



National Hispanic Medical Association

**Leadership Fellowship Program**

Class of 2023

# History of the National Hispanic Medical Association

Established in 1994, the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) represents 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 appointed the leader and the leaders of LMSA to the Board. In 2011-2012, NHMA Board had retreats to rebrand its logo and build membership with regional policy summits, nominations for Federal and private commissions, speakers, 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 participating 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 and health communications. 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. For more information & to join us: [www.nhmad.org](http://www.nhmad.org)

# NHMA Leadership Fellowship Program

The NHMA Leadership Fellowship is an executive training program that started in 1999 and has supported the careers of over 100 Hispanic physicians who are working in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, State and City Health Commissioner positions, and academic leaders in medical schools, chief medical officers in federal clinics and in private practice.

The underrepresentation of Hispanics in high-level Federal and State positions as well as in private sector remains a major concern, especially in the United States healthcare system. With such low representation in the US health workforce, the Latino community is left without adequate resources to address the excessive burden of health inequities. Increasing Hispanic physicians in senior executive management positions in the government and private sector will be an important step towards achieving health equity and quality health care for all Americans.

The lack of Hispanic faculty role models and leadership in academic medicine and other health professions is a factor that affects the effective recruitment of Hispanic students and the ability of our academic medicine community to strategically improve the health of Hispanics.

Finally, there is a critical void in education of the U.S. Congress and the State Legislature and public health leaders about the healthcare issues that impact the Hispanic community, the largest ethnic group in the U.S. who have been largely ignored by the health policy debate. It has only been recently that the Hispanic population had data collection and policy discussion on the impact of Federal and state programs and an acknowledgement of the challenge to the future generations that Hispanic health is a severely underestimated priority for policy-makers.

The purpose of the NHMA Leadership Fellowship is to assist in the development of leadership potential among physician members of the National Hispanic Medical Association, in order to increase the number of skilled Hispanic physicians who may be eligible for entry to the pool of applicants for policy making and executive positions within State and Federal Government and the private sector at decision-making levels. The ultimate outcome is to improve the quality of health of all Americans.



# NHMA Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week

The NHMA Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week is a dynamic experience to empower physician leaders to advance Hispanic health and excel in their careers. This immersive week-long experience offers a unique opportunity to engage with federal agencies, and public health leaders. At the end of the week, the fellows will broaden their understanding of public health and health policies while enhancing their leadership skills to drive positive change in Hispanic health across the nation.

## Objectives

- **Federal Agency Engagement:** Fellows will have exclusive access to various federal agencies, allowing them to gain insight into the inner workings of government initiative related to public health and Hispanic health disparities. An opportunity to interact with policymakers and experts
- **Knowledge Expansion:** The program provide a comprehensive overview of current public health issues and health policies, with a focus on their impact of Hispanic communities. Fellows will receive up tp date information and resources to enhance their expertise in these areas
- **Collaboration Opportunities:** Fellows will be encouraged to actively engage in opportunities for collaboration with federal government agencies. Fellows will learn how to effectively partner with these agencies to address healthcare disparities and improve health outcome among Hispanics
- **Leadership Skill Refinements:** This week will include dedicated sessions and workshops aimed at refining leadership skills. Fellows will learn strategies for effective communication, team building, and problem-solving, all crucial for advocating for Hispanic health
- **Advancing Hispanic Health:** A central theme of the program is to explore and discuss the current efforts and initiatives dedicated to advancing Hispanic health across the United States. Fellows will gain a deeper understanding of ongoing projects, best practices, and opportunities for involvement

## Program Highlights

- **Agency Visits:** Fellows will have the chance to visit prominent federal agencies such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Office of Minority Health (OMH), and more. These visits will include discussions with agency leaders and subject matter experts
- **Policy Workshops:** In-depth workshops will cover critical healthcare policies, regulations, and legislation impacting Hispanic health. Participants will learn how to navigate the policy landscape effectively.
- **Networking Opportunities:** The program will facilitate networking sessions where Fellows can connect with peers, mentors, and established healthcare leaders. These connections can foster collaborations and long-lasting professional relationships.
- **Leadership Development Seminars:** Leadership experts will lead seminars on topics such as strategic leadership, diversity and inclusion, and effective advocacy, providing Fellows with practical skills for their careers





