

**Paul D. Juarez, PhD**

Paul D. Juarez, PhD is Professor and Vice Chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine and leads the Health Disparities Research Center of Excellence at Meharry Medical College. Dr. Juarez has a PhD in social policy from Brandeis University and BA and masters degree in psychology from Western Washington University. Dr. Juarez currently serves as the PI of the NIH Tennessee Community Engaged Alliance against COVID (TN CEAL) program to increase vaccine uptake among African Americans and Latinos; an EPA STAR grant that analyzed the combined and cumulative effects of exposures from the natural, built, and social environments on cardio-vascular disease, and the HRSA Tennessee Area Health Education Center, to provide interdisciplinary, primary care training to AHEC Scholars (health professions students). He is immediate past-chair of the USDHHS/OMH Advisory Committee on Minority Health. Dr. Juarez has led efforts throughout his career that bring together trans-disciplinary research teams with community partners to conduct community engaged, public and environmental health disparities research.

**Paulina A. Rebolledo, MD MSc**

Dr. Paulina Rebolledo was born in Mexico City, Mexico. She completed Internal Medicine specialty, Infectious Disease and Medical Microbiology fellowship at Emory University as well as Master of Science in Clinical Research. She currently holds dual appointments in the Division of Infectious Disease and Department of Global Health at Emory University and is an attending physician at Grady Memorial Hospital and the Grady Infectious Disease Clinic (IDP). Dr. Rebolledo's main research interest centers around vaccine-preventable diseases and ensuring the availability of infectious disease diagnostics for resource-limited populations. Since the early days of COVID-19 in Georgia, she has led testing initiatives at Grady Memorial Hospital and had been actively involved as lead and co-Investigator for diagnostic, treatment and vaccine-based COVID related research studies. Dr. Rebolledo partners with various national and local community organizations within the Latinx community to provide evidence-based and culturally sensitive information about COVID-19 and vaccines and had led multiple community-based efforts centered on testing and vaccine uptake.

**Laura Castellanos, MHA**

Laura Castellanos is an associate director at the American Hospital Association's (AHA) Health Research and Educational Trust. In her role, Laura manages the association-wide initiative Hospitals Against Violence focusing on educating the health care field on leading practices and innovative approaches to workplace violence and community violence, including human trafficking, gun violence and supporting victims and communities of mass violence incidents. Laura supports the Institute for Diversity and Health Equity (IFDHE) in developing strategic alliances to advance the health of diverse communities.

Laura led the formation of a strategic alliance with UnidosUS, formerly known as the National Council of La Raza, and the National Urban League.

Laura was the inaugural Richard J. Umbdenstock and the Institute for Diversity and Health Equity Executive Fellow at the AHA, supporting the executive office and initiatives related to health equity and

social justice. Prior to the AHA, Laura was a senior project manager in human resources at Houston Methodist Hospital System, Texas, responsible for system integration initiatives. She was also an intern for the Institute for Diversity in Health Management's Summer Enrichment Program at Houston Methodist working on initiatives related to coordination of care and quality improvement.

Laura holds a master's degree in health care administration from the University of Houston and a bachelor of science in nutritional sciences from the University of Texas at Austin. She currently serves as a board member of the National Association of Latino Healthcare Executives and chair of the Care Transformation Committee. Laura also serves as a board member for Mujeres Latinas en Acción, a Chicago-based nonprofit that provides social services, domestic violence and sexual assault support, immigration services, and leadership development for Latinas and their families.

### **José T. Montero, MD, MHCDS**

José T. Montero, MD, MHCDS, is the director of the Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support, where he oversees support to the US health departments and those serving tribal nations and insular areas. He provides leadership for key activities and technical assistance designed to improve the public health system's capacity and performance to achieve the nation's goals in population health. With his team, Dr. Montero leads efforts to create communities of practice where CDC's senior leaders work with the executive leaders of the public health jurisdictions, key partners, and stakeholders to identify new, improved, or innovative strategies to prepare the public health system to respond to changing environments.

Previously, Dr. Montero served as vice president of population health and health system integration at Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene, where he helped the healthcare system advance its population health strategy. He also served as director of the Division of Public Health Services at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Montero holds a medical degree from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He specialized in family medicine and completed his residency at the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia. He also holds an epidemiology degree from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia, received his certification of field epidemiology from the Colombia Field Epidemiology Training Program and a master's of healthcare delivery science from Dartmouth College.