



THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT
AND BEYOND:

OPPORTUNITIES FOR
ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY

OAKLAND ASIAN CULTURAL CENTER | SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

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THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND BEYOND:
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY
OAKLAND ASIAN CULTURAL CENTER
SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

Today, racial and ethnic minorities lack adequate access to quality health care. Our communities are less likely to receive preventive care, which can cause serious illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease. In order for the nation to achieve racial equity in health outcomes and health care, it is critical for policy makers and communities to work in partnership to raise awareness around these racial and ethnic disparities and to think critically about how to eliminate them.

The Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) and members of the Summit Host Committee are convening the 2011 Health Equity Summit to bring together diverse communities with our nation's experts in health care, civil rights, and government to discuss policy reforms and initiatives that move the country toward racial equity in health and health care. The well-being and health of one community affects us all, as our social and economic policies are intertwined and are only effective when everyone benefits from those policies. Healthy communities make for better housing, steady employment, stronger education and innovative transportation. The Summit will address all of these policies and the role that health care plays.

This past year, under the leadership of the Obama Administration, Congress passed the most comprehensive health care reform bill that covers millions of uninsured and underinsured Americans and provides a strong foundation for eliminating racial and ethnic disparities. In addition, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) developed the National Partnership for Action to End Health Racial and Ethnic Disparities and the National Stakeholder Strategy of Achieving Health Equity, which offers a coordinated roadmap to combating health disparities and how our community and elected officials can work together.

To ensure that every American has access to quality and affordable health care, members of the Congressional Tri-Caucus, made up of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Congressional Black Caucus, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus are building on the gains provided by the new health care reform law and taking the next steps to closing the gap. Members of the Tri-Caucus will be joining us at the Summit. Together with communities across the nation, they will build on the gains provided by health care reform with the introduction of the Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2011.



Join the Health Equity Summit conversation by following
@apiahf and hashtag **#HealthEquity** on Twitter!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE HOST COMMITTEE OF THE 2011 HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT:

African American Community Health Equity Council
of the Black Coalition on AIDS/Rafiki Wellness
AIDS Project of the East Bay
AIDS United
Alameda Alliance for Health
Alameda County Medical Center
Alameda Health Consortium
Allen Temple Baptist Church
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence
Asian & Pacific Islander National Cancer Survivors Network
Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center
Asian Health Services
AsianWeek Foundation
Association of Asian Pacific Community
Health Organizations
California Black Health Network
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
California Primary Care Association
California Rural Indian Health Board
Calvin Freeman & Associates
Center for Asian American Media
Coalition of Lavender-Americans on Smoking & Health
Disability Rights Education and Defense
Fund/Ed Roberts Campus
La Clinica de La Raza
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
National Asian Pacific American Families Against
Substance Abuse
National Latino Tobacco Control Network
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable
Native American Health Center
Prevention Institute
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention/Public
Health Institute
Summit Health Institute for Research and
Education, Inc.
UC Berkeley School of Public Health

EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Abigail Arcilla
AJ Titong
Alameda County Medical Center
Andrew Sousa
Asian Health Services
California Primary Care Association
Center for Asian American Media
Daniela Quintanilla
Donald Young
Eileen Maramba
Franco Ciammachilli
Jim Choi
Jirair Ratevosian
Kent Li
Lucas Maciel
Luella Penserga
Marietta Factora
Nina Agbayani Grewe
Nikki Ritcher
Oakland Asian Cultural Center
Peter Ho
Priscilla Huang
Remy Lee Pon
Stacy Lavilla
SFSU Volunteers
Trish Quema
Vukani Mawethu Choir
Wendy Ho

All of the clinics that hosted the clinic tours:

AIDS Project of the East Bay
Asian Health Services
La Clinica de La Raza
Native American Health Center.

And all of the members and staff of the Congressional Asian
Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), the Congressional Black
Caucus (CBC), and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC).

September 17, 2011

Dear Friends:

We welcome you to the 2011 Health Equity Summit. On behalf of the Summit Host Committee, Honorary Summit Chair Rep. Barbara Lee, and other members of Congress including Representatives Judy Chu, Donna Christensen, Lucille Roybal-Allard and Michael Honda, we are honored that you have joined us and today. Together, we will examine strategies and policies aimed at giving everyone the best opportunity to reach the highest level of health.

Now, more than ever, we need to work in partnership with policymakers and the Administration to eliminate health and health care disparities. Racial and ethnic minorities still lag behind whites in many health outcome measures. Our communities are less likely to get the preventive care we need to stay healthy, more likely to suffer from serious illnesses, such as diabetes or heart disease, and when we do get sick, are less likely to have access to quality health care.

Achieving health equity will require a range of policy decisions on issues including housing, employment, education and transportation that have an impact on the health of our communities. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) lays the foundation for addressing health inequities by closing the health care gap and focusing on expanding access to affordable, quality health care. While Congress and the President made health reform a reality, the push to pass reform came from the ground up and across the country.