# Virtual Series Agenda

**Leadership Fellowship Program**  
Class of 2023

May 12th - July 7th, 2023



National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Virtual Series Agenda

Friday, May 12th, 2023

2:00 – 2:30 PM

Welcome & Introduction of Program

**Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP**

President & CEO

National Hispanic Medical Association

2:30 – 4:30 PM

Leadership Styles

**Jo Ivey Boufford, MD**

Clinical Professor of Global Health  
NYU School of Global Public Health





National Hispanic Medical Association

## Leadership Fellowship Virtual Series Agenda

Friday, May 19th, 2023

2:00 – 3:00 PM

U.S Congress Policy Making

**Art Motta**

Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy  
National Hispanic Medical Association

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Health Policy Analysis & Team Dynamics and Assignment of Team

**Jo Ivey Boufford, MD**

Clinical Professor of Global Health  
NYU School of Global Public Health

4:00 – 4:30 PM

Introduction to Team Policy Leaders

**Mental Health:**

**Hector Colon-Rivera, MD, MBA, MRO**

APM Medical Director

UPMC Attending and Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry  
Clinical Advisor for the Department of Drug and Alcohol for the State of PA

**Diversity in Health Workforce:**

**Katherine Flores, MD**

Director, UCSF Fresno Latino Center for Medical Education and Research  
Associate Clinical Professor, UC San Francisco

**Climate Justice:**

**Emilio Morante, MPH, MSUP**

Senior Director  
Urban Planning Inc.





National Hispanic Medical Association

## Leadership Fellowship Virtual Series Agenda

Friday, June 2nd, 2023

2:00 – 2:40 PM

Introduction to Medicare and Medicaid

**Jennifer Haley, MA**

Principal Research Associate for Health Policy Center  
The Urban Institute

2:40 – 3:00 PM

Q&A Session

3:15 – 4:00 PM

Biden-Harris Administration Priorities

**Anabella Aspiras, MPA, RN, BSN**

Assistant Director, Cancer Moonshot Engagement  
Office of Science and Technology

4:00 – 4:30PM

Q&A Session







# Leadership Fellowship Virtual Series Agenda

Friday, June 9th, 2023

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Priorities of a CDC Leader: Improving Public Health for the Future

**Jose Montero, MD, MHCCDS**

Director, Office of Recipient Support and Coordination  
National Center for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Public Health Infrastructure and  
Workforce  
Center for Disease Control

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Lessons Learned from an NHMA Leader

**Ahmed Calvo, MD, MPH**

Senior Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)  
U.S Department of Human and Health Services

4:00 – 4:30PM

Series Debrief/Evaluations





National Hispanic Medical Association

## Leadership Fellowship Virtual Series Agenda

Friday, June 16th, 2023

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Infectious Disease Prevention and Control for Latinos

**Janet Glowsicz, PhD, RN**

Infection Preventionist, Project Firstline  
Center for Disease Control Prevention

**Shay Drummond, RN, MPH, CIC**

Infection Preventionist, Project Firstline  
Center for Disease Control Prevention

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Social Determinants of Health: Reducing Health Disparities among Latinos

**Carolina Solis Sanabria, MD, MPH, FACS**

Physician Research Program Official  
Division of Clinical and Health Services Research  
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)  
National Institute of Health (NIH)

4:00 – 4:30PM

Series Debrief/Evaluations





# Leadership Fellowship Virtual Series Agenda

Friday, June 23rd, 2023

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Working with State Public Health Leaders

**Tomas Aragon, MD, DrPH**

Director of the California Department of Public Health and State Public Health Officer  
California Department of Public Health

**Tania Capaz**

Executive Director  
Somos, Inc.

