



NACHC CANDIDATES' FORUM 2023

Election Sunday, August 27

NACHC HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Manchester Grand Hyatt

San Diego, CA

NACHC CANDIDATES' FORUM 2023

The Candidate's Forum provides a vehicle for candidates to introduce themselves to the membership prior to the Annual Convention. This year candidates will run for the offices of Chair-Elect, Treasurer, and Speaker of the House. NACHC officers serve on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and carry out functions as prescribed in the NACHC Bylaws. One Health Center Board Member Representative and one Clinician Representative to the NACHC Board of Directors will also be nationally elected by the voting membership.

Voting will take place during the NACHC Community Health Institute (CHI) & EXPO (8/27-29) at the House of Delegates Meeting on Sunday, August 27, 2023, at the Manchester Grand Hyatt. Organizational Members in good standing at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting (have paid at least one-quarter of their current year's dues and have no outstanding dues balance from the previous year) are eligible to cast ballots. This year's deadline for voting eligibility is Friday, July 28, 2023. Each Organizational Member receives four votes. For more information about dues or voting status, please contact the NACHC Membership Department at 301-347-0400.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTINUING FOR 2023-2024



Chair of the Board:
Paloma Hernandez
Bronx, NY



Immediate Past Chair:
Michael A. Holmes
Cook, MN



Vice-Speaker of the House:
Kimberly Chang, MD
Oakland, CA



Secretary:
Sue Veer
Greenwood, SC



**Consumer/Board Member
Representative:**
Virginia "Ginger" Fuata
Waianae, HI

CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR-ELECT

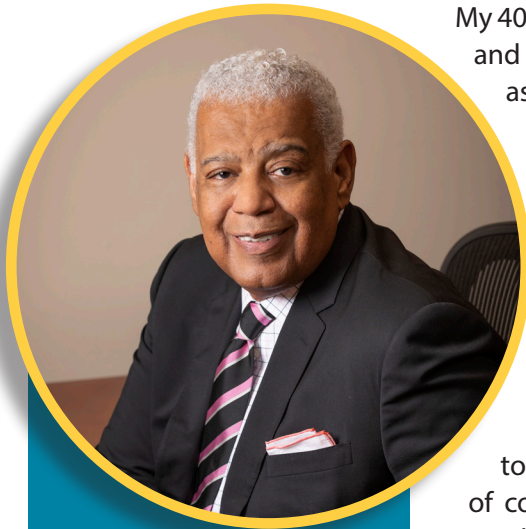
(This Executive Committee Office is held for a two-year term)

MICHAEL R. TAYLOR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CORNELL SCOTT-HILL HEALTH CORPORATION

NEW HAVEN, CT



My 40-year health care career has been spent as a consultant and advisor, educator and trainer, and executive for provider organizations, third-party payers, trade associations and vendors, and legislators and policy makers. I have 30 years' service to organizations that improve the health status of underserved people including NACHC, BPHC, PCAs and almost 300 health centers nationwide. I've served for the last 10 years as CEO of the Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center in New Haven, CT where I've had the honor of building on the stellar legacy established by Cornell Scott, a health center icon.

I am a son and product of the health center movement who has had the extraordinary privilege to have known, been friends with, and taught and nurtured by many health center icons. I attribute my career accomplishments to the many valuable lessons I've learned including the importance and value of collaborating with peers to build consensus. I've been a NACHC Region 1 Board member for the last four years. I've served on several special committees that selected the consulting firm that conducted the organizational assessment for NACHC, and the leadership team who developed NACHC's current strategic plan. Most recently, I chaired special Board committees that selected the search firm that aided the search for NACHC's new President and CEO, and the search committee that identified and vetted candidates for consideration by NACHC's Board of Directors. That resulted in the appointment of NACHC's first new President and CEO in 45 years.

NACHC leaders defined six strategic pillars that will enable "NACHC of the Future." I am committed to helping realize that vision. To that end, it would be an honor to serve as NACHC's Board Chair Elect. I respectfully request your vote and support so that I might do so.