This effort continues as the Administration, policymakers and community health leaders work together to advance a health equity agenda. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) demonstrated its commitment with the historic release of its HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and the National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity, two strategic plans providing a coordinated roadmap to combating health disparities and moving the nation toward achieving health equity.

In addition, the Congressional Tri-Caucus — comprised of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Congressional Black Caucus and Congressional Hispanic Caucus — is joining with communities across the nation to build on the gains provided by health care reform through the Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2011, which will provide the necessary tools to address health inequities and prioritize the elimination of health and health care disparities.

As we will see at today's Summit, our communities and our elected leaders will work together to increase awareness of health disparities, their impact on the nation, and the actions necessary to improve health outcomes for racial, ethnic and underserved populations. This partnership is key, and will lead us to improving the health and well-being of our communities and achieving health equity together.

Sincerely,



Kathy Lim Ko, President and CEO
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum



Jeff Caballero, Executive Director
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

September 17, 2011

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

As Honorary Summit Chair, it is my pleasure to welcome you to my district for the 2011 Health Equity Summit, *The Affordable Care Act and Beyond: Achieving Health Equity*.

With the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, access to health care will be expanded in historic ways. In this era of health care reform implementation, it is imperative that we continue to work together to make quality, affordable health care a reality for everyone.

I know this Summit will provide an excellent opportunity for community-based organizations, providers, health experts, and policymakers to find new ways to advance our shared health equity agenda in our communities and across the country.

I commend the Host Committee for their leadership in convening what promises to be an outstanding event. I look forward to working with all of you, and my colleagues in Congress, to continue our fight to eradicate disparities and move forward boldly with this important, unfinished agenda.

Thank you for being here!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Barbara" and last name "Lee" clearly distinguishable.

Barbara Lee
Chair, Health Care Task Force
Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

September 17, 2011

Dear Friends:

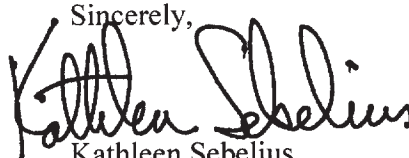
It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2011 Health Equity Summit, *The Affordable Care Act and Beyond: Achieving Health Equity*. I am truly honored to partner with you as we work to make quality, affordable health care a reality for everyone.

All Americans deserve the opportunity to make the choices that allow them to live a long, healthy life, regardless of their income, education, or ethnic background. Without the opportunity to live a healthy life, certain populations struggle to meet their full potential in education, the workforce, and society, at large. Today, with our country still struggling to get back on its feet after the worst economic crisis in a generation, it has never been more important that we foster healthy individuals, families, and communities. And that is why the Department renewed its commitment to improve the health and well-being of all Americans and particularly those that have historically been left behind. Because of persistent inequality in our health care system, racial and ethnic minorities are more likely to be unable to work, more likely to get sick, less likely to obtain the treatment and medication they need, and as a result, more likely to die from preventable diseases. It is our responsibility as policymakers—but also as fellow Americans—to ensure that we all live long, healthy lives.

I am proud to report that today we stand more ready than ever before to meet this challenge. The Affordable Care Act gives us unprecedented tools for addressing health disparities. As a fundamental first step, more Americans will have access to affordable health insurance. The Prevention and Public Health Fund makes targeted investments to strengthen communities and complement clinical interventions. The Affordable Care Act invests in new data systems that allow us to better track progress and outcomes, and making workforce and health center investments will strengthen health care infrastructure while improving access in underserved communities.

In addition, many of you worked with us on the *HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, which reflects the Department's commitment to promoting integrated approaches, implementing evidence-based programs, continually assessing our progress in reducing health disparities, and ensuring that we are working to eliminate health disparities. Complementing the HHS Action Plan is the *National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity*, which provides a common set of goals and objectives for both public and private sector initiatives and partnerships to help racial and ethnic minorities—and other underserved groups—reach their full health potential.

This Summit is an invaluable opportunity to advance a bold health equity agenda, and my Department stands ready to work with you. I commend the Host Committee for their leadership, and I congratulate the many Members of Congress and community leaders whose steadfast commitment to reducing health disparities has helped lead the way and continue to inspire us. Please accept my best wishes on a successful Summit.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Sebelius

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 9, 2011

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2011 Health Equity Summit, *The Affordable Care Act* and Beyond: Achieving Health Equity. In this era of health care reform implementation, it is imperative that we continue to work together to make quality, affordable health care a reality for everyone.