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Healthy People 2023 – U.S Public Health Framework

**Deborah Hoyer**

Public Health Advisor  
Office of Disease Prevention Health Promotion  
U.S Department of Health and Human Services

**Elizabeth Dee, MPH**

Public Health Advisor  
Office of Disease Prevention Health Promotion  
U.S Department of Health and Human Services

4:00 – 4:30PM

Series Debrief/Evaluations





National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Virtual Series Agenda

Friday, July 7th, 2023

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Leadership Skill Building: Working with Media

**GCI Health**

3:00 – 4:20 PM

Working with State Public Health Leaders

**Representative Trinidad Tellez, MD**

District 40 – Hillsborough

New Hampshire

Principal

Health Equity Strategies LLC

**Dennis Cuevas-Romero**

Vice President of Government Affairs

California Primary Care Association

4:20 – 4:30PM

Series Debrief/Evaluations





# Washington D.C Institute Week Agenda

**Leadership Fellowship Program**  
Class of 2023

September 18th - 22nd, 2023



National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Monday, September 18, 2023

6:30 – 7:30 PM

Welcome Class of 2023 Fellows – Opening Remarks

**Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP**

President & CEO

National Hispanic Medical Association

**Guest Speaker:**

**Jessica Lee, MD**

Acting Chief Medical Officer

Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

The Smith

902 F Street NW

Washington, DC 20004

7:30 – 9:30 PM

Dinner

The Smith

902 F Street NW

Washington, DC 20004





National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

9:00 – 10:15 AM

Session One: Think Tank Panel

**Moderator:**

**Madeline Canas**

Program Coordinator

National Hispanic Medical Association

**Panelists:**

**Marquisha Johns, JD, MPH**

Associate Director for Public Health  
Center for American Progress

**Ben Ippolito, PhD**

Senior Fellow  
American Enterprise Institute





National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

10:15 - 10:25  
AM

Break

NHMA Headquarters

1920 L Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

10:30 - 11:45  
AM

Session Two: Congress & Lobbying for Hispanics Panel

**Moderator:**

**Art Motta**

Director, Government Affairs and Public Policy  
National Hispanic Medical Association

**Panelists:**

**Ivelisse Porroa-Garcia**

Senior Vice President  
Crossroads Strategies

**Julio Lainez**

Vice President  
NVG, LLC







# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Lunch

NHMA Headquarters

1920 L Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

1:15 - 2:30 PM

Session Three: Federal Budget Panel

**Moderator:**

**Art Motta**

Director, Government Affairs and Public Policy  
National Hispanic Medical Association

**Panelists:**

**Lara Robillard**

Principal Analyst  
Principal Analysis Division  
Congressional Budget Office

**Miriam Cabezas**

Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources (ASFR) Office of Budget  
U.S Department of Health and Human Services





# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

2:45 – 3:15 PM

Travel

Rideshare

200 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20201

3:30 – 4:45 PM

Session Four: U.S Department of Health and Human Services Leadership Panel

**Moderator:**

**Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP**

President and CEO

National Hispanic Medical Association

**Panelists:**

**Lauren Jee**

Chief of Staff

Office for Civil Rights

**Marvin Figueroa**

Director

Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

**Megan Sullivan, MD**

Counselor to the Secretary

Immediate Office of the Secretary





National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

8:00 - 9:30 AM

Breakfast

10:00 - 10:45  
AM

Travel (Meet at NHMA by 9:45AM)

Rideshare

1920 L Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

11:00 - 12:00  
PM

White House Meeting

Eisenhower Executive Office Building

1650 17th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006

12:15 - 1:15 PM

Travel & Lunch

1:45- 2:30 PM

Congressional Meeting

**Senator Alex Padilla**  
112 Hart Senate Building

3:30- 4:00 PM

Mental Health - Congressional Meeting

**Senator Catherine Cortez Masto**  
520 Hart Senate Building





National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Thursday September 21, 2023

7:30 – 8:15 AM

Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Bus Travel

Meet at 8:20 AM  
NHMA Office

10:00 – 11:15  
AM

Session One: Office of Minority Health Leadership Equity Panel

Health Resources and Services Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20852

