



HISPANIC  
HEALTH POLICY *Summit*



JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 2, 2024  
WASHINGTON D.C.

*Latinos United Through Advocacy:  
Elevating our voice to advance  
Hispanic health, wellness, and  
equity in our communities*



## AGENDA

DAY 1: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 – Willard Room		CEU
7:30 AM	Registration Opens	
8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 9:15	<b>Summit Welcome – Office of the Vice-President Kamala Harris</b>	
9:15 – 9:45	<b>Cafecito with Rep. Ramirez – Congresswoman Delia Ramirez, Illinois’ 3<sup>rd</sup> District</b>	
9:45 – 10:45	<b>Session 1 KEYNOTE: Vote Like Our Health Depends on It: Addressing the Political Determinants of Health in Community</b> <i>Alister Martin, MD, MPP, Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School, CEO A Healthier Democracy; Founder of VotER &amp; Get Waivered</i>	1.2 CEU
10:45 – 11:00	Morning Coffee Break	
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Session 2: Step Therapy and its Impact on Health Equity</b> <i>Sarah Buchanan, Senior Director of Federal Government Relations &amp; Health Policy, National Psoriasis Foundation</i>	
12:00 – 1:00	<b>Session 3: Advocating and Educating from the Frontlines: Health Impacts of Climate Change and the Nursing Community’s Opportunities for Action</b> <i>Juan Declet-Barreto, PhD, Senior Social Scientist for Climate Vulnerability, Union of Concerned Scientists</i>	1.2 CEU
1:00 – 2:00	<b>Lunch sponsored by Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids</b>	
2:00 – 3:00	<b>Session 4: 2024 Political and Healthcare Landscape</b> 1. <i>Bill Murat, Senior Advisor at Pyxis Partners</i> 2. <i>Kali Lindsey, Senior Director of Government Relations at Pyxis Partners</i>	1.2 CEU
3:00 – 4:00	<b>Session 5: America’s Health Care Workforce</b> 1. <i>Justin Bala-Hampton, DNP, MPH, MHA, RN, AGACNP-BC, AOCNP; Senior Advisor, Division of Nursing and Public Health, Office of the Director, Interim Chair &amp; Designated Federal Official-National Advisory Council for Nurse Education and Practice (NACNEP), US Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)</i> 2. <i>Tolu Apaloo, MSN, RN, c-FEM; Nurse Consultant/Project Officer, Team Lead Advanced Nursing Education Branch (ANE), Division of Nursing and Public Health (DNPH), US Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)</i>	1.2 CEU
4:00 – 4:20	Afternoon Coffee Break	
4:20 – 4:50	<b>Session 6: Legislative Process &amp; Preparation for Hill Day Visits</b> <i>Ariel Gonzalez, Esq., MA, Principle at Chamber Hill Strategies</i>	0.6 CEU
4:50 – 5:50	<b>Session 7: Preparation for Hill Day Visits - Conversations Workshop</b> 1. <i>Ariel Gonzalez, Esq., MA, Principle at Chamber Hill Strategies</i> 2. <i>Julio Lainez, MA, Vice President NVG, LLC</i>	1.2 CEU
5:50 – 6:00	Day 1 - Closing Remarks	
6:00 – 7:00 PM	<b>Welcome Reception in Crystal Room</b>	

### Thank You to Our Sponsors & Non-Profit Partners



**Continuing Nursing Education:** NAHN is an approved CE provider by the District of Columbia Board of Nursing, Provider #50-14680. There are up to a total of 10.5 CEs possible for the Hispanic Health Policy Summit. CEs for this program are available via the NAHN HPPS website for each applicable session following the completion of a post-session evaluation.



## AGENDA

DAY 2 – Hill Day: Thursday, February 1, 2024 – Willard Room		CEU
7:30 AM	Registration Opens	
8:00	Breakfast Opens	
8:30 - 9:00	<b>Session 8: Updates on US Food and Nutrition Services' Programs</b> <i>Alberto A. González, Jr., MPP, Senior Advisor for External Engagement, Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture</i>	
9:00 – 9:45	<b>Session 9: Climate Change and Farmworker Health</b> <i>Erika Alfaro, BSN, RN, PHN; National Association of Hispanic Nurses; Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments</i>	0.9 CEU
9:45 – 10:00	<b>Session 10: NAHN Health Policy Committee: Looking Back on 2023</b> <i>Grace Grau, DNP, CRNP, ACNP-BC, AACC; Board of Directors and Chair of the Policy &amp; Advocacy Committee, National Association of Hispanic Nurses</i>	0.3 CEU
10:00 – 5:00	<b>Hill Day Meetings</b> (individual schedules with local government representatives) GROUP PHOTO on Capitol Hill Steps	
6:00 PM	<b>NAHN DC-Metro Chapter Fundraiser Dinner</b> (separate ticketed event) Lima Twist: 1411 K St NW, Washington, DC 20005	