Throughout my career I have worked hard to ensure that all Nevadans live healthy lives. That is why I am proud of the work that the President and Congress have done in order to make health care reform possible for all Americans. *The Affordable Care Act* creates immediate changes to the way health insurance companies do business in order to protect consumers and provide Nevadans with better coverage and information they need in order to make informed decisions about health insurance. This law prohibits insurance companies from excluding coverage of pre-existing conditions for all Americans, provide tax credits for up to 24,000 Nevada businesses, close Medicare's "donut hole" and reduce premiums while improving Medicare benefits for our seniors, allow our children to stay on their parents insurance plan until the age of 26, and ensure affordable coverage options for all those who are uninsured. Achieving health insurance reform will take time and patience. *The Affordable Care Act* is the first step towards providing millions of Americans with affordable and effective health insurance. It is my hope that we can make affordable, comprehensive health coverage a reality for so many Americans who are currently struggling to pay their medical bills, and make ends meet.

This Summit is an invaluable opportunity for community-based organizations, providers, experts, and policymakers to discuss strategies for addressing health issues. I hope that the discussions from today will stimulate future dialogue on how we can work together to advance a health equity agenda.

I commend the Host Committee for their leadership in convening what promises to be an outstanding event. Please accept my best wishes on a successful Summit.



Sincerely,


HARRY REID
United States Senator
Nevada

DANIEL K. AKAKA
HAWAII

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INDIAN AFFAIRS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

September 17, 2011

MESSAGE FROM U.S. SENATOR DANIEL K. AKAKA

Aloha, and welcome to the 2011 Health Equity Summit, The Affordable Care Act and Beyond: Opportunities for Achieving Health Equity.

This Summit is an invaluable opportunity for community-based organizations, providers, experts, and federal and state policymakers to come together to discuss how we can work together to advance a health equity agenda. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to work with you and my House and Senate colleagues to make quality, affordable health care a reality for everyone.

Last year, President Obama signed the historic *The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act* into law. This landmark healthcare reform includes a number of provisions to reduce health disparities. We must, however, continue our work to build on the gains made in the *Affordable Care Act*; we must work together to make quality, affordable health care a reality for everyone – including populations, communities, and individuals that have traditionally experienced health care disparities and barriers to coverage.

Many thanks to the Host Committee for their leadership in convening what promises to be an outstanding event.

Please accept my best wishes on a successful Summit.

Aloha pumehana,



DANIEL K. AKAKA
U.S. Senator



Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader

September 17, 2011

Dear Friends:

It is my distinct honor to bring you greetings for the occasion of the 2011 Health Equity Summit, "The Affordable Care Act and Beyond: Achieving Health Equity." Welcome to the community leaders, health experts, policymakers, and advocates who have gathered to examine the root causes of and solutions to health disparities. Your leadership is vital to developing initiatives that advance health equity.

This community's vital advocacy and empowerment of a healthy, thriving country make the Health Equity Champion Award all the more significant. It is with great humility and great honor that I accept this award.

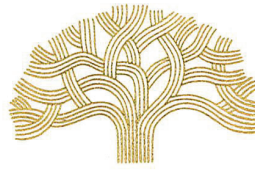
This award will be displayed in my office as a sign of my commitment to affordable, quality health care for all Americans, and the work that has yet to be done in addressing health disparities. Thank you all for this generous recognition.

I look forward to our continued dialogue. With your continued partnership, we can achieve a brighter, more vibrant future for us all.

best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Pelosi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of "Nancy" being a large, stylized capital "N".

NANCY PELOSI
Democratic Leader



MAYOR JEAN QUAN
CITY OF OAKLAND

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Oakland I would like to welcome you to the 2011 Health Equity Summit, "The affordable Care Act and Beyond: Achieving Health Equity." In this era of health care reform implementation, it is imperative that we continue to work together to make quality, affordable health care a reality for everyone.

This summit is an invaluable opportunity for community-based organizations, providers, experts and policymakers to discuss strategies for addressing health disparities. As a longtime advocate for universal health care, it is my hope that this weekend's convening will stimulate dialogue on how we can work together to advance a health equity agenda.

I, along with the citizens of Oakland, applaud the 2011 Health Equity Summit and commend the Host Committee for their leadership in convening what promises to be an outstanding event.

Please accept my best wishes on a successful Summit and continued success in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jean Quan



AGENDA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

8:00–9:00 AM BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION

9:00–10:00 AM WELCOME CEREMONY

OPENING CEREMONY

Vukani Mawethu Choir

Native American Blessing, Richard Moves Camp

Kathy Lim Ko, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum

WELCOME ADDRESS

Representative Barbara Lee (CA-9)

Mayor Jean Quan

OPENING REMARKS

Representative Donna Christensen (Virgin Islands)

Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34)

Representative Judy Chu, (CA-32)

Other Congressional colleagues and local dignitaries.

10:00–10:30 AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

National Strategy to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and Plan of Action to Achieve Health Equity

Dr. Garth Graham, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

10:30–11:40 AM

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY IN THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

This session will explore how implementation of the Affordable Care Act at the state and federal level can be used to advance health equity.