**Moderator:**

**Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP**

President and CEO

National Hispanic Medical Association

**Panelists:**

**RDML Felicia Collins, MD, MPH, FAAFP**

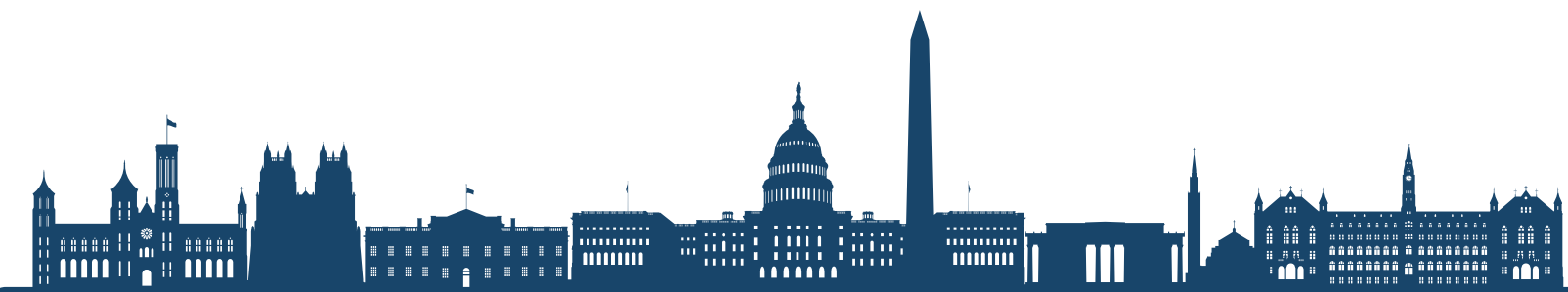
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health  
Director, Office of Minority Health (OMH)

**Christine Ramey**

Deputy Director, Office of Health Equity  
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

**Anthony Welch**

Associate Director for Outreach and Communication  
Office of Minority Health and Health Equity  
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)





National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Thursday September 21, 2023

11:30 - 12:30  
PM

Travel

1920 L Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

12:45 - 1:15 PM

Lunch

1:30 - 2:00 PM

Travel to Policy Team Meetings

Rideshare

2:15 - 3:15 PM

Policy Team Meetings

## Climate Justice

**Matthew Tejada**

Director, Office of Environmental Justice  
Environmental Protection Agency

1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20004

## Mental Health

**Dana Doran**

Associate Director, Federal Relations  
American Psychiatric Association

800 Maine Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20024

## Workforce Diversity

**Melody Gonzalez**

Executive Director, White House Initiatives on Advancing Educational  
Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Hispanics  
U.S Department of Education

400 Maryland Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20002



National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Thursday, September 21, 2023

3:30 – 4:00 PM

Travel

Rideshare

4:05 – 5:00 PM

Get Ready for CHCI

5:15 PM

Departure

Walter E. Washington Convention Center

801 Mt. Vernon Pl NW  
Washington, DC 20001

5:45 – 6:15 PM

CHCI Award Gala Reception

6:30 – 10:00 PM

CHCI 46th Annual Awards Dinner and Entertainment





National Hispanic Medical Association

# Leadership Fellowship Washington DC Institute Week Agenda

Friday, September 22, 2023

8:00 – 8:45 AM

Breakfast

NHMA Headquarters

1920 L Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

9:00 – 12:00 PM

Conflict Management Session

Tory Kinson

Lecturer & Coach, Department of Management and Entrepreneurship  
University of Tennessee

12:15 – 12:45  
PM

Lunch

NHMA Headquarters

1920 L Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

1:00 – 1:30 PM

Leadership Styles Debrief

Jo Ivey Boufford, MD

Clinical Professor of Global Health  
NYU School of Global Public Health

1:30– 3:00 PM

Leadership Fellowship Debriefing and Next Steps

Elena Rios, MD, MSPH,MACP

President and CEO

National Hispanic Medical Association



# NHMA CLASS OF 2023 LEADERSHIP FELLOWS

Dear NHMA  
Leadership Fellows

**Congratulations!** On behalf of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), we are pleased to have you in our 2023 Leadership Fellowship Program. Your outstanding accomplishments and proven dedication to the Hispanic community have been recognized and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP  
President and CEO  
National Hispanic Medical Association