DAY 3: Friday, February 2, 2024 – Willard Room		CEU
8:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast Opens	
8:30 – 9:15	<b>Session 11 KEYNOTE: Advancing Policy to Impact Health Equity: Inquiry, Integrity, and Courage</b> <i>Kenneth R. White, PhD, APRN-BC, FACHE, FAAN; Dean and Professor, MGH Institute of Health Professions School of Nursing; Immediate Past President, American Academy of Nursing</i>	0.9 CEU
9:15 – 10:00	<b>Session 12: IRA Implementation and Impact on Equity: What Providers Should Know</b> <i>Sharon Lamberton, MS, RN Deputy VP, PhRMA</i> <i>Kristin Williams, Senior Manager, Policy &amp; Research, PhRMA</i>	0.9 CEU
10:00 – 10:45	<b>Coffee Break &amp; Exhibit Tables OPEN</b>	
10:45 – 11:15	<b>Session 13: RWJF Health Policy Fellows Program</b> <i>Mona S. Rahman, Deputy Director, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health Policy Fellows Program, National Academy of Medicine</i>	
11:15 – 12:00	<b>Session 14: The Case for Integrating Nutrition in Interprofessional Learning and Care: Policies, Practices, and Opportunities for Nursing Professionals</b> <i>ABBOTT: Andie Lee Gonzalez, PhD, MPH, RDN, LD, FAND, Medical Science Liaison, Pediatric Nutrition, Abbott Nutrition</i>	
12:00 – 12:15	<b>Lunch sponsored by Pfizer Multicultural Health Equity Collective</b>	
12:15 – 1:00	Summit Farewell Lunch <b>Session 15: Developing our Stories to Shape the Future of Hispanic Health Policy- A Student's Perspective</b> <i>Adrianna Nava, PhD, MPA, MSN, RN, President of National Association of Hispanic Nurses; Research Scientist, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)</i>	0.9 CEU
1:00 PM	<b>Summit Closing Remarks</b>	

**Evaluations, Slides, & Resources will be available to attendees via link provided on-site.**

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## Latinos United Through Advocacy: Elevating our voice to advance Hispanic health, wellness, and equity in our communities.

### Who We Are:

The National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) is excited to lead a national coalition consisting of Hispanic focused health care professionals who advocate for the advancement of health care policies that promote the health and well-being of the 62.6 million Latinos in the U.S. Together, we represent over 350,000 Hispanic health care professionals in the country.

### Purpose:

We're requesting this meeting to discuss priority topics and policies that impact the Hispanic health care workforce and the diverse communities we serve.

### Legislative Priorities – Our Call to Action for Washington:

#### 1. Access to Health Care

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- **Support HR 3069:** To Amend title XI of the Social Security Act to Improve access to care for all Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries by testing payment models that address the social determinants of health and health disparities, particularly with respect to minorities, underserved areas, and high-risk individuals.
- **Support H.R. 1638:** Improving Access to Mental Health Act of 2023 by increasing the Medicare reimbursement rate for clinical social worker services.
- **Support S. 1001:** Telehealth Expansion Act of 2023 will not disqualify a high deductible plan from providing services through telehealth or remote care; thereby, encouraging telehealth services.
- **Support H.R. 3768:** Midwives for Moms Act of 2023: To address maternity care shortages and promote optimal maternity outcomes by expanding educational opportunities for midwives, and for other purposes.
- **Support H.R.4818:** Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2023 expands Medicare coverage of intensive behavioral therapy for obesity and allows coverage under Medicare's prescription drug benefit of drugs used for the treatment of obesity or for weight loss management for individuals who are overweight.
- **Support H.R. 2713:** I CAN Act: To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to increase access to services provided by advanced practice registered nurses under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes.
- **Support S. 652/H.R. 2630:** SAFE STEP ACT: To improve step therapy protocols and ensure patients can safely and efficiently access the best treatment for them.

#### 2. America's Health Care Workforce

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- **Support H.R. 3731:** Immigrants in Nursing and Allied Health Act of 2023~To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to reduce barriers to immigrants becoming nurses or allied health professionals in the United States, and for other purposes.
- **Support S. 1113:** Nurse Staffing Standards for Hospital Patient Safety and Quality Care Act of 2023~A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish direct care registered nurse-to-patient staffing ratio requirements in hospitals, and for other purposes.
- **Support FY 2024 spending package** of at least \$302.472 million for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) and at least \$197.693 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), as outlined in the Senate Appropriations Committee passed bill.

#### 3. Climate Effects on Health

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- **Support H.R. 245:** Breath of Fresh Air Act: To establish a grant program for nebulizers in elementary and secondary schools.
- **Support H.R. 4579:** Fairness for Farm Workers Act: To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide increased labor law protections for agricultural workers, and for other purposes.

**References & Resources – Page 5** & Addition Information can be found here: <https://www.nahnnet.org/Summit>

## ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

According to Healthy People 2020, access to healthcare encompasses the ability to enter the health care system through health insurance, geographic availability, and access to a health care provider. Access to comprehensive, quality healthcare services is important for promoting and maintaining health, preventing, and managing disease, reducing unnecessary disability and premature death, and achieving health equity for all Americans. With the continued aging population, projected physician shortages, increase in the prevalence of chronic disease and the number of uninsured Americans, access to health remains a leading policy issue. Since 1967, non-physician providers such as Physician Assistants (PAs) and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) have been utilized to improve access and reduce health care costs. Attaining good access to care means having:

- Access to providers
- Health insurance that facilitates timely access and entry into the healthcare system
- A usual source of care with whom the patient can develop a relationship.
- Access to affordable medications and treatments

### **Why does this topic matter:**

- In 2022, 27.6 million people of all ages (8.4%) were uninsured.
- Millions of Americans experience conditions including obesity, mental health conditions, diabetes, cardio-vascular diseases each year, and the number of people seeking care is trending upward.
- Areas with low or no access to maternal care affect over 5.6 million women and nearly 350,000 births across the U.S.
- As of 2023, all states and territories had an obesity prevalence higher than 20% (more than 1 in 5 adults) predisposing to higher disease risk/burden, disability, morbidity/mortality, and higher health care costs.
- Over 50 million Americans (21% of adults) are experiencing a mental illness.
  - 42% could not afford to access treatment.
  - 10% of youth covered by private insurance did not have access to mental health services in 2022.
  - Shortage of Mental health providers