CANDIDATE FOR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

(This Executive Committee Office is held for a two-year term)

KIMBERLY CHANG, MD

FAMILY PHYSICIAN
ASIAN HEALTH SERVICES
OAKLAND, CA



I, Kimberly Chang, offer my candidacy for Speaker of the House. I am proud to have served as Vice Speaker for the past five years, because Community Health Centers represent the best of America. At every turn, and community by community, we have risen to the challenges facing our nation. The most vulnerable trust US as sources of healing, bridge-building, and community strengthening; and the most powerful rely on US to understand issues, cultivate community connections, and solve serious and complicated problems. Our deep Civil Rights roots continue to nurture our resiliency and guide our actions. From proactively responding to the pandemic and leading with innovations and robust civic relationships (<https://youtu.be/ISc1LSikYhM>) we've built over decades, we collectively became the bastions safeguarding our communities. From anti-Black racism to anti-Asian hate, we channeled our core values to continue to address and heal racial strife. In kinship, we led not with slogans, but with action - seats at the table, policy changes, and delivering practical resources to those we serve. I am proud to be a part of the Community Health Center Movement and would be honored to continue to serve you and NACHC.

As for my contributions, I have continued to use my voice to elevate the power and strengths of CHCs, and how much I love being a part of NACHC. I have served in many ways - participating on the Task Force on Undoing Racism, membership in and co-chairing several committees, writing blogposts (<https://blog.nachc.org/tag/sdoh/>) and advocacy, moderating/facilitating conference sessions and meetings, uplifting health centers (<https://youtu.be/9w7xzawNe8A>) with every platform (https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/otip/hhs_symposium_agenda_1118.pdf). Outside of NACHC-specific activities, I continue to see patients at Asian Health Services (<https://asianhealthservices.org/>), in Oakland, California. I helped develop and serve as faculty for the newest NTTAP (National Training and Technical Assistance Partnership), which works alongside NACHC (<https://blog.nachc.org/new-learning-collaboratives-for-health-centers-domestic-violence-and-human-trafficking/>) to improve access and care (<https://blog.nachc.org/introducing-a-new-model-protocol-for-health-centers-to-address-intimate-partner-violence-and-exploitation/>) to our patients at risk of, experiencing, or surviving the effects of intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and exploitation (<https://blog.nachc.org/kimberly-chang-recognized-for-turning-human-trafficking-into-a-frontline-health-issue/>), through Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation (<https://healthpartnersipve.org/>). I elevate the issues and needs of marginalized populations also through academic writing (<https://readingroom.law.gsu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3035&context=gsulr>) - peer reviewed articles (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1538544222000360>) and textbook chapters (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-70675-3_10). Last year, I was appointed to President Biden's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (<https://www.hhs.gov/about/whiaanhpi/commission/commissioners/index.html>). All these roles fulfill my dedication to the people and populations that we serve and are all grounded in my community health center experiences.

As Speaker, I will continue to honor our history and deep roots of patient-centered care and advocacy, while embracing change, innovation, and a new era. We are indispensable to our patients, vital for our communities, and critical for the country. Together with all of you, I look forward to helping build the NACHC of the Future! Please connect with me on LinkedIn so we can do this together! <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kimberly-s-g-chang-md-mph-b0a3172/>

Respectfully, Kimberly

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER

(This Executive Committee Office is held for a two-year term)

JOHN SANTISTEVAN

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SALUD FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS
FORT LUPTON, CO

Dear Colleagues,

I ask for your support as I seek a third term as Treasurer of NACHC. I am looking forward to the opportunity to continue to provide my assistance, in any way needed, to strengthen and continue to grow the Community Health Center Movement.

The past few years have been extremely challenging as we all had to adapt our delivery, operations, and business models to respond to the numerous factors impacting them and still meet the health care needs of our communities. As always, health centers across this country continue to do an outstanding job. I am inspired by my colleagues and peers and their dedication to serving their communities regardless of the barriers.

CHCs are the safety net for the underserved in our country and ensuring the health and wellbeing of our patients is our mission. Now more than ever, our advocacy efforts are critical to our success. The health center of the future must make greater use of technology to help us improve our already effective and efficient delivery model of care while ensuring our model always remains patient centered.

The NACHC strategic plan has six pillars which provides us with the road map to developing the Community Health Center of the future. We must remember the pillars cannot stand without a solid, united foundation, and we are that foundation.

I will continue to advocate for the expansion of health centers, and more importantly, to strengthen our existing infrastructure. We must have the sustainable financial resources to offer our staff fair and competitive wages.

I've worked with and for Community Health Centers for over three decades and take great pride in what we do for our patients and our country. I am grateful for the amazing work of the Community Health Center Movement.

