

The Road to Whole-Person Care

2025 ANNUAL CALIFORNIA
DXF SUMMIT
MARCH 20, SACRAMENTO



Meet the Speakers





Aparna Ramesh, MPA

SHE/HER

Chief of the Research and Data Insights Branch within the Research and Automation Data Division at the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

Aparna Ramesh, MPA, leads a team of 50 amazing researchers, who centralize and mobilize departmental and cross-departmental data to answer key policy and research questions. Their work includes using data to facilitate cross-enrollment in safety net programs, measuring the impacts of CDSS programs on the lives of Californians, collating evidence on what works and how to improve CDSS programs, developing dashboards to support data driven program implementation, leading state and federal reporting on program progress, and linking and managing data assets and the flow of data in and out of the department.

Aparna has over a decade of experience working with federal, state, and local governments to build evidence feedback loops that foster data-driven decision making and policy. Prior to CDSS, Aparna led research and data projects at the California Policy Lab at UC Berkeley, NORC at the University of Chicago, and Deloitte Consulting's federal practice. She has an MPA from Princeton University.



Brian Thomas, MS, EdD

HE/HIM

Director of Social Health Information Exchange
(SHIE) for Alameda County Health

Brian Thomas, MS, EdD, has extensive experience in designing and implementing robust tools to streamline business operations within healthcare, while introducing tactical policies to promote organizational vision. He is an accomplished professional with proven success in overseeing and optimizing all processes organization-wide and conducting root-cause analysis to pinpoint process gaps and implement cutting-edge solutions.

At Alameda County, he leads the development of a groundbreaking, comprehensive, and secure cross-sector SHIE that informs system level population health program planning and policy development while also supporting citizen level care coordination. Dr. Thomas previously held technology transformation and information exchange leadership

positions with Kaiser Permanente and United Health Group (UHG). At Kaiser Permanente, he developed a Health Equity Portal and enabled the Equitable Care Health Outcomes (ECHO) reporting system.

Holding a B.S. in Information Systems from Phoenix University, a Masters in Information Technology from Pepperdine Graziadio Business School, and a Doctorate in Education from Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology with a focus on Organizational Leadership, Dr. Thomas is dedicated to continuous improvement for cross-functional and multidisciplinary teams within healthcare.



Carlos Marquez III

HE/HIM

Executive Director of the County Welfare
Directors Association of California

Carlos Marquez III is a seasoned advocate and recognized state association leader with nearly two decades of Capitol experience. Against the backdrop of some of the toughest policy fights in Sacramento, Carlos has built a record of major legislative and budget achievements on behalf of large and diverse membership organizations.

In past roles as inaugural executive director of ACLU California Action and senior vice president of the California Charter Schools Association, respectively, Carlos secured legislation and budget investments that target disparities in California's public safety and public education systems.

Carlos has also served as an advisor to safety net and anti-poverty advocates like the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Legal Assistance to the Elderly. Other past roles include leading HONOR Fund, a sponsored initiative of the Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund, and serving as deputy political director of the LGBTQ Victory Fund & Institute. Carlos began his career representing social workers and county eligibility workers while at SEIU Local 221. He is deeply passionate about and understands the transformative power of county safety net programs personally. As a child, Carlos interacted regularly with Tulare County Child Protective Services and narrowly avoided foster care.



Catrina Taylor, PhD, MSPH **SHE/HER**

Surveillance and Research Section Chief and Director of the California Neurodegenerative Disease Registry and Parkinson's Disease Registry at CDPH

Catrina Taylor, PhD, MSPH is an experienced epidemiologist and has conducted chronic disease research and surveillance for over 20 years in the academic and public health sectors. Dr. Taylor has expertise in evaluating evidence-based interventions and use of health policies and data to inform surveillance, data reporting, data use, and policy implementation. Her work has contributed to health system changes in chronic disease-related medical care screenings and referrals; local level policy adoption to mitigate exposure to environmental irritants; and development of cross-sectoral strategies to report data and disseminate results for more effective adoption/implementation of evidence-based policies and practices to manage, treat, and prevent chronic disease.