### **How does this topic affect the Hispanic community and nurses in the United States?**

- Of all ethnic and racial groups, Hispanics adults represent the highest uninsured populations at 27.6% (1 in 4 Hispanic adults ages 18–64 (25.0%) lacked health insurance in the first quarter of 2023).
- 18.4 % of Hispanic/Latinos experience mental health conditions.
- Hispanic Americans are 1.2 times more likely to be obese than non-Hispanic whites and at higher risk to develop complications associated with obesity & Hispanic children were 1.8 times more likely to be obese as compared to non-Hispanic white children (Minority Health HHS).
- Patients and families with limited English proficiency (LEP) face barriers to health care service access, experience lower quality care, and suffer worse health outcomes. LEP is an independent driver of health disparities and exacerbates other social determinants of health.
- Hispanics are under-represented in healthcare which contributes to lack of culturally centered care and communication barriers in patients with LEP.

### **What do we recommend Washington do to change/address this gap?**

- [Support HR 3069](#): To Amend title XI of the Social Security Act to Improve access to care for all Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries by testing payment models that address the social determinants of health and health disparities, particularly with respect to minorities, underserved areas, and high-risk individuals.
- [Support H.R. 1638](#): Improving Access to Mental Health Act of 2023 by increasing the Medicare reimbursement rate for clinical social worker services.
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## AMERICA'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) the demand for RNs will increase by 6% by 2032, illustrating an employment change of 177,400 nurses. Further, the demand for most APRNs is expected to grow by 38%, illustrating an employment change of 177,400 nurses. In addition, the demand for APRNs is expected to grow by 38%. As the largest segment of the health care profession, nursing is involved at every point of care. Causes of projected shortage include:

- A shortage of nursing school faculty is restricting nursing program enrollments.
- A significant segment of the nursing workforce is nearing retirement age.
- Changing demographics signal a need for more nurses to care for our aging population.
- Amplified by the pandemic, insufficient staffing is raising the stress level of nurses, impacting job satisfaction, and driving many nurses to leave the profession.

Establishing minimum staffing standards ensures improving patient care outcomes in the U.S. (ANA, 2023), who ranks last among seven industrialized countries when it comes to measures of quality, efficiency, access, and equity (Commonwealth Fund). A 2009 study estimated that adding 133,000 RNs to the U.S. hospital workforce—the number of RNs needed to increase nursing staff to the 75th percentile— would produce medical savings of \$6.1 billion, not including the value of increased productivity when nurses help patients recover more quickly (Dall, 2009).

### Why does this topic matter:

Scientific studies point to the connection between adequate levels of registered nurse staffing and safe patient care. Insufficient nurse staffing is associated with:

- Nurse burnout.
- Higher rates of poor outcomes.
- Increased patient mortality rates by 7% (JAMA, Aiken et. Al, 1987.
- Lack of access to providers and timely care.

### How does this topic affect the Hispanic community and nurses in the United States?

While representing 18.9% of the population, Hispanics are under-represented in the health Professions (10.2% registered nurses, 7% physicians, and 9% overall). Lack of representation in health Professions: Impacts cultural understanding and communication with patients with limited English proficiency (Social determinant of health), can result in errors, omissions, and misunderstandings and contributes to poor outcomes, increased mortality, and higher health care expenditures. According to Jha, et al., 20028) hospitals that disproportionately care for Hispanics are:

- Likely to be for profit.
- Less likely to have medical or cardiac ICUs.
- Have much lower nurse staffing levels.
- Lower patient outcome performance in the areas of CHF, acute MI, and pneumonia.

### What do we recommend Washington do to change/address this gap?

- [Support H.R. 3731](#): Immigrants in Nursing and Allied Health Act of 2023~To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to reduce barriers to immigrants becoming nurses or allied health professionals in the United States, and for other purposes.
- [Support S. 1113](#): Nurse Staffing Standards for Hospital Patient Safety and Quality Care Act of 2023~A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish direct care registered nurse-to-patient staffing ratio requirements in hospitals, and for other purposes.
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## CLIMATE EFFECTS ON HEALTH

The World Health Organization (WHO) recognizes climate change as “the single biggest health threat facing humanity” (WHO, 2021). Climate change is a critical public health issue that requires action to mitigate its impact on human health and well-being. Health professionals are called upon to address the multiple health consequences of environmental degradation, extreme weather events, and other climate-related health impacts with evidence-based mitigation and adaptation actions, programs, and policies”. In a 2018 policy statement, the American Academy of Nursing noted that nurses play essential roles in public health and emergency services, and through this work, they can respond to and reduce health consequences of climate change (Leffers & Butterfield, 2018).

([American Nurses Association Position Statement, 2023](#)).

### **How does this topic affect the Hispanic community and nurses in the United States?**

While Hispanics represent 62.1 million people or 18.9% of the population, they are:

- Disproportionately affected by poor air quality and unsafe water.
- More likely to be subject to climate-related changes to heat indexes.
- Suffering from heat-related diseases and mortality. According to the CDC, safe and health-promoting foods are scarce, and Hispanics/Latinos have a 40% higher chance of developing type 2 diabetes.
- Hispanic children are twice as likely to die of asthma (Chicas et al, 2019, Sarruja et al, 2022), Climate Health Leadership & Advocacy Training Workshop, 2023).

### **What do we recommend Washington do to change/address this gap?**

- [Support H.R. 245](#): Breath of Fresh Air Act: To establish a grant program for nebulizers in elementary and secondary schools.
- [Support H.R. 4579](#): Fairness for Farm Workers Act: To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide increased labor law protections for agricultural workers, and for other purposes.