In gratitude,



John Santistevan

CANDIDATE FOR CLINICIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Two-year term)

FELIX VALBUENA, JR., MD

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COMMUNITY HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES CENTER (CHASS)
DETROIT, MI



For the last 34 years, I have had the honor and privilege of working for the Community Health and Social Services (CHASS) Center, the pillar of health care celebrating 53 years of service to the Southwest Detroit community. Serving first as a social worker and resident of the community we serve, then as a family physician and Chief Medical Officer, and now as the Chief Executive Officer; my roles as safety net provider and clinician leader bring me great joy and satisfaction. Together with the CHASS Care Team, we provide comprehensive patient-centered primary health care and support services to the Southwest Community of Detroit.

I also serve as Academic Faculty in the Department of Family Medicine at Henry Ford Hospital. The collaborative relationship that CHASS has with Henry Ford Health, a world-renowned medical institution, serves as a national model of high-quality, affordable, accessible healthcare for our community.

Having gone through tremendous growth throughout the years, it is clear that the National Association of Community Health Centers continues to play a critical role in putting community health centers on the center stage in our ever-changing healthcare arena, caring for more than 30 million people nationwide. I have served on the Health Policy Committee from 2008-2013 and 2016-present, the Health Professions Education in Health Centers Task Force from 2016-present (currently co-Chair) and on the Clinical Practice Committee since 2008, as Co-Vice Chair from 2012-2013, Vice Chair from 2014-2015, and Chair from 2016-present.

It would be a great honor for me to continue to serve, with your support, as an elected Clinician Representative and work with all our stakeholders in the effort to continue to move community health centers as national models for the delivery of comprehensive patient-centered primary healthcare.

CANDIDATE FOR HEALTH CENTER BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NACHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Two-year term)

THERESA “TERRI” GARCIA

BOARD CHAIR
HEALTHNET, INC.
INDIANAPOLIS, IN



I am Theresa (Terri) Garcia and I currently serve as the Board Chair for HealthNet, Inc., located in Indianapolis, Indiana. I am honored to have served as a Health Center Board Member representative on the NACHC Board in 2023 and seek to continue that service on behalf of not only my home health center but every community health center and patient across the country.

I am the former Executive Director of Southeast Community Services (SECS) on the southeast side of Indianapolis. Our building housed a HealthNet community health center. Every day for 13 years, I saw clearly the amazing work done by this FQHC. I came to believe that SECS and HealthNet have a shared mission to address the social determinants of health in our community. This sense of shared mission and purpose inspired me to become even more engaged in the work of HealthNet; I joined the board in 2014.

Margaret Mead is quoted as saying, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” This is a philosophy I live by as a HealthNet board member, as a community leader, and as a citizen of our world. We, as a community of health centers and health center boards, are positioned to change our world for the better. We are doing it every day!

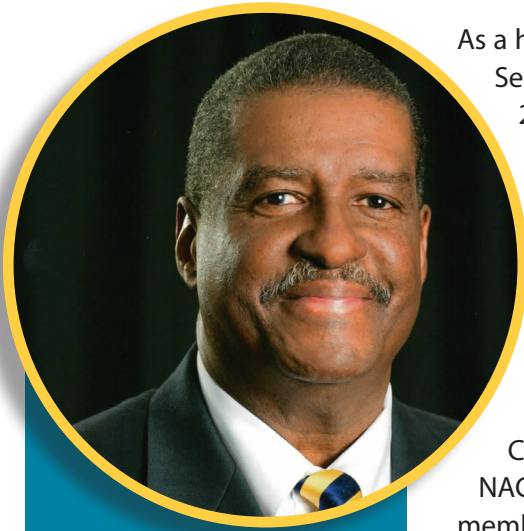
The past few years have seen unprecedented crisis, turmoil, change, and growth in our country. We have learned so much; and yet there is still so much to do. Going forward, we must keep the momentum to do the impossible. What we thought was a sprint is really a marathon. We are still in that race.