# Angela Nusloch, MD

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Medical Director of Endoscopy Labs

*Ochsner Medical Center*

Baton Rouge, LA

Dr. Angela Nusloch received her medical degree from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She completed her Internal Medicine residency at the Mayo Clinic. She completed two fellowships. Her Gastroenterology fellowship was completed at Banner University Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona. She returned to the Mayo Clinic to complete a Transplant Hepatology fellowship. Dr. Nusloch is board-certified in Gastroenterology. She has been on staff at Ochsner since 2020 and practicing medicine since 2006. Dr. Nusloch's expertise is in Inpatient Gastroenterology and Quality Endoscopy Care. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling with her husband and spending time with her family.



# Carla Vazquez Santos, MD

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Team Physician Internal Medicine

*One Medical Seniors*

Federal Way, WA

Dr. Carla Vazquez Santos is an Internal Medicine physician in the greater Seattle area working primarily with the geriatric population and serving the Hispanic community in South King County. She was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and grew up in the town of Carolina. She obtained a BS in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico, graduating summa cum laude in 2010 and receiving highest GPA distinction. She obtained her medical degree in 2014 from University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine and went on to complete her residency in Internal Medicine at the same institution in 2017.

Dr. Vazquez Santos has always had a passion to serve underinsured, low-income and/or immigrant communities. Thus, after completion of her residency, she completed a Global Medicine Fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. Through this program, Dr. Vazquez Santos became a Lecturer in Medicine at Harvard Medical School and was appointed an Assistant in Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. She was also able to work as a physician at Barbara McInnis House, a medical respite facility which forms part of the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program. In addition, she shared her passion, knowledge and clinical skills globally by providing clinical teaching and patient care at Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital in Mbarara, Uganda.

Dr. Vazquez Santos is committed to continue improving the life of her patients through compassionate, patient-centered care, and in a collaborative patient-doctor relationship. She has great knowledge and experience in preventative medicine and management of chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes and depression. She also enjoys mentoring students at all levels, particularly empowering young, hispanic females to become strong, passionate and compassionate professionals in the medical field.



# Carlos Salama, MD

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Director of Global Health &  
Site Director for Mount Sinai ID  
Fellowship

*Elmhurst Hospital Center*  
Professor of Medicine

*Icahn School of Medicine*  
New York, NY

Dr. Carlos Salama is an Infectious Diseases Physician at Elmhurst Hospital Center and Professor of Medicine at Icahn School of Medicine in New York City. Elmhurst Hospital is a public hospital that serves a mostly Latinx immigrant community from Central and South America and the Caribbean.

His roles at Elmhurst include: Director of Global Health, Head of the General ID Clinic, and Site Director for the Mount Sinai ID Fellowship Program. Dr. Salama previously ran the HIV clinic at Elmhurst for 11 years.

In his current role in Global Health, Dr. Salama works with neighborhood community-based organizations to improve the care of the undocumented Latinx communities in our surrounding neighborhoods.

Dr. Salama's family is originally from Argentina.



# Erika Ramirez Jimenez, MD

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Internal Medicine Partner Physician  
*Southern California Physician Medical Group*  
Equity, Inclusion and Diversity  
Coordinator  
*Kaiser Permanente*  
Downey, CA

Dr. Erika Ramirez Jimenez was born in Guadalajara, Mexico and raised in Southern California. She obtained her degrees in Psychology and Spanish from the University of Southern California (USC) and continued her education at USC Keck School of Medicine where she earned her Doctorate in Medicine. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the University of California Davis and is board certified in the field.