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[U.S. Ranks Last Among Seven Countries on Health System Performance Measures | Commonwealth Fund](#)



# DELIA RAMIREZ

## United States Representative Illinois' 3rd District

THE DAUGHTER OF WORKING-CLASS GUATEMALAN IMMIGRANTS, CONGRESSWOMAN DELIA RAMIREZ IS AN ACCOMPLISHED LEGISLATOR, SOCIAL SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY LEADER, AND COALITION BUILDER WHO HAS DEDICATED HER LIFE AND CAREER ADVOCATING FOR WORKING FAMILIES. DELIA RAMIREZ WAS BORN IN THE BELMONT CRAGIN COMMUNITY IN CHICAGO. HER FAMILY MOVED TO HUMBOLDT PARK AT THE AGE OF ONE, WHEN HER PARENTS FOUND A SUBSIDIZED APARTMENT ABOVE A CHURCH THAT THEY COULD FINALLY AFFORD.

DELIA'S COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY AND WORKING FAMILIES IS SHAPED BY HER LIVED EXPERIENCE. HER MOTHER CROSSED THE BORDER WHILE PREGNANT WITH DELIA AND WORKED MULTIPLE LOW-WAGE JOBS TO GIVE HER CHILDREN A FIGHTING CHANCE TO ESCAPE POVERTY. DELIA'S FATHER WORKED TWO JOBS AND ALTERNATED SWITCHED SHIFTS WITH HER MOM SO THAT THEY COULD CARE FOR THEIR CHILDREN. DELIA WITNESSED FIRSTHAND HOW IMPORTANT SOCIAL SERVICES WERE, AS SHE WATCHED NEIGHBORS COME TO HER CHURCH FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE, FOOD AND SERVICES FOR THE UNDOCUMENTED. SHE SAW THE HEARTBREAKING FINANCIAL CRISES THAT HER PARENTS AND MANY OTHERS IN HER COMMUNITY SHOULDERED, HOPING TO PROVIDE A BETTER LIFE FOR THEIR CHILDREN.



## **ALISTER MARTIN**

**Assistant Professor,  
Harvard Medical  
School; Faculty,  
Center for Social Justice  
and Health Equity;  
Founder, VotER & Get  
Waivered**

ALISTER MARTIN IS A PRACTICING ER PHYSICIAN AND FORMER CHIEF RESIDENT AT MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL. HE IS DUALY APPOINTED AS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL AND AS RESEARCH FACULTY AT THE HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL. HE LEVERAGES HIS BACKGROUND IN POLITICS, HEALTHCARE POLICY, AND THE FIELD OF BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS TO USE THE ER AS A PLACE TO BUILD PROGRAMS THAT SERVE THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE PATIENTS THAT FREQUENT IT. HE IS THE FOUNDER OF GET WAIVERED, A PROGRAM THAT IS CONVERTING OUR NATION'S ERS INTO THE FRONT DOOR FOR OPIOID ADDICTION TREATMENT. HE ALSO CO-FOUNDED GOTVAX, AN INITIATIVE AIMED AT LEVERAGING A GET OUT THE VOTE FRAMEWORK TO DELIVER VACCINES TO VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES VIA HYPER-TARGETED VACCINE CLINICS. IN 2019, HE FOUNDED VOT-ER, WITH A TEAM OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE EXPERTS TO HELP PATIENTS VOTE LIKE THEIR HEALTH DEPENDS ON IT.



## **SARAH BUCHANAN**

### **Senior Director of Federal Government Relations & Health Policy, National Psoriasis Foundation**

SARAH BUCHANAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IDENTIFYING AND PURSUING FEDERAL ISSUES OF SIGNIFICANCE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH PSORIATIC DISEASE, DEVELOPING POLICIES AND RESOURCES TO ADVOCATE ON THESE ISSUES, AND REPRESENTING THE NPF IN FEDERALLY FOCUSED COALITIONS AND BEFORE FEDERAL POLICYMAKERS. IN ADDITION TO ADVOCATING DIRECTLY TO FEDERAL POLICYMAKERS WITHIN CONGRESS AND THE FEDERAL AGENCIES, SHE WILL ALSO ADVOCATE DIRECTLY WITH THE PRIVATE INSURANCE SECTOR AND OTHER ALLIED STAKEHOLDERS TO IMPROVE POLICIES AND ADVANCE THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF THE PSORIATIC DISEASE COMMUNITY. SHE IS BASED OUT OF THE ALEXANDRIA, VA OFFICE.

BUCHANAN IS A 12-YEAR HEALTH POLICY VETERAN WITH A PASSION FOR COLLABORATING WITH PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND PROVIDERS ON PUBLIC POLICIES TO IMPROVE PATIENT ACCESS TO CARE. PRIOR TO JOINING THE NPF, BUCHANAN ESTABLISHED AN IMPACTFUL ADVOCACY PROGRAM AT THE CROHN'S & COLITIS FOUNDATION, INCLUDING LEADERSHIP IN STATE AND FEDERAL COALITIONS. SHE HAS ALSO SERVED AS AN APPROPRIATIONS LOBBYIST WITH A FOCUS ON MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS AT THE HEALTH AND MEDICINE COUNSEL. IN HER FREE TIME, BUCHANAN ENJOYS OUTDOOR SPORTS, PARTICULARLY KITEBOARDING AND ROCK CLIMBING.