CANDIDATE FOR HEALTH CENTER BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NACHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Two-year term)

STAN MCKEE

BOARD MEMBER
CAREVIDE
GREENVILLE, TX



As a health center patient and long-time board member of Community Health Service Agency, Inc. dba Carevide in Greenville, Texas, I have spent the last 25 years advocating for the health center movement. I am a retired Senior Manager for Customer Relations at Oncor, the largest electric utility distribution company in Texas. My career embodied serving others, which mirrors the mission of Community Health Centers. It is my honor to continue advocating on behalf of patients across the nation to assure that State and Federal Legislators hear about the needs and issues of the patients of Community Health Centers. In addition to serving on NACHC's Rural Health Committee and Consumer/Board Member Committee, I also serve on the Texas Association of Community Health Center's (TACHC) Statewide Advocacy Taskforce and actively participate in NACHC and TACHC conferences each year. I continually work to engage board members from other health centers across the state and nation to ensure the strength and survival of health centers for the millions of patients who depend on them.

I am a proud graduate of Texas A&M University-Commerce (TAMU-C) where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering and a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering Technology. In addition to my work with Community Health Centers, I am also very active with the TAMU-C Alumni Association where I previously served on the Board of Directors. I am also active in my church where I serve as a Deacon at Mt. Moriah Temple Baptist Church.

It would be my honor to serve you as the Health Center Board Member Representative to the NACHC Board. I feel my education, passion, and experience in the health center movement gives me a strong foundation for serving you as your Board Member Representative to the NACHC Board.

CANDIDATE FOR HEALTH CENTER BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NACHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Two-year term)

MALIKAH MUHAMMAD

BOARD VICE CHAIR
THE WELLNESS PLAN MEDICAL CENTERS
DETROIT, MI



My interest in consumer health is the concern for affordable quality healthcare for all Americans. As a consumer, I believe in good health, nutritional foods, exercise, and regular doctor visits. Healthcare is a necessity that impacts everyone, regardless of geographic location or world view.

Currently, I am NACHC Certified in Health Center Governance. I have been attending Policies and Issues Forums since 2017; I joined NACHC in 2019. At present, I serve nationally on the Consumer, Legislative and Membership Committees. Locally, I serve on the Patient Experience, Nominating and Compliance Committees for The Wellness Plan Medical Centers. I have 31 years of teaching experience, and now retired schoolteacher from Detroit Public Schools, Election Chairman in Detroit; Precinct 150, Certified Consultant for over 40 years, and able to foster peace in an emergency.

The medical staff at The Wellness Plan have taken diligent care of me. My doctors are available to me for personal visits, emails, or telephone calls. Current prescriptions are readily available, as well as completion of forms.

Now, I travel across America and see healthcare in action. Millions of Americans are utilizing these services. As a Health Center Board Member, we oversee the monthly activities of our center: staff, finances, and daily operations, etc. Monthly, we analyze the reports of the respective departments.

I am one of the last recipients of the Certificate of Health Center Governance. Attending NACHC Governance classes was the high point of my involvement: being an educational pursuit.

If I am honored to serve as NACHC Health Center Board Representative on NACHC Board of Directors, I will do my best to advocate for the rights of our consumers. My motto, "Putting the Patient First."

CANDIDATE FOR HEALTH CENTER BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NACHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Two-year term)

SAM PRUITT, II

BOARD SECRETARY
GREAT LAKES BAY HEALTH CENTER
SAGINAW, MI



As a community member and emerging leader, I was charged with obtaining a leadership role in the community. Past mentors showed you will have more success in service when the community realizes, it is you serving them and not, them serving you. Leadership is best achieved by serving on local level "Committees and Boards". This allows you to have a greater, more intentional impact on the change directly.

I became a substitute teacher, to "fill-in the educational gap," because of a tremendous teacher shortage in my community. Relationships bind through Love and Unity. My intent was to make a community connection through role-modeling and mentoring. I began searching for organizations to serve and, the first place that came to mind was one that helped me in my time of need, the Community Health Center. As I researched the grassroots nature of the health Center movement and the humble beginnings of Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, I knew this was an organization I could truly put my heart into serving.

Since becoming a Board Member, I have grown in responsibility and servitude. Now I am the Board Secretary, and a self-appointed migrant activist for our center. I am an active Servant on four NACHC Committees and Task Forces, which have aided me in helping the board steer our organization in the right direction. Especially helpful is the knowledge obtained through NACHC trainings and conferences. I have reached the pinnacle of local advocacy. My next step in growing my community lies on the national level. This is why I am filing my petition for candidacy.

"As a Leader, when subordinates stop coming to you with their problems, they believe you can't help or don't care. Both are a failure of Leadership".

-General Colin Powell



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