For the past six years, Dr. Ramirez has been providing quality care to a predominantly working-class, Spanish-speaking, Latinx patient population as a partner physician at Kaiser Permanente in Downey, California. With a longstanding dedication to minority healthcare, she has participated and led various minority health-focused initiatives and currently serves as the Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity (EID) coordinator for the outpatient Internal Medicine clinic.

Her position has allowed her to educate colleagues on critical medical topics, such as LGBTQ+ health, COVID-19 disparities in minority communities, and female reproductive rights. Her clinical expertise encompasses primary care, preventative medicine, and the treatment of chronic conditions, including diabetes, hypertension, and obesity. The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) has recognized her excellence in diabetic care.

As a native Spanish speaker, Dr. Ramirez is an advocate for her Spanish-speaking patients, ensuring patient-centered, comprehensive, and culturally informed medical care.



# Johanna Contreras, MD, MSc, FACC, FAHA, FASE, FHFSa

Director of Diversity and Inclusion in Heart Failure & Director of Ambulatory Heart Failure

*Mount Sinai Health System*

Associate Professor of Medicine

*Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine*

New York, NY

Johanna Contreras, M.D, is the Director of the Ambulatory Heart Failure Network and Director of Diversity and Inclusion in Heart Failure- Mount Sinai Health System, and an Associate Professor of Medicine at The Icahn School of Medicine. Dr. Contreras attended Universidad Industrial de Santander in Columbia and completed a residency program at Tufts Medical Center - Tufts University. She completed postgraduate training in Cardiology and Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation at Tufts Medical Center - Tufts University. Dr. Contreras also completed a research fellowship in Pulmonary, Critical Care Medicine, Molecular Immunology and exercise physiology at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Contreras strives to promote diversity and healthcare among minority patients. She is one of the founding members of the American Heart Association Hispanic Latino Cardiovascular Collaborative, the Women in Transplant and Mechanical Support and founding board member of the Equity in Heart Transplant Project, with the goal of improving diversity at all levels of the organization. She is determined to achieve equity and to eliminate cardiovascular healthcare disparities and improve access of minority patients to advanced heart failure therapies –including mechanical heart devices and cardiac transplantation.

She is an active clinical investigator in multiple national and international trials and she is creating novel ways to increase participation of minority patients in clinical trials.

She is an active member of the American College of Cardiology, Heart Failure Society of America, American Echocardiography, American Heart Association, International Society of Heart and Lung transplant, among others.





## Jorge O. Moreno, MD

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Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Department of Internal Medicine

*Yale School of Medicine*

New Haven, CT

Dr. Jorge O. Moreno is Assistant Professor of Medicine at Yale School of Medicine. He is board certified in obesity medicine and internal medicine. Dr. Moreno is originally from Mexico and was the first college graduate and doctor in his family. He graduated with a BA from Columbia University in 2006 and received his MD from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 2011. Growing up with primarily Spanish-speaking parents, Dr. Moreno saw the inequities that exist in healthcare and the effects on the Hispanic community. He completed his internal medicine residency at Yale Primary Care Program in 2014. Initially, he worked in an internal medicine community practice in Connecticut, and in 2018, returned to Yale as faculty in the clinician-educator track. He developed an interest in caring for patients with obesity and started a subspecialty obesity medicine clinic as part of his internal medicine practice. At Yale School of Medicine, Dr. Moreno has focused on developing obesity medicine curricula for medical students, physician associate students and medical residents.

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly influenced his clinical practice, he cared for patients with COVID-19 on the inpatient COVID units and in the outpatient setting throughout the pandemic. He quickly recognized not only the lack of information in Spanish about COVID-19 and the vaccines available, but also the vaccine hesitancy that existed in the Hispanic community. His focus turned to educating this community about COVID-19 in English and Spanish. Teaming with the Yale New Haven Health System, he participated in informational videos about the COVID-19 vaccine in Spanish. His outreach work with the Hispanic community led to collaborations with the Connecticut Department of Public Health, and garnered media attention from local and national outlets. He is excited to join the 2023 NHMA Leadership Fellowship class to further develop his leadership skills and continue to be a physician leader and advocate for the Hispanic community.