## **JUAN DECLET- BARRETO**

**Senior Social  
Scientist for Climate  
Vulnerability  
Union of Concerned  
Scientists**

JUAN DECLET-BARRETO IS SENIOR SOCIAL SCIENTIST FOR CLIMATE VULNERABILITY FOR THE CLIMATE & ENERGY PROGRAM AT THE UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS. AT UCS, HE RESEARCHES, MAPS, ANALYZES, COMMUNICATES, AND FINDS SOLUTIONS TO THE INEQUITABLE HUMAN HEALTH AND LIVELIHOOD IMPACTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS, PARTICULARLY THOSE EXACERBATED BY CLIMATE CHANGE. AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCIENTIST, DR. DECLET-BARRETO EARNED A PH.D. IN ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL SCIENCES, M.A. AND B.S. DEGREES IN GEOGRAPHY, AND AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS, FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY.



## **BILL MURAT** **MBA**

**Senior Advisor**  
**Pyxis Partners**

BILL MURAT IS A SENIOR ADVISOR WITH PYXIS PARTNERS IN WASHINGTON, DC. HE SERVED AS CHIEF OF STAFF TO U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN (D-WI) FOR 21 YEARS IN BOTH THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND U.S. SENATE. BALDWIN IS THE CHAIR OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION. HE PREVIOUSLY WAS ELECTED AS A WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE AND AS DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR PORTAGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN. IN HIS CURRENT WORK WITH PYXIS HE FOCUSES ON LEVERAGING THE RELATIONSHIP HE HAS BUILT IN HIS OVER 35 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE, INCLUDING OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT WITH STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS. MURAT IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STEVENS POINT, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL (J.D.), AND THE COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL (M.B.A.).



**KALI  
LINDSEY  
MBA**

**Senior Director  
Government  
Relations  
Pyxis Partners**

KALI LINDSEY IS A SENIOR DIRECTOR WITH PYXIS PARTNERS IN WASHINGTON, DC. HE HAS SPENT MORE THAN TWO DECADES WORKING ON DOMESTIC AND GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT. HE PREVIOUSLY HELD ROLES WITH EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND RESEARCH (ETR), THE ELTON JOHN AIDS FOUNDATION, AND VIIV HEALTHCARE WHERE HE DEVELOPED ENGAGEMENT AND GIVING STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT DIVERSE COMMUNITIES, SECTORS, AND GEOGRAPHIES. EACH STRATEGY IS DEVELOPED WITH A CLEAR FOCUS ON STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN COMMUNITIES, GOVERNMENTS, AND INDUSTRIES TO IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL IMPACT COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION. KALI GRADUATED FROM EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY IN 2001 AND ANTICIPATES COMPLETION OF HIS EXECUTIVE MASTER'S IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FROM THE ROSS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

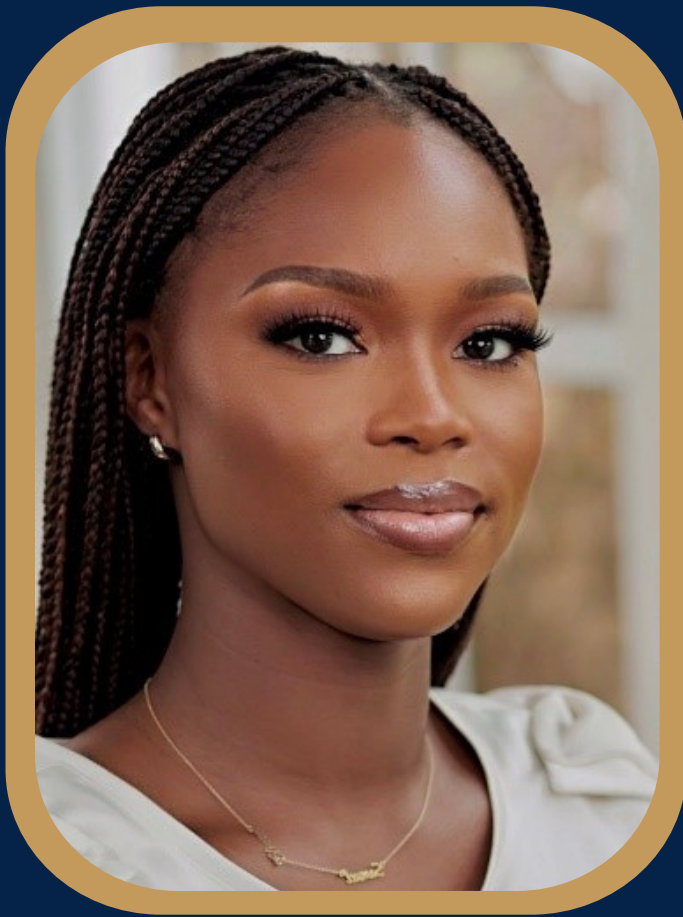


**JUSTIN BALA-  
HAMPTON**  
**DNP, MPH, MHA,**  
**RN, AGACNP-BC,**  
**AOCNP**

**U.S. Department of  
Health and Human  
Services (HRSA)**

DR. JUSTIN BALA-HAMPTON CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE SENIOR ADVISOR FOR THE DIVISION OF NURSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH WITHIN THE BUREAU OF HEALTH WORKFORCE AT HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION. HE PROVIDES LEADERSHIP, SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT IN NURSING, PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH POLICY AND COLLABORATION FOR CROSSCUTTING DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY INITIATIVES. IN ADDITION, HE IS THE DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICIAL AND INTERIM CHAIR FOR THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON NURSE EDUCATION AND PRACTICE, WHICH PROVIDES NURSING PRACTICE AND EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS AND THE HHS SECRETARY.