Community voice: Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act video,
Native American Health Center

Moderator: Dr. Sandra Hernandez, The San Francisco Foundation

Representative Donna Christensen (Virgin Islands)

Ruth Perot, Summit Health Institute for Research and Education

Priscilla Huang, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum

Jenn Ng'andu, National Council of La Raza

Ahniwake Rose, National Congress of American Indians

11:40–1:10 PM

LUNCH FEATURING TRI-CAUCUS MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY SPEAKERS

Panelists will speak about the importance of public-private partnerships in as a strategy for advocacy and public education.

Moderator: Mee Moua, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum

Representative Judy Chu (CA-32)

Mayra E. Alvarez, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Community speaker: Shane Chen, Hope Clinic

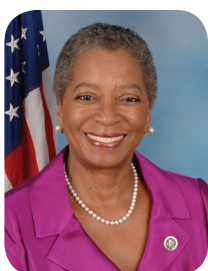
Community speaker: Margaret Gordon, West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project

Community speaker: Raquel Portugal, La Clinica de la Raza

- 1:10–2:20 PM** **STATE AND COMMUNITY-BASED MODELS FOR ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES**
This session will focus on local and state-based initiatives and best practices for reducing racial and ethnic health disparities.
- Community Voice: Kenneth Melton, AIDS Project East Bay
Moderator: Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34)
James Allen Crouch, California Rural Indian Health Board
Dawn Mahi, Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services
Dr. Owen Garrick, Sinkler Miller Medical Association
- 2:20–2:35 PM** **BREAK**
- 2:35–3:45 PM** **MOVING FORWARD: POLICY SOLUTIONS TO ADVANCE HEALTH EQUITY**
This session will highlight policy solutions and opportunities for advancing a health equity agenda.
- Community Voice: Li Ying Li, Asian Health Services
Moderator: Representative Mike Honda (CA-15)
Representative Barbara Lee (CA-9)
Assemblymember Mike Eng (49th Assembly District)
Ellen Wu, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
Larry Cohen, Prevention Institute
- 3:45–4:30 PM** **CLOSING**
- Teresita Batayola, Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations
Herb K. Schultz, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services–Region IX
Presentation of Health Equity Champion Award to Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA-8)
Representative Mike Honda (CA-15)
- 4:30–5:30 PM** **NETWORKING RECEPTION**



CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE has long fought to increase access to quality, affordable health care services for everyone, and particularly the most vulnerable. A belief that access to affordable, quality health care is a fundamental human right has been the cornerstone of Congresswoman Lee's efforts to shape health care reform legislation. As immediate past chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congresswoman Lee worked to secure the creation of Offices of Minority Health, increase funding for community health centers, reduce health disparities for underserved communities, and expand access to primary health care to help the most vulnerable. As current Chair of the Health Task Force for the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, she has sought to advance initiatives that will improve health care access for Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. A member of the powerful House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations and a fierce advocate of public health, Congresswoman Lee has worked to increase funding and awareness for a number of diseases and health conditions, including Alzheimer's, Multiple Sclerosis, HIV/AIDS, cancer and diabetes research. Additionally, Congresswoman Lee has worked tirelessly to strengthen Medicare, Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program to improve health care coverage and the quality of life of seniors, children, low income families and persons with disabilities. As a Congressional and global leader in the fight against the HIV/AIDS epidemic, Congresswoman Barbara Lee is the only United States representative to the United Nations Development Programme Global Commission on HIV and the Law. She co-authored legislation signed into law creating the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria in 2000, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in 2003, the PEPFAR Reauthorization Act in 2008, and was the original sponsor of legislation that led to the repeal of the travel ban that barred the entry of HIV positive individuals into the United States.



CONGRESSWOMAN DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN is serving her eighth term as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the U.S. Virgin Islands. She is the first female physician in the history of the U.S. Congress, the first woman to represent an offshore Territory, and the first woman Delegate from the United States Virgin Islands. She serves as an Assistant Minority Whip in the Democratic Caucus. Delegate Christensen is the First Vice-chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and chairs the Congressional Black Caucus' Health Braintrust, which oversees and advocates minority health issues nationally and internationally. She earned a Bachelor of Science in 1966 at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana and her M.D. in 1970 from the George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. She interned at Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, California from 1970 to 1971 and did her residency in family medicine at Howard University Medical Center from 1973 to 1974. Congresswoman Christensen began her medical career in the Virgin Islands in 1975 as an emergency room physician. She served as staff physician at the Maternal & Child Health program, Medical Director of the Nesbitt Clinic in Frederiksted, Director of the Frederiksted Health Center, Director of Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning, served as the Medical Director of the St. Croix Hospital and rounded out her medical career as the Territorial Assistant Commissioner of Health and as the Acting Commissioner of Health. She maintained a private practice in family medicine from 1975 until her election to Congress in 1996. She currently serves on the powerful Committee on Energy and Commerce and continues to be an outspoken advocate of eliminating health disparities.