# Juanita Mora, MD

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Physician and CEO  
*Chicago Allergy Center*  
National Spokesperson  
*American Lung Association*  
Chicago, IL

Dr. Juanita Mora was born and raised in Chicago. She is a first generation Mexican American and the first doctor in her family. She has a passion for educating the Latino community, bridging the gap in health equity and found her voice through the COVID-19 pandemic as she helped the Latino community navigate and walk through the hard times and uncertainty of this pandemic with her knowledge. She stepped in to do multiple local and national campaigns to break down barriers of misinformation.

Dr. Mora serves as Volunteer Medical National Spokesperson for the American Lung Association and serves as a voice of education and science for those that have no voice. She has done multiple national interviews throughout the COVID-19 pandemic including NPR, Time Magazine, Washington Post, New York Post, Wall Street Journal, Associated Press, NBC news, WGN, Univision, Telemundo and most recently was recognized as a Health Hero by US News and World Report for her work with the Latino Immigrant Community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. She also received the 2022 Practice Champion Award by the American Academy of Allergy and Immunology for her work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Mora continues to serve on multiple local and national campaigns to help keep the latino community safe and use her voice to keep this community safe and healthy.



# Leandro Slipczuk Bustamante, MD, PhD, FACC

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Section Head and Director of Clinical Cardiology &  
Director of Advanced Cardiac Imaging and CV  
Atherosclerosis and Lipid Disorder Center

*Montefiore Healthcare Network*

Associate Program Director of Advanced Cardiac  
Imaging Fellowship &  
Assistant Professor

*Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

New York, NY

Dr. Leandro Slipczuk Bustamante is a board-certified cardiologist, Section Head and Director of Clinical Cardiology, Director of the Advanced Cardiac Imaging Program and the CV Atherosclerosis and Lipid Disorder Center at Montefiore Healthcare Network. Additionally, Dr. Slipczuk is the Associate Program Director of the Advanced Cardiac Imaging Fellowship and Assistant Professor at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. His clinical focus is in the prevention and treatment of coronary artery disease, valvular heart disease, lipid and cardiometabolic disorders with a comprehensive clinical and multimodality imaging approach.

In 2007, Dr. Slipczuk received his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Buenos Aires, and in 2010 received his Doctor of Philosophy. Dr. Slipczuk began his postgraduate training with a residency in internal medicine at Einstein Medical Center and then completed a fellowship in cardiology and advanced cardiovascular imaging in 2016 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Dr. Slipczuk's research focus is on the identification of high-risk patients and plaque features, lipid disorders and cardiovascular imaging. His work has been published in peer-reviewed journals including PNAS, JACC, European Heart Journal, JACC Advances, Circulation CV Imaging, JAHA and Journal of Nuclear Medicine.

Dr. Slipczuk is board certified by the American Board of Clinical Lipidology and the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is also board certified in cardiovascular CT, echocardiography and nuclear cardiology. He is a member of the AHA Council of Cardiac Imaging and Intervention Science committee and the Educational Committee of the SCCT. He is also a Guest Associate Editor for Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine.





# Linda Mirdamadi, MD

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Adjunct Clinical Faculty & Executive Board of Directors

*Keck School of Medicine of USC*

Board of Governors

*University of Southern California*

Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Mirdamadi is an Internist with over 20 years of clinical and executive leadership experience with expertise in Lifestyle and Bariatric Medicine with a focus on wellness, obesity and chronic disease prevention. She is the former Chief Wellness Officer and Medical Director for the Center for Healthy Living and Weight Management and is the co-founder of the Bariatric program at Kaiser Permanente in West Los Angeles.

Currently, Dr. Mirdamadi serves as adjunct clinical faculty at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, serves on the Executive Board of Directors for the Keck School of Medicine, chairs the Alumni Mentorship Committee, and is the Alumni Faculty Advisor for the Latino Medical Student Association.

