Vice President, Global Health & Social Impact
Claudia Romo Edelman
Founder, We Are All Human
The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
Congresswoman
Diana E Ramos, MD, MPH, FACOG
California Surgeon General
Donald (Don) M. Hernandez, MD, FACP
President, California Medical Association
Lourdes Baezconde-Garbanati, PhD, MPH
Associate Dean for Community Initiatives and Professor, Department of Population and Public Health Sciences, Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California

2021
Chinyere Anyaogu, MD, MPH, FACOG
Deputy Chief Medical Officer, NYC Health + Hospitals/North Central Bronx Hospital
Stanley M. Bergman
Chairman of the Board & CEO, Henry Schein Inc.
Erica Friedman, MD, FACP
Deputy Dean for Medical Education, Chair, Department of Medical Education, Professor of Medicine, CUNY School of Medicine
Sylvia Puente, PhD
President & CEO of the Latino Policy Forum
Cesar Rolon Jr.
Co-Founder, Illinois Unidos
Xavier Nogueras
Co-Founder, Illinois Unidos
The Honorable Alex Padilla
U.S. Senator for California
Antonio (Tony) Alamo, M.D.
Chief Medical Director of Network Operations State of Nevada, Optum Care
Carrie L. Byington, M.D.
Executive Vice President, University of California’s health enterprise, Professor of Pediatrics University of California
John W. Graneto, D.O., M.Ed., FACEP, FAAP
Professor and Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Vice-President for Health Affairs California Health Sciences University

2020
VADM Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH
Surgeon General, United States of America
Cristina S. Contreras, LMSW, MPH, FABC
Chief Strategy Officer, Executive Director, NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi/North; NYC Health + Hospitals, North Central Bronx.
Ann Marie Arligagos
President & CEO, Hispanics in Philanthropy
Eduardo Sanchez, MD, MPH, FAAD
Chief Medical Officer for Prevention, American Heart Association
Lucia Tarin, MD, MPH, FAAD
Program Director, Adventist Health White Memorial Family Medicine Residency Program
Ramiro Zuñiga, MD, MBA, FAAFP
Vice President, Medical Director, Health Net and California Health and Wellness; Centerene Corporation

2019
Rafael Lantigua, MD
Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Community Service, Director, Office of Community Service Programs, Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University Irving Medical Center
Aida Luz Maisonet Giachello, PhD
Research Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

José A. Pagán, PhD
Chair & Professor, Department of Public Health Policy & Management, NYU College of Global Public Health
Ana E. Núñez, MD
Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Professor of Medicine, Drexel University College of Medicine
Irene Blanco, MD
Associate Dean for Office of Diversity Enhancement, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Deborah Deas, MD, MPH
Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, Mark and Pam Rubin Dean of the School of Medicine, Professor of Psychiatry, University of California, Riverside
Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd
Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Andrew D. Jahn
President, Adventist Health Southern California
Carlos A. Gutierrez, MD, FAAP
Pediatrician, Paso Del Norte Pediatrics, Inc.
Mario A. Jimenez, PharmD
Director Diversity Initiatives, Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy
Edward A. Mena, MD
Hepatologist and Medical Director, Pasadena Liver Center President and CEO, California Liver Research Institute

2018
Oxiris Barbot, MD
Acting Commissioner, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Mitchell Katz, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer, NYC Health + Hospitals
Susana Morales, MD
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine Director, Diversity Center of Excellence, The Cornell Center for Health Equity
Carlos Orta
Vice President, Carnival Corporation
Arturo Ibarra, DDS
Director, The Queens of Angels Foundation
Domenika Lynch
President & CEO, Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute
Yvonne Maldonado, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Development, Stanford University School of Medicine
Arturo Molina, MD, MS
Chief Medical Officer, Sutro Biopharma, Inc.
Felix Nunez, MD, MPH
Medical Director, Molina Healthcare of California
Maria S. Salinas
President & CEO, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