CONGRESSWOMAN LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD represents of California's 34th Congressional District. Elected in 1992, she is the first Mexican-American woman elected to Congress. Making history again in 1999, the congresswoman became the first Latina appointed to the House Appropriations Committee, one of the most powerful committees in Congress. As a member of the Labor-Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, the congresswoman oversees funding for all federal health-related programs and agencies, including the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health. A national leader in public health and prevention efforts, Rep. Roybal-Allard co-founded the bipartisan Congressional Study Group on Public Health and is chairwoman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Health Care Task Force. In these leadership roles, Rep. Roybal-Allard championed efforts to ensure that health care reform provided quality and affordable health care, prioritized prevention and the reduction of disparities, and reined in escalating health care costs. The congresswoman's legislative accomplishments include passage into law of measures she authored to: promote the consumption of folic acid to prevent birth defects; curb underage drinking; and train doctors and nurses in newborn screening and educate parents about proper follow-up care. She is also the author of measures to curb teen pregnancy in minority communities and place a national focus on evidence-based maternity care practices to help achieve the best possible maternity outcomes for mothers and babies.

BIOGRAPHIES



DR. GARTH N. GRAHAM, MD, MPH, FACP is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health in the Office of Minority Health at the Department of Health and Human Services. He was previously appointed a White House Fellow and special assistant to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Graham earned an M.D. from the Yale School of Medicine, where he graduated cum laude. He also earned an M.P.H. from the Yale School of Epidemiology and Public Health with a focus in health policy administration. Board Certified in Internal Medicine he is also a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.



CONGRESSWOMAN JUDY CHU was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for California's 32nd District in July 2009 and is the first Chinese-American woman to serve in Congress. She was elected as Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus in February of 2011 and has championed a number of issues in Congress on healthcare, education, economic development, and immigration reform. Prior to beginning her political career, she taught psychology for 20 years. She earned her B.A. in mathematics from UCLA and her Ph.D. in psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology.



MAYRA E. ALVAREZ is the Director of Public Health Policy in the Office of Health Reform at the Department of Health and Human Services, where she has primary oversight responsibility for coordinated and timely implementation of the public health, prevention, and healthcare workforce policy provisions in the Affordable Care Act. Previously, Ms. Alvarez served as a Legislative Assistant for Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL), the Majority Whip of the U.S. Senate, where she advised the Senator and helped develop his legislative agenda on health issues. Prior to working in the office of Senator Durbin, she served as a Legislative Assistant for then-Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis, the chair of the Health Task Force for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Ms. Alvarez began her work in Washington D.C. as a David A. Winston Health Policy Fellow in the office of then-Senator Barack Obama. She completed her graduate education at the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her undergraduate education at the University of California at Berkeley.



CONGRESSMAN MIKE HONDA represents the 15th Congressional District of California in the House of Representatives. Congressman Honda has been a public servant for decades during which he has been lauded for his work on education, transportation, civil rights, and the environment. In 2000, Congressman Honda was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He serves on the Appropriations Committee and he is the Chair Emeritus of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. Congressman Honda is dedicated to passing a responsible budget that pays down our nation's debt, revitalizes our economy, while protecting top priorities such as Social Security, Medicare, and public education. Congressman Honda has been selected by his Democratic colleagues to serve as the Regional Whip for Northern California, Hawaii, American Samoa, and Guam. As Regional Whip, he works with the Democratic Leadership by communicating legislative priorities and strategies to members within his region. In February, 2005 he was elected Vice Chair for the National Democratic Party. He continues to be a strong voice for the cause of social justice, cultural tolerance and civil rights.

BIOGRAPHIES



ASSEMBLYMAN MIKE ENG started his public service in 1987 when the Mayor of Monterey Park appointed him to the Library Board; he eventually went on to serve as City Councilman and Mayor and helped lead the drive to build a landmark new library extension then was elected in 2006 as a California State Assemblyman in his first try for state office and re-elected in 2008 and 2010. He is the proud grandson of immigrants who came to California in the 1800's with nothing but a few dollars and the American Dream. Mike's parents worked in the garment industry and later borrowed money to open their own business. Today, Mike serves as Chair of the Assembly Banking & Finance Committee which has responsibility for California's banks & credit unions, mortgages and corporate securities laws. He was an at risk youth who almost dropped out of middle school; but with the help of wonderful educators and loving parents, he completed his Bachelor's, Master's and Law Degrees, became a lawyer and part time Community College Instructor and today serves on the Assembly Education committee reforming Education in California. Assemblyman Eng's leadership has brought millions of dollars and jobs to the San Gabriel Valley for clean-up of polluted drinking water; mass transit expansion; and community colleges. Mike is a passionate advocate for youth, immigrants, seniors, working families and protection of the environment.

VUKANI MAWETHU CHOIR is a nonprofit multiracial choir which sings the freedom songs of Southern Africa, primarily of South Africa in Zulu, Xhosa, Sethu, and English, and also gospel, spirituals, labor and civil rights songs linking peoples in the U.S., South Africa, and around the world.