She also serves on the USC Board of Governors, volunteers her time with the USC Latino Alumni Association, and is on the Board of Directors for A Thousand Joys, a Los Angeles based non-profit that promotes and supports the well-being of our communities through education and empowerment. She is a fierce advocate for social justice and health equity and believes with increased access to health care, education, and developing public policies to support these goals, we can create a healthier nation for all.

Dr. Mirdamadi received her B.S. in Biology from the University of California Irvine and earned her MD at the Keck School of Medicine of USC as a Latino Alumni Association Scholar. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine and currently lives in Los Angeles where she maintains a part time clinical practice in Bariatric and Lifestyle Medicine.



# Norma Perez, MD, FAAP

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Director of ACEs (Advanced Childhood Experiences)  
Grants

*AltaMed*

Pediatric Physician

*AltaMed*

Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Norma Perez is a board-certified pediatrician who is passionate about providing excellent medical care to communities that have historically experienced health disparities. Dr. Perez was born in Los Angeles and raised in the city of Huntington Park. Her own experiences growing up in a medically underserved area peaked her interest in community medicine.

Throughout her career, Dr. Perez has worked with underserved communities in several primary care settings. Dr. Perez joined AltaMed Health Services in 2015 as a primary care Pediatrician and transitioned into the Site Medical Director position in 2017 where she has helped shape pediatric care for children in the Los Angeles area. She is now the Director of Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs) grants at AltaMed, addressing toxic-stress in the community and creating networks to facilitate access to buffering social services for AltaMed patients and their families.

Dr. Perez received her undergraduate degree at UCLA. She earned her medical degree from New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York and completed her residency in Pediatrics at Stony Brook University Hospital. Dr. Perez is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.



## Sonia Oyola, MD, ABOIM

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Director of Medical Education and Clerkship  
Department of Family Medicine

*University of Chicago*

Family Medicine Integrative Primary Care  
Physician

*Heartland Health Centers*

Chicago, IL

Sonia Oyola, MD has been a Family Medicine Physician since 2000 after completing medical school at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 1997 and residency at Cook County's Family Medicine Residency in 2000. She completed further training at the Arizona Center's Integrative Medicine fellowship in 2013 and is currently the Director of Medical Student Education, Director of the Family Medicine and Domestic Violence Electives and co-director of the Culinary Medicine Programs for the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine. She describes herself as fortunate to see patients at Tapestry 360 Health here in Chicago. Her specific interests are in Integrative Primary Care, Domestic Violence, Stress Disorders, Mind-Body Medicine (particularly Meditation, Yoga and Breathwork) and Culinary Medicine. And in 2009, founded a nonprofit organization called Be Alright which supports survivors of domestic violence and Chicago-area DV shelters. Her life's mission is to relieve suffering through mindfulness, kindness, joy and the promotion of compassion.



# Veronica Ramirez, MD, FACP

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Hospitalist

*UCLA Health*

Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor,  
Department of Medicine

*David Geffen School of Medicine of  
UCLA*

Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Veronica Ramirez is a Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine of UCLA. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and she has worked as a hospitalist for UCLA Health since 2016. Since 2019, Dr. Ramirez has served as the Clinical Lead for the UCLA Downtown Hospitalist Cohort, which provides inpatient care to patients at Barlow Respiratory Hospital, California Hospital Medical Center, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital. Dr. Ramirez worked closely with Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital to educate the Latinx community of South Los Angeles about the COVID-19 vaccine, via media campaigns as well as pop-up vaccination clinics throughout South Los Angeles.

Dr. Ramirez is the proud daughter of Mexican immigrants and the first in her family to become a physician. She graduated from Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Biology. She obtained her medical degree from the Keck School of Medicine of USC, and she completed her internship and residency in Internal Medicine at LAC+USC Medical Center. Her professional interests include mentorship, community advocacy, and medical education. She has served as a faculty interviewer for DGSOM, and she was recently appointed the new faculty co-advisor for the First-Gen group at the medical school. Dr. Ramirez has also enjoyed teaching and mentoring medical students and residents on the wards at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, as well as for the new Internal Medicine residency program at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital.