



## **Indira Islas, MPH**

*Government Affairs & Policy Manager*  
National Hispanic Medical Association

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Indira Islas is a dedicated public health professional with a strong commitment to advancing healthcare access for marginalized communities. Her passion for equitable healthcare is both professional and deeply personal, rooted in her family's experiences navigating the healthcare system.

Indira currently serves as the Government Affairs and Policy Manager at the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA). In this role, she works to influence policy, promote health equity, and advocate for the needs of Latino and underserved populations at the national level.

She brings experience in health policy, advocacy, and research, having held previous roles at Bristol Myers Squibb, the U.S. Senate, and the Fitzhugh Mullan Institute for Health Workforce Equity. Through these roles, she has worked on key issues related to workforce development, legislative advocacy, and improving access to care.

Her research efforts focus on addressing disparities in the healthcare workforce. She has published research on the representation of Latinos in the healthcare profession, highlighting both the current gaps and the opportunities to strengthen diversity and inclusion in the field.

Indira continues to champion equity-driven solutions that can create lasting change in health systems and policies across the country.



## **Linda Marie Mirdamadi, MD**

*Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor*  
Keck School of Medicine of USC

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Dr. Linda Mirdamadi is an Internist and former partner with the Southern California Permanente Medical Group with over 20 years of clinical and executive leadership experience serving the diverse communities of Los Angeles with expertise in wellness, obesity and chronic disease prevention. She has been an active member of her community, serving and advising local elected officials and was honored to co-chair Governor Jerry Brown’s task force, “Let’s Get Healthy California,” in which she led a team to develop strategies to improve health care delivery for high-risk Californians.

Currently, she is an adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and enjoys mentoring students as the faculty advisor for the Latino Medical Student Association. She serves on multiple University boards including President elect of the Keck School of Medicine Alumni Association’s Executive Board of Directors and the USC Alumni Association Board of Governors serving as past co-chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the USC Latino Alumni Association and the Board of Councilors for the USC Neighborhood Academic Initiative, an educational pipeline program serving under-resourced youth in Los Angeles.

Dr. Mirdamadi is a member of the Board of Directors for the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) and co-chairs the National Policy and Advocacy Committee. In 2024, she was elected to the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles County Medical Association and currently serves on the Legislative Action Committee. Most recently, she was honored to be nominated and confirmed as a member of the California Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates to further influence federal legislation and health policy.

As both a NHMA and National Hispanic Health Foundation Leadership (NHHF) Fellow, Dr. Mirdamadi advocates at the county, state and federal level to advance legislation that improves health outcomes in our Hispanic and other underrepresented and underserved communities. As a second-generation Latina, she is a fierce advocate for social justice and health equity and believes with increase access to health care and education, and with developing public policies to support these goals, we can create a healthier nation for all.



## **Ilan Shapiro, MD**

*Senior Vice-President and Chief Health Correspondent and Medical Affairs Officer  
AltaMed*

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Dr. Ilan Shapiro is the Senior Vice-President and Chief Health Correspondent and Medical Affairs Officer for AltaMed Health Services. He supports strategies for external health communications, advocacy, and community relations. As the Chief Health Correspondent for AltaMed, Dr. Shapiro works closely with the Public Affairs, Community Affairs, Government Relations, and Civic Engagement departments to help expand community health and wellness initiatives.

Dr. Ilan Shapiro has been with AltaMed since 2016 and has made a significant impact on the organization and the greater communities it serves. He is a tireless advocate for health care equality, with a deep affinity for innovation and public health policy, especially relating to the Latino population.

In his prior role as AltaMed's Medical Director of Health Education and Wellness, he helped to create and implement programs and services that expanded access to care and improved outcomes for the community. Between 2016–2017, he also served as Medical Director for Behavioral Health, and was instrumental in strengthening the practice and expanding AltaMed's offerings.

Dr. Shapiro has been on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic as a leading health expert, providing care, education and information. He has become a trusted media resource for both regional and national news outlets, including CNN, NBC, MSNBC, Telemundo, and Univision. At AltaMed, he is the face of our Community Affairs digital segment Conversaciones Vitales. Born from the pandemic, the episodes seek to educate the community and prevent any disinformation around important health topics as well as provide reliable information around common health care concerns.

Dr. Shapiro's background includes award-winning public health work, often on the international stage. After graduating as Honorary Valedictorian with his medical degree, he worked for the Mexican Secretary of Health as the liaison between Mexico and the World Health Organization (WHO). He has created binational public health programs to improve the health of Hispanic communities on both sides of the border.

In 2011, he was invited to join the White House Hispanic Policy Group and help educate and raise awareness for the Affordable Care Act. Dr. Shapiro is also a recent recipient of the Othli Award, an honor presented by the Consul of Mexico to recognize individuals working to improve the lives of Mexican nationals living in the United States and abroad. Prior to joining AltaMed, Dr. Shapiro held numerous health and leadership roles that focused on traditionally underserved communities. He spent five years working with migratory agricultural workers' families and the homeless in Southwest Florida and as a pediatric resident at Mount Sinai Children's Hospital in Chicago. He believes these roles sparked his passion for meaningful, community-focused work. In addition to his work at AltaMed, Dr. Shapiro serves on the Board of Governors at L.A. Care Health Plan and the Gasol Foundation.



## **Michael Galvez, MD**

*Director of Pediatric Hand and Upper  
Extremity Surgery  
Valley Children's Hospital*

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Michael Galvez, M.D. is a board-certified plastic and reconstructive surgeon with specialized training in pediatric hand surgery. He is passionate about advancing care for children and improving access to specialty services in underserved communities.

Dr. Galvez began his educational journey at Diablo Valley College, where he attended community college. He then transferred to the University of California at Berkeley, where he earned his undergraduate degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology.

He went on to receive his medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine in 2011. Following medical school, Dr. Galvez stayed at Stanford to complete a residency in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, which he finished in 2017.

To further hone his expertise, Dr. Galvez pursued additional fellowship training in 2018. He completed a combined hand and microvascular surgery fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle, as well as a pediatric upper extremity surgery fellowship at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, Texas.

Currently, Dr. Galvez serves as the Director of Pediatric Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery at Valley Children's Hospital in Madera, California. His work focuses on delivering compassionate, specialized surgical care to children with upper limb differences and injuries.

Beyond his clinical work, Dr. Galvez is committed to supporting the next generation of Latino physicians. He is the founder of National Latino Physician Day, celebrated annually on October 1st, to uplift and recognize the contributions of Latino physicians across the country. He strongly values the role of mentorship in shaping future leaders in medicine.



## **Michelle Paucar, MPH**

*Director of Pediatric Hand and Upper  
Extremity Surgery  
Valley Children's Hospital*

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Michelle Paucar serves as a Health Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (IL-09), who is the Chair and Co-founder of the House Democratic Task Force on Aging and Families. In this role, Michelle supports the Congresswoman's efforts to advance policies that protect and empower aging populations and their families.

Her policy portfolio covers a wide range of critical issues, including Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, disability rights, and women's health. She plays a key role in shaping legislation and conducting outreach that centers on equity, access, and care for vulnerable communities.

Michelle brings a wealth of experience from both local and federal levels of government. She has previously held roles at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. These experiences have deepened her understanding of health systems and public service.

At the heart of her work is a deep commitment to ensuring quality, affordable healthcare for seniors and people with disabilities. Michelle continues to advocate for inclusive policies that uphold the dignity and well-being of all individuals, regardless of their age or ability.