

Erica Aeed TeKampe

Erica Aeed TeKampe is the Program Director of HIV Care Directions, which is a program of the Area Agency on Aging, Region One in Phoenix, AZ.

HIV Care Directions provides case management and other supportive services to individuals with HIV.

Erica has a Master's degree in Social Work from Arizona State University and has worked in HIV services for 25 years.

Dr. Ligia Peralta

Dr. Ligia Peralta is a clinician scientist, Fellow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and President and CEO of Casa Ruben Inc., an organization addressing health disparities in underserved communities. Dr. Peralta is an active member of the HIV Vaccine Trials Network and co-chair of the LatinX committee of the COVID-19 Prevention Network of the National Institute of Health. Currently, she leads a new initiative addressing the needs of individuals recovering from COVID-19.

As a clinician researcher and advocate her interest resides in health disparities, HIV, chronic illnesses, and vulnerable populations. She was awarded the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan Fellowship on Innovation and Global Leadership. Most recently, she served as the Co-Chair of the Incidence Committee of the United States Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS in Washington, DC.

She served as a Commissioner of the Maryland Health Care Commission, a regulatory agency addressing health system needs and accountability. She served as the Chief of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine and the Director of its Adolescent HIV Program, and a founder of the Genomics Research Core at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She successfully combined her roles as physician professor, researcher, and patient and community advocate. She has addressed health disparities of vulnerable populations by creating innovative programs to provide them with access to primary care services and research. Other community programs in Maryland include developing and evaluating COVID-19 prevention, education and testing initiatives at senior homes in partnership with housing authorities and food banks. Her "One Stop Shopping" model of service is successful in engaging and retaining individuals in care and has been recognized as a national and international model of care. Her strength is the unique skill in dealing with people at the community level of health care. She has successfully applied her training in Business Management to deal with the sustainability of organizations such as Casa Ruben, Inc. to address the health and emotional needs of the communities and improve access to health care.

Dr. Peralta has worked on HIV/AIDS in Africa, Asia, South America and Haiti designing user-friendly programs to address the HIV epidemic. She is the recipient of the 2000 Latinos of Distinction Award conferred by the Food and Drug Administration and the White House. She is the first Hispanic American serving in the National HIV Task Force to establish treatment

guidelines for children and adolescents. She has been the recipient of over 40 federally-funded awards from the United States National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and has published over 100 original articles, textbook chapters and federal guidelines contributions. The Governor of the State of Maryland inducted her to the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame in 2011.

Douglas Drevets, MD, DTM&H, FIDSA

Douglas Drevets, MD, is Chief of Infectious Diseases at OU Health and a Regents' Professor in the OU College of Medicine. He also holds the Laureate Chair in Molecular Medicine, and is the Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs in the Dept. of Internal Medicine. Dr. Drevets earned his medical degree from the University of Kansas in Kansas City, then completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis. During which time he also obtained a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (DTM&H) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London, UK. He continued his education by completing a clinical fellowship in Infectious Diseases at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver, CO and a post-doctoral fellowship in basic immunology at National Jewish Health in Denver, CO.

He is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, and is a Fellow in the Infectious Diseases Society of America (FIDSA). In addition to a busy clinical practice in consultative infectious diseases including treatment of patients with HIV/AIDS, Dr. Drevets is active as an educator, teaching and provides mentorship to the next generation of infectious disease specialists. He is also active as a researcher, particularly in the areas of neuro-infection and neuro-inflammation. He has earned competitive research funding from state and federal sources for many years.

Dr. Chris Duncombe

Dr. Chris Duncombe is the Chief Medical Officer at the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care. He heads the PEPFAR-funded Fast Track Cities Project, which is supporting 15 high HIV burden cities to accelerate their urban responses to attain UNAIDS HIV prevention, treatment, and zero stigma targets. Dr. Duncombe holds a medical degree from Sydney University and a PhD from the University of Amsterdam. Prior to joining IAPAC, he was with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and with the World Health Organization in Geneva. His interests include HIV treatment optimization, the public health approach to the delivery of HIV services in resource limited settings and HIV and aging.