MR. RICHARD MOVES CAMP is a fifth generation Lakota Traditional Healer/Medicine Man/Indian Doctor with fluency in Lakota language, who has been formally trained to lead cultural ceremonies based on knowledge of Lakota traditional healing practices, oral history, stories and songs, and to provide spiritual guidance based on Lakota religious beliefs, culture and philosophy. His knowledge of healing practices includes plant properties and remedies for use in healing ceremonies for the prevention, treatment and recovery of illness. Mr. Moves Camp is also a teacher of Lakota traditional medicine knowledge to his son, who is the future traditional healer for the people.



KATHY LIM KO is president and chief executive officer. Kathy has worked in senior management positions in community-based and philanthropic organizations throughout her 30 year career. Before joining APIAHF in 2010, Kathy was the program director for the Community Clinics Initiative (CCI), a joint project of Tides and The California Endowment, which supports capacity building of community clinics and health centers in California through grant making, learning and knowledge sharing, and data and research. Kathy has also worked in a number of health care settings and community clinics across the country, including San Francisco General Hospital, University of California San Francisco Institute for Health Policy Studies, Planned Parenthood SF, South Cove Community Health Center in Boston, and with the longest tenure as the Associate Director of Asian Health Services. In a volunteer capacity, Kathy has also served on numerous community boards of directors including the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, CompassPoint Nonprofit Services, and the Asian Women's Shelter. Kathy is a graduate of the Harvard School of Public Health, as well as of Stanford University. Among her proudest contributions to the community include helping with the development of the first-of-its-kind national Lu Mien Cultural Center in East Oakland for the Lao Lu Mien Culture Association and the historic preservation of Angel Island Immigration Station, a National Historic Landmark.

BIOGRAPHIES



SANDRA R. HERNÁNDEZ, M.D. is chief executive officer of The San Francisco Foundation. Dr. Hernández is a graduate of Yale University, Tufts School of Medicine, and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Prior to becoming CEO of the Foundation, she served as the director of public health for the City and County of San Francisco. She is an assistant clinical professor at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine and maintains an active clinical practice at San Francisco General Hospital in the AIDS clinic. Dr. Hernández currently serves on the boards of Blue Shield of California, the Blue Shield of California Foundation, First Republic Bank, Mills College, and The Bay Citizen. She is also a trustee of the Western Asbestos Settlement Trust and a member of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Economic Advisory Council, the Public Policy Institute of California Statewide Leadership Council, the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Public Policy Committee, the Yale University Council, the UCSF Chancellor's Advisory Board, and the UCSF Clinical and Translational Science Institute Advisory Board. Her prior affiliations include President Clinton's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Healthcare Industry; the Council on Foundations; the Institute of Medicine's Committees on the Consequences of Uninsurance and the Implementation of Antiviral Medication Strategies for an Influenza Pandemic; and Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government Executive Session on Philanthropy. Dr. Hernández also co-chaired San Francisco's Universal Healthcare Council.



RUTH T. PEROT, M.A.T. is co-founder and executive director/CEO of Summit Health Institute for Research and Education, Inc., established in 1997 to work to eliminate health disparities. She also serves as managing director of the National Health IT Collaborative for the Underserved, founded to help ensure that communities of color and other underserved populations benefit from HIT initiatives and advances. (See www.shireinc.org) Since 2001 Ms. Perot has championed the collection and reporting of racial, ethnic and primary language data. She has also provided leadership as co-founder and co-manager of Out of Many, One, a national multicultural advocacy coalition. In addition, Perot currently leads SHIRE's D.C. campaign to combat childhood obesity, and has helped guide the Regional Primary Care Coalition to promote primary care and advance HIT. Perot is a recipient of the CBC Health Braintrust's Healthcare Hero Award and Families USA's Consumer Advocate of the Year Award.



PRISCILLA HUANG, JD is the policy director for the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), where she directs the organization's policy analysis and advocacy work to expand access to health care, improve the quality of care, increase data on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander health, and increase investments in community-driven health strategies. Prior to APIAHF, Priscilla worked for organizations that address immigration, reproductive justice, anti-trafficking and domestic violence issues. Priscilla was a Georgetown Women's Law and Public Policy fellow and holds a law degree from American University, Washington College of Law, where she was one of ten Public Interest/Public Service Scholars.



JENNIFER NG'ANDU, National Council of La Raza, is the Deputy Director of the Health Policy Project at the National Council of La Raza (NCLR). She oversees NCLR's efforts to improve the health status and outcomes of Latinos through national policy change. Her work focuses on eliminating injustices in health care for Latinos by increasing health coverage in the Latino community and improving access to quality health care and services. Prior to NCLR, Ms. Ng'andu worked at the National Immigration Law Center, helping to advance legislation that improves health and expands access to social services for low income immigrants and increasing educational opportunities for immigrant students. She received recognition for her health disparities work when presented with the 2008 Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust Leadership in Advocacy Award.