PRIOR TO HRSA, JUSTIN SERVED AS A LEAD NURSE PRACTITIONER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AS THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER, HOUSTON TEXAS. HE ALSO WORKED AS AN ICU NURSE AT THE BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL IN BOSTON, MA AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MEDICAL CENTER-PRESBYTERIAN IN PITTSBURGH, PA. JUSTIN SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND IS AN AFGHANISTAN VETERAN. HE STILL PRACTICES PART-TIME AS AN NP IN THE DC METRO AREA AND IS ADJUNCT FACULTY AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING TEACHING ADVANCE HEALTH POLICY.



## **TOLU APALOO MSN, RN, C-FEM**

**Nurse Consultant/ Project  
Officer, Team Lead  
Advanced Nursing  
Education Branch,  
Division of Nursing and  
Public Health, US Health  
Resources and Services  
Administration**

TOLU CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE ACTING TEAM LEAD FOR THE ANE BRANCH. PRIOR TO HER ROLE AS TEAM LEAD, SHE SERVED AS PROGRAM LEAD FOR THE ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION NURSE PRACTITIONER RESIDENCY INTEGRATION PROGRAM (ANE-NPRIP) AND THE NURSE ANESTHETIST TRAINEESHIP (NAT) PROGRAM.

TOLU JOINED THE HRSA IN 2020 FROM THE JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL, WHERE SHE SPENT 8 YEARS WORKING AS A LABOR AND DELIVERY RN AND AS AN AMBULATORY PERINATAL NURSE EDUCATOR. HER AREA OF CLINICAL EXPERTISE IS OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY, WITH A FOCUS ON STAFF AND PATIENT EDUCATION THAT PROMOTE QUALITY CARE OUTCOMES WITHIN INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT SETTINGS. TOLU HAS ALSO WORKED IN COMMUNITY SETTINGS AS A CONTRACTUAL PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE WITH A FOCUS ON MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR THE BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. TOLU CONTINUES TO WORK AS A NURSE EDUCATOR SERVING AS ADJUNCT NURSING FACULTY SPECIALIZING IN MATERNITY NURSING, FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING, AND HEALTH ASSESSMENT FOR LOCAL BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAMS IN MARYLAND.



# **ARIEL GONZALEZ**

## **Principal Chamber Hill Strategies**

ARIEL GONZALEZ, PRINCIPAL AT CHAMBER HILL STRATEGIES, HAS MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC POLICY EXPERIENCE. GONZALEZ WAS NAMED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LOBBYING AND ETHICS AS A TOP 100 LOBBYIST IN 2021 AND 2022. HE IS WELL-RESPECTED AMONG BOTH LEGISLATORS AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, BRINGING A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF HEALTH POLICY AS WELL AS PRACTICAL AND EFFECTIVE STRATEGY TO HIS ENGAGEMENTS. PRIOR TO JOINING CHAMBER HILL STRATEGIES, GONZALEZ SERVED AS SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC POLICY AT THE MARCH OF DIMES, CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS FOR THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION (APA), HEAD OF THE FEDERAL HEALTH AND FAMILY TEAM AT AARP, AND DIRECTOR OF CONGRESSIONAL AND STATE RELATIONS AT THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY.



## **JULIO LAINEZ**

**Vice President  
NVG, LLC**

JULIO LAINEZ, VICE PRESIDENT OF NVG, IS AN EXPERIENCED BRIDGE BUILDER AND POLICY WONK WITH DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF TECHNOLOGY, APPROPRIATIONS, FOREIGN, AND LABOR POLICY. JULIO IS AT EASE NEGOTIATING BILL REVISIONS AND DEVISING LEGISLATIVE STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT. HE ALSO HAS STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE CONGRESSIONAL TRI-CAUCUS. PRIOR TO JOINING NVG, JULIO WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS FOR THE TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA (AFL-CIO), WORKED AS REP. SETH MOULTON'S (D-MA-06) LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, AND IN VARIOUS ROLES FOR FORMER SENATE MAJORITY LEADER HARRY REID (D-NV) INCLUDING SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR AND LEGISLATIVE AIDE FOR FOREIGN POLICY. JULIO ALSO HAS EXPERIENCE IN POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS AT THE PRESIDENTIAL AND STATE LEVELS. HIS EXPERIENCE ALSO INCLUDES SERVING AS COMMUNICATIONS AND OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR PROSPEROLATINO.



## **ALBERTO A. GONZÁLEZ, JR**

**Senior Advisor for  
External Engagement,  
Food and Nutrition  
Service, United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

ALBERTO GONZALEZ SERVES AS SENIOR ADVISOR FOR EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)'S FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE (FNS). ALBERTO ENGAGES KEY CROSS-SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS ON FNS'S FEDERAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND THE USDA'S NUTRITION SECURITY INITIATIVE. ALBERTO HELD ROLES AT UNIDOSUS AND COMMUNITY CATALYST LEADING INITIATIVES TO INCREASE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HEALTH COVERAGE AND HEALTHY, NUTRITIOUS FOOD. HE HAS A MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC POLICY FROM HARVARD'S KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT AND A BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND AMERICAN STUDIES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY.