2017
Adam Aponte, MD, MPH
Medical Director, United Healthcare Community Plan of New York
Assistant Dean for Diversity & Inclusion, Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell
Araceli Esquivel
Director, Health Equity, Inclusion and Quality Improvement, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Vincent Guilamo-Ramos, PHD, RN
Professor, Director, Center for Latino Adolescent and Family Health, NYU Silver School of Public Health
Herminia Palacio, MD, MPH
Deputy Mayor of Health & Human Services, New York City
Steven Safer, MD
Chief Executive Officer, Montefiore Medicine
Maria L. Soto-Greene, MD
Vice Dean, Professor of Medicine, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
Hector D. Vilchis
Vice President, Agency Target Markets, New York Life Insurance Company
John Andazola, MD, FAAFP
Program Director, Southern New Mexico Family Medicine Residency Program
Mary Lou De Leon Siantz, PHD, RN, FAAN
Professor, Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis and Director, Center for the Advancement of Multicultural Perspectives on Science
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>David Carlisle, MD, PHD</td>
<td>President and CEO, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine &amp; Science</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jeff Davis</td>
<td>Chief Operating Officer, Brand New Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fidel Huerta, MD</td>
<td>Medical Director, Kern Regional Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Peter V. Long, PHD</td>
<td>President and CEO, Blue Shield of California Foundation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Martha Preciado, MD</td>
<td>Cardiologist, East Los Angeles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Luis A. Miranda, Jr.</td>
<td>Founding Partner, MirRam Group</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angela Diaz, MD, PhD, MPH</td>
<td>Director, Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez, MPA</td>
<td>Board of Trustees, City University of New York</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Robert Mujica, JD, MGA</td>
<td>Board of Trustees, City University of New York</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fernando Valverde, MD</td>
<td>Regional President, Southern Florida Humana</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Althea Alexander</td>
<td>Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion, Keck USC School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lawrence Hy Doyle</td>
<td>Director, Prime Program, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>John Baackes</td>
<td>CEO, LA Care Health Plan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Richard D. Cordova, FACHE</td>
<td>Children’s Hospital Los Angeles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sylvia Lopez</td>
<td>Former Anchor, KCBS/KCAL TV, Los Angeles</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gregory Talavera, MD, MPH</td>
<td>Professor, Division of Health Promotion and Behavioral Science, Graduate School of Public Health, San Diego State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Ramanathan Raju, MD, MBA</td>
<td>President and Chief Executive Officer, New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Maldonado, Jr., MD, MSc, MBA</td>
<td>President, Medical Society of the State of New York</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rick Sanchez</td>
<td>International Journalist</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Honorable Melissa Mark-Viverito</td>
<td>Speaker, New York City Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fernando (Tino) Bernadette, MD</td>
<td>President, Bernadette Foundation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>James Martel, MD</td>
<td>Principal, Martel Eye Medical Group</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Frank Meza, MD</td>
<td>Alta Med Health Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lloyd H. Minor, MD</td>
<td>Dean, Stanford University School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Senator Ricardo Lara</td>
<td>California State Senate</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hilda Solis</td>
<td>Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Natalie Morales-Rhodes</td>
<td>NBC TODAY Show</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manny Gonzalez</td>
<td>Co-Founder &amp; CEO, Pediatric Innovations USA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Luis Rosero</td>
<td>Director of Hispanic Business Strategy Group, Toyota Motor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>North America, Toyota</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yvette Calderon</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Office of Diversity Enhancement, Professor Albert Einstein College of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jay Hershenson</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor, CUNY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Roger F. Steinert, MD</td>
<td>Interim Dean, UC Irvine School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Henri R. Ford, MD, MHA</td>
<td>Vice Dean for Medical Education, Department of Surgery, Keck School of Medicine of USC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Robert Rojas CPA</td>
<td>Owner, Rojas &amp; Associates, CPAs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pedro Nosnik, MD, PA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Beth D. Zachary</td>
<td>President &amp; CEO, White Memorial Medical Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bel Hernandez-Castillo</td>
<td>CEO and Executive Director, Latin Heat Media, LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Chelsea Clinton</td>
<td>The Clinton Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Felix Ortiz</td>
<td>Assistant Speaker, State Assemblyman (District 51), NY State Assembly</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gary Butts, MD</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Diversity, Programs &amp; Policy, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Roberto Clemente, Jr.</td>
<td>President &amp; CEO, RCJ Global Impact, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diana Bonta, DrPH, RN</td>
<td>Adjunct Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, UCLA School of Public Health</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Monica Lozano</td>
<td>CEO, ImpreMedia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cástulo de la Rocha</td>
<td>President &amp; CEO, AltaMed Health Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandra Daley, MD</td>
<td>Associate Chancellor &amp; Chief Diversity Officer, UC San Diego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Juan Mondragon</td>
<td>Owner, Juan’s Restaurante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Guillermo Chacon</td>
<td>CEO, The Latino Commission on AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Corcoran</td>
<td>Retired, President, GE Foundation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wendy Z. Goldstein</td>
<td>President &amp; CEO, Lutheran Healthcare System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maria Hinojosa</td>
<td>President, The Futuro Media Group</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clinton E. Adams, DO, FAAFP, FACHE</td>
<td>Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Western University of Health Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mauricio Leiva, MEd</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arthur J. Ochoa, Esq.</td>
<td>Senior Vice President, Community Relations and Development, Cedars Sinai Health System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nely Galan</td>
<td>Principal, Adelante Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manuel Bennett</td>
<td>Artist and sculptor from Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Arlene González-Sánchez, MS, LMSW</td>
<td>Commissioner New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Robert B. Goldberg, DO  
Dean and Professor, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

Marilyn Aguirre-Molina, EdD, MS  
Director, CUNY Institute for Health Equity, Lehman College

James Knickman, PhD  
President and CEO, The New York State Health Foundation

Rosa Gil, DSW  
President and CEO, Comunilife, Inc

James Avila  
National News Correspondent, ABC News

Carmen Puliafito, MD, MBA  
Dean, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Cynthia Ann Telles, PhD  
Director, Spanish Speaking Psychosocial Clinic, UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital

Gary L. Yates  
Retired, California Wellness Foundation

Thomas M. Priselac  
President & CEO, Cedars-Sinai Health System

2010

Adolfo Carrion  
Regional Director, US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Richard Daines, MD, MPH  
Commissioner, New York State Department of Health

Paloma Hernandez  
CEO, Urban Health Plan Inc.

Kenneth Olden, PhD  
Dean, City University of New York School of Public Health

Jacqueline Hernandez  
CEO, Telemundo Communications Group

Anne Beal, MD, MPH  
President, Aetna Foundation

Susan Desmond-Hellman, MD, MPH  
Chancellor, University of California, San Francisco

Salvador P. Renteria III, DO  
State Aviation Medical Officer, MRO for the State of California

Antonio P. Linares, MD, FAAFP  
Medical Director and Regional VP, Anthem Blue Cross Health & Wellness Solutions

David Werdegar, MD, MPH  
President & CEO, Institute on Aging

Aida Alvarez  
Chairman, Board of Directors, Latino Community Coalition, San Francisco

Jorge L. Figueredo  
Vice President, Human Resources, McKesson

Lloyd H. Dean  
President & CEO, Dignity Health

2009

Anna Carbonell  
Vice President, Press & Public Affairs, NBC & Telemundo

Allen M. Spiegel, MD  
Dean, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

George Thibault, MD  
President, Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation

Joe Coto  
Former State Assemblyman (D-23), California Assembly

Claire Pomeroy, MD, MBA  
President, Albert & Mary Lasker Foundation

Carmela Castellano-Garcia, Esq.  
President/CEO, California Primary Care Association

Lawrence Garcia, Esq.  
Board of Trustees, Mercy Foundation, Sacramento

2008

Malcolm A. Smith  
New York State Senate Majority Leader

Karen Davis, PhD  
President, The Commonwealth Fund

Robert I. Grossman, MD  
Dean, New York University School of Medicine

Jose A. Arevalo, MD  
Physician, Sutter Health

Richard Figueroa, MBA  
Program Manager for Health Reform, California Endowment

2007

Alan D. Aviles  
President & CEO, New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation

Jo Ivey Boufford, MD  
President, New York Academy of Medicine

Ronald A. Williams  
Chairman, President & CEO, Aetna, Inc.
The **National Hispanic Health Foundation (NHHF)** (501c3) was established in 1994 in Washington, DC as the philanthropic arm of the NHMA. The mission is to support educational and research activities to improve the health of Hispanics. In 2005, NHHF became affiliated with and located at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University. In 2012, NHHF moved to the New York Academy of Medicine to build its community-based research and started submitting research grants. In 2020, NHHF moved to the NHMA DC Office.

In 2004, NHHF established the National Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Program for medical, nursing, dental, public health, and later physician associate and pharmacy students, with outstanding academic records, leadership, and commitment to serving Hispanics. The following year, we invited the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Hispanic Dental Association, Latino Caucus of American Public Health Association, the NYU-Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and an honorary committee to present our first ten scholarships. In 2007, NHHF started a partnership with the United Health Foundation, and in 2008, a second annual Gala in California. In 2005, NHHF established its Corporate Advisory Board to provide guidance for growth. In 2011, NHHF partnered with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to develop a 5 year project, “Hispanic Early Childhood Obesity Physician Leadership and Health Communications Project” that resulted in strategies with NY and CA leaders.

NHHF has been supported by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation to convene national summits to create policy to improve diversity in the health workforce:

A) “Increasing Diversity in Title VII Summit, 2009”: 25 African American and Hispanic and other medical experts met on improving diversity in medical education.

B) “The President’s STEM Initiative Expansion to Health Professions and Diversity, Summit, 2013”: 30 leaders met with White House, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Department of Education, HRSA, NIH, National Sciences Foundation, Institute of Medicine, on expanding STEM for recruitment of K-12 & college underrepresented students to health professions and developing private/public partnerships for health professions programs. This project resulted in legislation introduced by bipartisan support in the House and Senate to create a prehealth terminal degree pathway for Hispanic Serving Institutions.


D) Medical Spanish Summit, 2018 with linguistic and medical school faculty that met again in 2020. In 2017, NHHF coordinated a Stop Vaping Campaign with CVS- Health, Dermatology Scholarship Program with Lubriderm, started the National Hispanic Pharmacists Association (nhmafoundation.org/nhpa) with CVS Health, Walmart, PhRMA, and developed a Health Literacy Tool Kit for private physicians with Centene.

In 2021, NHHF Board launched the National Center of Hispanic Health Research to start a national repository of clinical researchers, nominations for clinical research opportunities, and recruitment for mentoring program.

We target physicians with large Hispanic patient panels to recruit to participate in clinical research and supporters include Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, Genentech and Amgen. In 2022, NHHF partnered with Rockefeller Foundation on Building Healthy Communities (Vaccine Education for Youth). This year NHHF is partnering with Centene for its California Leadership Fellowship, executive training for physicians and with CDC on Recruiting and Retaining a Diverse Public Health Workforce. Finally, NHHF has a new MOU with USDHHS to recruit Latino health leaders to Commissions and has become a Member of the ARPA-H Consumer Education Hub Network.

NHHF encourages you to Donate to NHHF for its Research and Education projects.

**For more information:** [www.NHMAFoundation.org](http://www.NHMAFoundation.org)
Established in 1994, the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) represents the interests of 50,000 licensed Hispanic physicians in the U.S. Its office is in Washington, DC and its mission is to empower Hispanic physicians to improve the health of Hispanic populations with our public and private partners.