Richard L. Zaldivar

Richard Zaldivar is a nationally renowned and well-respected leader in both the Latino and LGBTQ communities. Based in Los Angeles, California, he is often sought for his expertise, leadership and strategic thinking in the topics of community engagement, empowerment, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, mental health, LGBTQ issues, faith and community politics.

For over 40 years, he has been a mover and shaker in uplifting marginalized communities, recognized with awards from numerous elected officials, philanthropic institutions, community organizations and national media.

Richard is the founder and executive director of The Wall Las Memorias Project, a ground-breaking community health and wellness organization dedicated to serving Latino, LGBTQ and other underserved populations through advocacy, education and building the next generation of leadership. Under his guidance, The Wall Las Memorias Project built the United States' first publicly funded AIDS monument located in East Los Angeles. He blazed the trail in raising AIDS awareness by hosting Strike Out AIDS at Dodger Stadium for fourteen consecutive years. The organization continues to grow through community leadership and empowerment campaigns involving hundreds of thousands of Latino and LGBTQ community residents to address HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, mental health and the sudden rise of crystal meth.

Richard has long been a political force in local, state, national and international politics. Early in his career, he steered lasting community reforms through his work in the Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, and later through serving on the Los Angeles County HIV Prevention Planning Committee and Los Angeles Commission on HIV where he was co-chair of the Public Policy Committee. He is Chair of the board of directors for Alcohol Justice, a statewide advocacy organization. Zaldivar was elected in Mexico City as Chair for the Commission on Health for the Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior where he served as a member from 2008 to 2011, representing the interests of the Mexican community to the government of Mexico.

In politics, Richard was elected to serve as a member of the LA County Democratic Central Committee from 1974 to 1980, as well as the California Democratic State Central Committee from 1974 to 1984. He was elected to the National Democratic Party mini conferences in 1974 and 1978. In 1980, Zaldivar was elected to the National Democratic Convention as a delegate to Ted Kennedy, where he served on the Platform committee and the sub-committee on foreign policy in Latin America.

Richard joined the Obama for President campaign in Las Vegas, Nevada in 2008, and later in Colorado in 2012. In 2016, he was recognized by President Obama at the White House LGBTQ Pride Reception. In 2020, he was instrumental in establishing the Biden campaign's headquarters and presence in Los Angeles and was elected as a delegate for "Joe Biden for President" and appointed to the Democratic Platform Committee.

Richard has often been invited to give keynote speeches on different topics throughout the nation. He was the highest-ranking Latino presenter at the U.S. Conference on AIDS in 2018, delivering a powerful plenary speech electrifying over 3,200 HIV activists in Orlando, Florida. He has moderated national presentations, including two national conversations on HIV on behalf of the Office of AIDS Policy for the White House, and served as the master of ceremonies for the 2012 International AIDS Conference Global Village program in Washington, DC.

Richard has been honored by numerous organizations, elected officials and corporate entities. He has been highlighted as a National Hero on American Latino Television on ABC Television (<https://youtu.be/2Dh-rtiebsg>), featured on KTLA's "Heroes at Home" in April 2011, was honored in the special edition of the L.A. Weekly entitled "People 2011, A Celebration of our City's Finest," and was highlighted prominently for his work on HIV/AIDS on the front page of La Opinión, the largest Spanish language newspaper in the United States.

In 2012, the California State Legislature's Latino Caucus presented Richard with the "Spirit Award," and in 2013, the LGBT Caucus awarded him the "Pride Award," making Richard the only person to receive awards from multiple caucuses from the California State Legislature. The Los Angeles Pride Parade honored Richard both in 2013 with the "Connie Norman Spirit Award" and in 2016 as one of the "Legends of Pride."

Richard's life and work have been profiled in culturally influential and historical publications and books, including "The Book of Pride: LGBTQ Heroes Who Changed the World," "Community-Based Participatory Research: Testimonios from Chicano/a Studies," and "Latinos and Latinas at Risk: Issues in Education, Health, Community."