# **ERIKA ALFARO BSN, RN, PHN**

**Public Health Nurse  
NAHN Chapter  
President  
ANHE Fellow**

ERIKA ALFARO IS A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE WITH SAN MATEO COUNTY IN CALIFORNIA. SHE IS AN IMMIGRANT FROM MEXICO WHO PROUDLY COMES FROM A LARGE FAMILY OF DOCTORS, BIOLOGISTS, AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, HOUSE CLEANERS AND FARM WORKERS. SINCE THE AGE OF 15, ERIKA HAS HELD LEADERSHIP POSITIONS WITH VARIOUS NON-PROFITS PREDOMINANTLY FOCUSED ON COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITY BUILDING. SHE IS THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE THRIVING SF/GOLDEN GATE NAHN CHAPTER AND RECIPIENT OF THE 2023 SARAH GOMEZ ERLACH HUMANITARIAN AWARD. SHE SERVES AS CO-CHAIR OF THE FARMWORKER COMMITTEE WITH THE CALIFORNIA NURSES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND JUSTICE AND WAS PART OF THE 2019 FELLOWSHIP COHORT WITH THE ALLIANCE OF NURSES FOR HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS. LAST BUT NOT LEAST, SHE WORKS CLOSELY WITH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE SAFE AG SAFE SCHOOLS AND CENTER FOR FARMWORKER FAMILIES TO ADVOCATE AND AMPLIFY FARMWORKER COMMUNITIES IN SANTA CRUZ, AS WELL AS FARMWORKER COMMUNITIES ALL OVER CALIFORNIA.



## **GRACE GRAU, DNP**

**Assistant  
Professor, UAB  
School of Nursing**

GRACE GRAU, DNP IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT UAB SCHOOL OF NURSING. HER AREAS OF EXPERTISE INCLUDE: HEALTH DISPARITIES, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE, AND CHRONIC AND CONTINUING CARE FOR ADULTS AND THE ELDERLY. GRACE GRAU IS A NURSE PRACTITIONER WHO SPECIALIZES IN ACUTE CARE AND CHRONIC ILLNESS IN ADULTS AND THE ELDERLY, WITH A SPECIFIC INTEREST IN CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE. HER RESEARCH FOCUSES ON GENERAL AND INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY AND HEALTH DISPARITIES. SHE IS FLUENT IN SPANISH AND HAS SERVED AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALABAMA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HISPANIC NURSES.



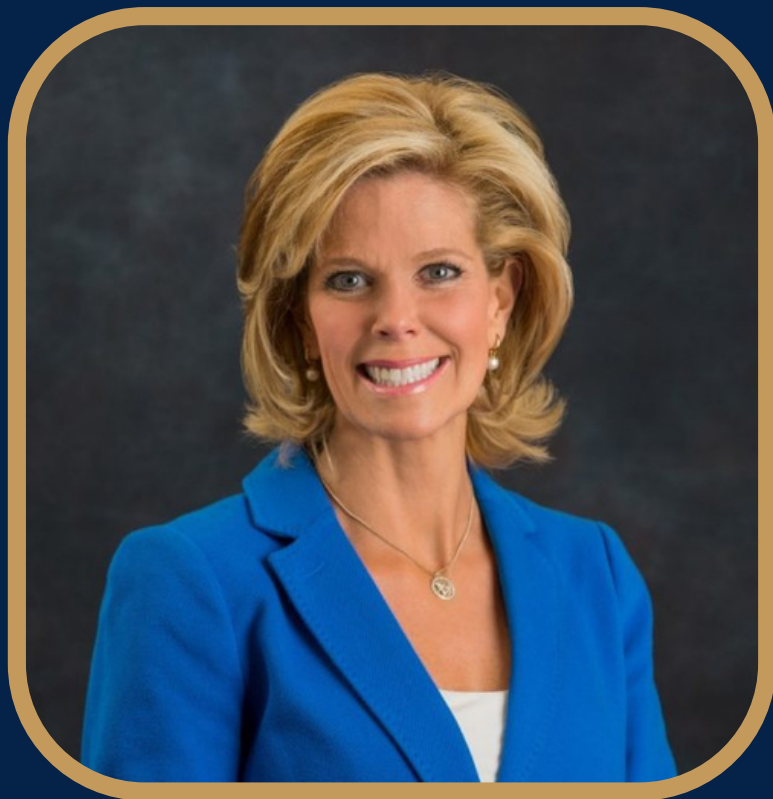
## **KENNETH WHITE**

**Past President,  
American Academy of  
Nursing; Dean &  
Professor of MGH  
Institute of Health  
Professions School of  
Nursing**

DR. KENNETH WHITE SERVES AS THE DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AT THE MGH INSTITUTE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS (IHP) AND AS ASSOCIATE CHIEF NURSE FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AT MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL. PRIOR TO JOINING THE IHP, DR. WHITE SERVED AS THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS IN THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND ENDOWED PROFESSOR OF NURSING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA (UVA). PREVIOUS TO HIS TIME AT UVA, DR. WHITE SERVED AS THE SENTARA PROFESSOR AND DIRECTED THE GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AT VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY (VCU) FOR TWENTY YEARS.

DR. WHITE IS A FELLOW IN BOTH THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSING AND THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVES (ACHE). FROM 2021 TO 2023, DR. WHITE SERVED AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSING. DR. WHITE HAS BEEN HONORED WITH ACHE'S GOLD MEDAL AWARD (2019), VCU SCHOOL OF NURSING'S OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS AWARD (2021), AND VCU COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS LIFETIME SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (2023).

IN ADDITION TO HIS ACADEMIC CAREER, DR. WHITE IS A DEDICATED NURSE PRACTITIONER, HOLDING A SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION IN HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE. HE WORKED CLINICALLY AT UVA MEDICAL CENTER. HE IS ALSO THE AUTHOR OF THE AWARD-WINNING BOOK, THE WELL-MANAGED HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATION, 9TH EDITION (2019); AS WELL AS TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT CAREER:50 LESSONS THAT DRIVE SUCCESS (2015), AND BOOST YOUR NURSING LEADERSHIP CAREER (2017).