The NHMA was developed as a result of a meeting of a core group of physicians who came together at the White House working on health care reform in 1993. During the meeting it was decided an organization was needed to fill a void in Washington, DC – the need for a voice for Hispanic/Latino physicians as advocates for Hispanic health with the Federal government. This decision grew from a history of organizing efforts dating back to the 1960s when Hispanic medical students formed regional associations and local societies focused on social and charitable activities. In 1982, Dr. Elena Rios established the California Chicano/Latino Medical Student Association with medical student leaders and its Super Network to link with 25 California Chicano premed clubs, and in 1987 the National Latin American Medical Student Network (now known as Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)) with advisors from New Jersey, Sacramento, and Chicago medical schools. Physician leaders from these groups came together in Washington, DC to start NHMA.

From 1995 to 1996, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration supported 5 regional meetings with Hispanic health leaders around the country, and the NHMA advisory committee that included NLAMS. In 1997, NHMA convened its First Annual National Conference. In October 1998, Dr. Rios became the Executive Director of NHMA supported by a Cooperative Agreement of the U.S Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health (HHS OMH). In 2000, NHMA began to receive funding from Foundations and the private sector for programs: Hispanic-Serving Health Professional Schools, NHMA Leadership, Resident Leadership and Public Health Fellowships, Research Network, Cultural Competence Curriculum Project, National Hispanic Health Leadership Summit with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, HHS and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and started its Congressional Hispanic Health Briefing Series and government affairs efforts with the California Endowment. In 2004, NHMA invited Hispanic healthcare leaders to meet and they formed the National Hispanic Health Professional Leadership Network and the NHMA Council of Medical Societies to promote leadership among their members.

In 2005, NHMA completed a strategic review and expanded its Board of Directors to include nationally recognized leaders, and in 2006, developed its membership plan. As a first step in this strategy, NHMA established a portal (HispanicHealth.info) to share calendar of meetings, community forums, and key resources. In 2007-2008, NHMA and OMH convened regional policy summits on access, prevention, workforce for the next five years, and produced recommendations for health care reform presented to the Obama Administration, Senator Kennedy (D-MA), and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. In 2009, NHMA established its Council of Residents (COR) and along with President of LMSA, they were appointed to the Board. In 2011-2012, NHMA Board had retreats to rebrand its logo and build membership with regional policy summits, nominations for Federal commissions, job board, affinity programs, institutional membership, the Council of Young Physicians (CYP). In 2013, NHMA started Region Policy Forums with the White House and HHS on the Affordable Care Act, and in 2014, the mentoring of pre-med, medical, and public health students. In 2015, NHMA held a Diversity in Research & Medicine Summit with NIMHD and developed a Congress bill (HR 2927) STEM Pre-Med Pathway to Medical School with Congressman Joe Heck (R-NV) and Congressman Raul Ruiz (D-CA), and advocacy for access to preventive, health and mental health care, and ACA enrollment and implementation. In 2016, NHMA continued its health communications projects with CDC on HIV, ASTHO on adult Flu Vaccines, CMS with medical practice transformation, and with Amgen CVDz Summits. In 2017, NHMA started the College Health Scholars supported by HHS OMH to recruit Latino college students to health careers, NHMA Medical School Liaison program, and partnered with the AllofUs Research Program. In 2019 NHMA started its Chapters. In 2020, NHMA started COVID-19 Webinar Series and participated in national and international meetings and media on COVID-19 and Latinos. In 2021, NHMA announced the “Vaccinate For All” Campaign with CDC and J&J and began meeting weekly with the Biden Administration. This year we expand our work with medical education, collaborating with medical school members and expanded our staff/consultant/interns to 27. NHMA is a national leader working with our public and private partners to improve the health of our communities and ultimately, the health of all Americans.

NHMA invites you to join our network and become a member at: www.nhmamd.org
AARP is honored to sponsor the 2023 New York Annual Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship Gala and congratulates the exceptional nominees and award winners.

Somos the ones who advocate for more Hispanic representation in the healthcare sector. Together, we uplift health professionals working to provide care to diverse communities.

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