AHNIWAKE ROSE, National Congress of American Indians, (Cherokee) serves as a Policy Director for the National Congress of American Indians. Leading the Human Resources legislative team, Ms. Rose's position encompasses addressing and leading national policy initiatives that serve to empower Tribes and Indian communities to improve their overall health and well-being. Ms. Rose's portfolio includes health, education, nutrition, and child welfare. Prior to joining NCAI, Ms. Rose worked for the Department of Education as a consultant implementing Presidential Executive Order 13336, providing culturally appropriate education to Indian students through the No Child Left Behind Act. Ms. Rose holds a MA in Health Communication.

BIOGRAPHIES



MEE MOUA is vice president for strategic impact initiatives. Prior to joining APIAHF, Mee was a lawyer in private practice and served three terms in the Minnesota Senate where she chaired the powerful Judiciary Committee and had jurisdiction over several state agencies and all policy matters relating to criminal, civil and administrative law and procedures. Mee also served a tenure of five years on APIAHF's board of directors before joining the staff. Born in Laos, Mee immigrated to the U.S. in 1978. She attended Brown University as an undergraduate, earned a master of public policy from the University of Texas-Austin, and a law degree from the University of Minnesota.



JAMES ALLEN CROUCH, California Rural Indian Health Board, a member of the Cherokee Nation, is Executive Director of the Sacramento-based California Rural Indian Health Board, a position he has held since 1987. Mr. Crouch's board affiliations include serving as a founding and now Emeritus member of the California Endowment Board, California's largest Health foundation. He is currently Board Chair of the Californian Pan Ethnic Health Network. He also serves as the representative for the California Area to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Tribal-Technical Advisory Group. Mr. Crouch received a Bachelor of Arts degree from American University, Washington, D.C. and a Master of Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley.



DAWN MAHI, Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services, is the Health Through Action and Lei Hipu'u Coordinator at Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services in Honolulu, Hawai'i. There she works together with community to weave innovative partnerships from the needs, perspectives and values of families with young children and the services offered in Kalihi Valley and beyond. She also brings this perspective to the national Health Through Action Initiative, funded by APIAHF and the Kellogg Foundation. Weaving our diverse strengths and stories into a figurative lei of aloha creates strong communities that value and support all our children to reach a bright future.



DR. OWEN GARRICK is Chief Operating Officer of Bridge Clinical Research. He has overall responsibility for the Clinical Trials and Investigator Training business units. Bridge CRO is the leading company focused on increasing the participation of ethnic minority investigators and patients in industry and institution sponsored clinical trials. He began his business career at Goldman Sachs in New York, functioning as an investment advisor working with private healthcare companies as they sought to grow, raise capital, and perform initial public offerings. Dr. Garrick earned his MD from the Yale School of Medicine and his MBA from the Wharton School of Business. He holds an AB in Psychology from Princeton University and continues to be an active alumnus, serving on the national fundraising board. Dr. Garrick also serves on several boards. He is the President of the American Medical Association Foundation and serves on the boards of Sutter Health and the New York Blood Center.



ELLEN WU has been the Executive Director of the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN) since 2001. CPEHN is a statewide health policy organization whose mission is to eliminate health disparities by advocating for public policies to improve the health of communities of color. Ellen received her Masters in Public Health from UCLA and is an adjunct faculty member at San Francisco State University. She serves on numerous boards including on the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board as the Senate President pro Tem Steinberg's appointee, the California Budget Project's Board of Directors, and the City of Oakland's Park and Recreation Commission. Prior to joining CPEHN, Ellen was a Program Officer at the Tides Foundation and served as Director of Health Education and Cultural Linguistic Services for the Alameda Alliance for Health.

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LARRY COHEN, Prevention, is founder and Executive Director of Prevention Institute, a national nonprofit dedicated to improving community health and equity through effective primary prevention: systematic, comprehensive strategies to build resilience and to prevent illness and injury before they occur. Larry has helped to advance a deeper understanding of how community factors shape health outcomes and provides resources, conceptual frameworks, and tools to help communities address health inequities and prevent injuries, violence, and chronic disease. Prevention Institute has been deeply engaged in national strategy to incorporate a focus on and investment in prevention and community wellness as part of the health reform agenda and stimulus funding.



JEFF CABALLERO, Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations, is the Executive Director of the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO). He participates on numerous national committees that address issues affecting Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders, such as tuberculosis, hepatitis B, diabetes, and cancer. He also serves as Vice-Chair of the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable, National Board Member of the American Diabetes Association, and member of the National Diabetes Education Program's Executive Committee. He also serves on the Office of Minority Health's Advisory Committee for Cultural and Language Appropriate Standards Enhancement Initiative; and is a member of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Technical Expert Panel on Quality Incentives for Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, and Free Clinics.



TERESITA BATAYOLA, MSUA, Chief Executive Officer of International Community Health Services (IHS) in Seattle, Washington, leads the state's largest Asian and Pacific Islander non-profit organization providing primary health care services including medical, dental, behavioral health, acupuncture and health education services. Batayola came into health care from her work in planning and leading major public initiatives and projects at the international, state and local levels. With a background in economic development, community development and strategic planning, she has headed comprehensive planning for the City of Seattle and was the Strategic Development Advisor for a World Bank project in Surabaya, Indonesia. She holds a BA from Seattle University and an MS in urban administration from Bucknell University. Batayola is currently the Board President of the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations, Board Vice President for the Washington Association of Community and Migrant Health Centers, and an Advisory Committee member for the State Insurance Commissioner's Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan. In March 2010, Batayola was named by Seattle Business Magazine as an outstanding leader in healthcare.



CHARMAINE MANANSALA is vice president for strategic engagement initiatives. Charmaine joins APIAHF from the U.S. Department of Labor. As a presidential appointee, she served as a senior legislative officer advising Secretary Hilda Solis on legislative activities. Prior, she served as the National Asian American and Pacific Islander vote director for Obama for America. Charmaine was also the California area political director of the Services Employees International Union (SEIU). Charmaine also has served as a healthcare and social security advisor to Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi in the U.S. House of Representatives. During the Clinton Administration, Ms. Manansala was a senior policy analyst for the first White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. She received her Bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Smith College and her Masters in Public Health at the George Washington University.



SHARON CORNU is a long-time political strategist, community organizer and former elected labor leader. She returned to Oakland after serving as National Field Director for the AFL-CIO in 2010. A magna cum laude graduate of Brown University, she holds a masters degree in human services from the University of Massachusetts. She serves on the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee and the East Bay Economic Development Alliance. She was recognized by East Bay Housing Organizations for her leadership on affordable housing in 2009 and was Assemblymember Sandre Swanson's Woman of the Year in 2007. Cornu first met Mayor Quan as a PTA activist at Laurel School, where her sons participated in our schools' award-winning music program.

BIOGRAPHIES

COMMUNITY SPEAKERS

SHANE CHEN is the Director of Capacity Development of the Houston Asian American Health Collaborative (HAAHC) project under Asian American Health Coalition (AAHC) - HOPE Clinic. AAHC of Greater Houston is a non-profit organization, established in 1994, dedicated to improving the health of all Asian Americans in Houston by increasing access to health care and through population-specific health promotion and health education projects. In 2002, the Coalition launched HOPE Clinic, a community health center, to help address the unmet health needs of medically underserved Asian Americans and other residents of Southwest Houston. Ms. Chen herself is a first generation immigrant from Taiwan and is the oldest of three children. Growing up, she faced all of the typical, textbook health disparities. Wanting to improve community health, Ms. Chen joined the AAHC as a member and in 2008 as a staff. She was a member of the Asian & Pacific Islander National Cancer Survivors Network (APINCSN) National Advisory Council for 2 years. She has firm cultural understanding and working relationship with local Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) groups. For over eight years, she has been working to tackle the existing civil, social, and health inequalities. Currently, Ms. Chen's goal is to increase cancer education, screenings, and access to treatment, AAPI support groups and positive survivorship experiences.

MARGARET GORDON, Environmental Justice/Sustainability Community Advocate, is the co-founder and co-director of the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP). For more than a decade, she has educated herself and residents of West Oakland on the issues of air quality, land use, job equity and environmental health issues afflicting the community of West Oakland. As Co-Director of WO EIP, Margaret has led the group to numerous successes including working to better regulate and eventually shut down the largest fixed source of toxic air pollution in the neighborhood, and developing the first ever neighborhood truck route in West Oakland to keep 18-wheeler Port trucks away from children and homes.

RAQUEL PORTUGAL has been a patient at La Clínica de La Raza since 1982 and is a cancer survivor.

REVEREND. KENNETH MELTON, Senior Pastor and Founder of Affirming Hope Ministries, became a client in 2007 at the AIDS Project Of The East Bay (APEB) in Oakland CA, where he was introduced to the Ryan White program and began receiving supportive services including use of the food pantry, food vouchers, transportation, psychosocial support and case management. Kenneth served as Chaplain at Saint Joseph's Medical Center in Stockton, CA for three years until he was called to the South Berkeley Community Church UCC where he currently serves as Pastor. Kenneth latter became a Housing Coordinator/Case Manger at APEB.

LI YING LI, immigrated from China's Guang Dong province to New York in 1995 with her husband. Three years later, they moved to Oakland where she began working at Delicious Food Company in Oakland Chinatown. Over the next few years, she also held jobs at a local chicken and sewing factory. Mrs. Li has been a patient at Asian Health Services since 1998, and is now 71 years old.



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