**SHARON A.  
LAMBERTON  
MS, RN, FAAN**

**Deputy Vice  
President State Policy  
& External Outreach  
PhRMA**

IN HER ROLE WITH PHRMA, MS. LAMBERTON ANALYZES POLICY, PROVIDES STRATEGY, AND SERVES AS A LOBBYIST FOR THE INDUSTRY IN THE STATES ISSUES SUCH AS MEDICAID, COST OF MEDICINES, ADHERENCE, INSULIN, VACCINES, CLINICAL TRIALS, AND CONDUCTS OUTREACH WITH PATIENT AND PROVIDER GROUPS. AS PART OF HER 25 YEARS OF POLICY AND ADVOCACY EXPERIENCE, SHE WORKED WITH A SENIORS' ORGANIZATION ON MEDICARE, WITH A VIRGINIA SENATOR ON CAPITOL HILL, AND WORKED AS A CLINICAL RESEARCH NURSE AT NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH ON NEUROLOGICAL PATIENT PROTOCOLS.



**KRISTIN  
WILLIAMS  
MPH**

**Senior Manager of  
Policy and Research  
PhRMA**

KRISTIN WILLIAMS IS A SENIOR MANAGER OF POLICY AND RESEARCH AT PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH AND MANUFACTURERS OF AMERICA (PHRMA). IN HER ROLE, SHE SUPPORTS PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH ON ISSUES RELATED TO HEALTH EQUITY AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE. KRISTIN RECEIVED HER MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN HEALTH POLICY FROM THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY. SHE IS COMMITTED TO HELPING DEVELOP EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS DISPARITIES IN HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ACCESS TO CARE AMONG MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS.



## **MONA RAHMAN**

### **Deputy Director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health Policy Fellows Program**

MONA RAHMAN SERVES AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION (RWJF) HEALTH POLICY FELLOWS PROGRAM AND IS A MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY FELLOWSHIPS AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS TEAM AT THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE (NAM).

SHE COMES TO THE NAM AFTER A CAREER IN PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION, PRIMARILY IN THE TOBACCO CONTROL SPACE AT TRUTH INITIATIVE. MS. RAHMAN ALSO HAS EXPERIENCE AS AN NAM/FDA TOBACCO REGULATORY SCIENCE FELLOW, WHERE SHE WAS EMBEDDED WITH THE OFFICE OF HEALTH COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION AT THE CENTER FOR TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN THE 2014-2015 COHORT, AND BRINGS A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE TO NAM'S FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS. DURING HER TIME AT FDA, SHE SERVED AS A CREATIVE AND STRATEGIC ADVISOR ON A RANGE OF TOBACCO PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS. MS. RAHMAN HOLDS A B.A. IN GOVERNMENT FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA AND AN M.A. IN CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION FROM NEW YORK UNIVERSITY.



## **ANDIE LEE GONZALEZ**

### **US Pediatric Medical Science Liaison, Abbott Nutrition**

ANDIE LEE GONZALEZ SERVES AS A US PEDIATRIC MEDICAL SCIENCE LIAISON FOR ABBOTT NUTRITION A DIVISION OF ABBOTT. IN THIS ROLE, SHE PROVIDES OVER 80 CONTINUING PROFESSION EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS ANNUALLY TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS. SHE IS ALSO AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT SOUTH TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE. DR. GONZALEZ IS INVOLVED IN PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AT THE LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL LEVELS. SHE HAS SERVED ON THE LATINOS AND HISPANICS IN DIETETICS AND NUTRITION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN VARIOUS ROLES. IN 2019 SHE COMPLETED THE ACADEMY OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE. HER RESEARCH INTERESTS INCLUDE PEDIATRICS, HEALTH EQUITY, LEADERSHIP AND A FOCUS ON HISPANIC/LATINO HEALTH. IN 2023 SHE WAS LEAD AUTHOR FOR A PUBLICATION FOCUSED ON PROMOTING HEALTH EQUITY FOR THE HISPANIC POPULATION THROUGH IMPROVED ACCESS TO MALNUTRITION SCREENING AND INTERVENTION. DR. GONZALEZ EARNED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN DIETETICS AND NUTRITION, A MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) AND CLINICAL TRAINING AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY (MSU) IN EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN AND COMPLETED HER PHD IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP FROM OUR LADY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.



**ADRIANNA  
NAVA, PHD,  
MPA, MSN, RN**  
**President, National  
Association of  
Hispanic Nurses**

DR. NAVA IS AN ADVOCATE FOR INCREASING ACCESS TO CARE FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS. AS A REGISTERED NURSE, SHE WITNESSED FIRSTHAND HOW ACCESS-RELATED DISPARITIES LED TO POOR HEALTH OUTCOMES, ESPECIALLY FOR RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS. IN SERVING HER PATIENTS, SHE SAW AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO DECREASING LATINO HEALTH DISPARITIES BY BUILDING THE LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES OF NURSES. SHE CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HISPANIC NURSES (NAHN) AND IS FOCUSED ON BUILDING THE LEADERSHIP CAPACITY OF NURSES, SPECIFICALLY LATINO NURSES, WHO CONTINUE TO BE UNDERREPRESENTED IN NURSING AND HEALTH CARE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.



**HILARIO MORALES**

**FABIANE SENCION**

**LESLIE TREJO**

**LUIS ESPINOSA**

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