The work of Dr. Taylor and her team contributes to public health research aimed toward advancing our understanding of cancer and neurodegenerative diseases. Her research endeavors have afforded her the opportunity to speak at state and local conferences, write peer-reviewed publications, engage health professionals around using surveillance data, developing case definitions for neurodegenerative diseases, health management practices and education, and development of public health protocols to address chronic disease and their associated disparities. She has a PhD in Public Health Policy Analysis from Saint Louis University and a Master of Science in Public Health degree from Meharry Medical College.



Cecil Newton

HE/HIM

Chief Information and Security Officer at
Central California Alliance for Health

Cecil Newton has a wealth of experience in information technology and a keen focus on cybersecurity. Cecil has been instrumental in implementing robust security measures that safeguard sensitive health information. His strategic vision and leadership have significantly contributed to the organization's technological advancements, ensuring the highest standards of data protection and operational efficiency.

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Chris Ticknor

HE/HIM

Chief Transformation Officer

Chris Ticknor has a passion for bringing people and technology together to solve complex challenges. As an executive and visionary, he has helped numerous companies across industries to best manage and take advantage of evolving opportunities, market trends, and disruption. He has served as an executive leader running divisions and departments within the automotive, telecom, and technology

industries for large monolithic-matrix organizations as well as mid-sized businesses. As Chief Transformation Officer, he is leading 211OC/Orange County United Way, and helping a collective of 211's and United Way's across California in an effort to transform, modernize, and enable solutions in a fragmented social services ecosystem.



Christine Goulet MS, RDN, CLE

SHE/HER

Associate Director for the WIC Program,
Northeast Valley Health Corporation

Christine Goulet MS, RDN, CLE, is a Registered Dietitian and Certified Lactation Educator. She received her bachelor's degree in public health and master's degree in nutrition from California State University, Northridge. She has spent her professional career dedicated to the WIC Program, spending over 28 years serving in several different management roles.

In 2022, Christine received the Northeast Valley Health Corporation Shining Star Leadership Award for her contributions in her current role as the Associate WIC Director. Since early 2024, she has served on the California WIC Association's Board, representing the Los Angeles basin WIC agencies. Christine enjoys all things related to nutrition and health.



Claire A. Cunningham, JD

SHE/HER

Director of the San Mateo County Human
Services Agency (HSA)

Claire A. Cunningham, JD, was appointed as the Director of the San Mateo County Human Services Agency (HSA) in July 2023. HSA provides safety net services and administers federal and state-mandated programs to over 198,000 children, families, and adults. Claire first joined San Mateo County in 2007 as a Deputy County Attorney, after several years in private practice at a San Francisco litigation firm.

Claire spent over a decade as HSA's legal counsel and represented many other County departments and local school districts during her tenure in the County Attorney's Office, where she most recently served as a Chief Deputy. Claire received her bachelor's degree in Government and French Studies from Smith College and her law degree from UC Law San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings).



Corrin Buchanan, MPP

SHE/HER

Undersecretary at the California Health & Human Services Agency (CalHHS)

Corrin Buchanan, MPP, serves as Undersecretary at the California Health & Human Services Agency (CalHHS). As Undersecretary, Corrin leads all policy development and implementation, and she manages the day-to-day operations of the Agency. Corrin previously served as Deputy Secretary for Policy and Strategic Planning at CalHHS.

Corrin has spent most of her career in systems change work in state and local government. Prior to joining CalHHS, Corrin served as the Assistant Director of Housing and Homelessness for the California Department of Social Services. She worked for the Los Angeles County

Department of Health Services as the Deputy Director for the Office of Diversion and Reentry, where she oversaw county-wide behavioral health diversion, reentry, and youth diversion and development efforts. Also with the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, she launched and managed the Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool, a locally funded rental subsidy program with the Housing for Health division. Corrin was Health Program Planner for Housing and Urban Health at the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the Community Programs Director for the San Francisco Women's Building. Corrin holds a master's degree in Public Policy from UC Berkeley.



Crystal Eubanks, MS

SHE/HER

Leads the California Quality Collaborative (CQC)

Crystal Eubanks, MS leads the California Quality Collaborative (CQC), driving statewide healthcare improvement through payer alignment and direct support to delivery systems. She oversees CQC's programs and technical assistance, with expertise in practice transformation, implementing collective impact networks, and developing resources for behavioral health integration and practice facilitation. Crystal's experience

spans quality improvement, clinic operations, and leadership in both public and private ambulatory and primary care settings. Previously, as Director of Quality and Data Analytics at a large FQHC, she led successful care transformation initiatives, achieving NCQA Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home multi-site recognition and national recognition as a top-performing health center.



Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FIDSA, FAAP

SHE/HER

Director and State Public Health Officer for the
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Dr. Erica Pan strives to embody and promote the values of dignity, equity, compassion and humility. She works with collaborative partnerships to communicate and empower communities and institutions to transform policies and systems to include a “health in all policies” approach, acknowledging that addressing the social determinants of health are fundamental to achieving healthy communities with thriving families and individuals. As California’s public health officer, Dr. Pan exercises leadership and legal authority to protect health and prevent disease.

Prior to becoming director, Dr. Pan was the deputy director of CDPH’s Center for Infectious Diseases and state epidemiologist beginning in July 2020. Dr. Pan was also the CDPH acting state public health

officer from August 10, 2020 to January 3, 2021. Before joining CDPH, Dr. Pan served multiple roles at the Alameda County Public Health Department, including health officer, director of communicable disease control and prevention, and deputy health officer. Dr. Pan also held several positions at the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Dr. Pan is a clinical professor for pediatric infectious diseases at the University of California, San Francisco. She maintained her clinical work in infectious diseases at San Francisco General Hospital and at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospitals in San Francisco and Oakland. Dr. Pan received her MD and MPH degrees from Tufts University School of Medicine, and completed her undergraduate education at Stanford University.



Evan White, JD, MPP

HE/HIM

Executive Director of California Policy Lab. He co-founded the California Policy Lab (CPL)

van White, JD, MPP co-founded the California Policy Lab (CPL), which generates research insights for government impact. Through hands-on partnerships with the government, CPL performs research across issue silos and builds the data infrastructure necessary to improve programs that millions of Californians rely on. Since 2017, CPL has helped conduct 300+ projects with 75+ agency partners. As Executive Director, Evan leads the Lab's Berkeley site and authors reports on household finance, migration, and poverty.

Prior to CPL, Evan served as Senior Advisor to the first Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Evan also served as Director of Fair Housing for northern California's largest fair housing nonprofit. He holds a joint degree in Law and Public Policy from UC Berkeley.



Geoffrey Leung, MD, EdM

HE/HIM

Public Health Officer for Riverside University Health System (RUHS) and the former Public Health Officer for Riverside County

At RUHS, Geoffrey Leung, MD, EdM, previously served as the Ambulatory Medical Director, Family Medicine Department Chair, and Medical Staff President. Dr. Leung is a Health Sciences Clinical Professor of Family Medicine at the University of California Riverside School of Medicine. He is currently involved in community wellness, integration of health

services, and whole person strategies for promoting health. Dr. Leung is passionate about community health, health equity, social determinants of health, and population health. Dr. Leung completed his medical degree at Baylor College of Medicine, his Family Medicine training at Kaiser Orange County, and his Master of Education at Harvard.



Jeremy Pine

HE/HIM

Information Technology Section Chief for the California Department of Public Health's Chronic Disease Surveillance and Research Branch

Jeremy Pine manages the organization's IT infrastructure, software development, and electronic reporting initiatives. Jeremy joined the California Department of Public Health as part of the California Cancer Registry in 2007.

He is an experienced leader with business operations roots that has spent the last several years in technology business

development and project management, leading teams in defining, designing, and delivering dozens of high impact web products and enterprise web solutions. His goal is to energize teams by establishing a common vision and deliver valuable software and tools.



Jessica Osborne- Stafsnes, MSHS

SHE/HER

Chief Operating Officer at the North Coast Health
Improvement and Information Network (NCHIIN)

Jessica Osborne-Stafsnes, MSHS, has led numerous collective impact initiatives, including Aligning Forces for Quality (a RWJF-funded effort to improve health care quality), the Humboldt Community Health Trust (the county's Accountable Community for Health), and North Coast Care Connect (a community information

exchange). She holds a BA in English from Humboldt State University and an MSHS in Healthcare Quality from George Washington University. She is passionate about driving system transformation to enhance the health and well-being in the community where she was born and raised.



Jessica Schumer, MD, MPH

SHE/HER

Assistant Deputy Director for Chronic Disease Prevention
at the California Department of Public Health

Jessica Schumer, MD, MPH, previously served as the first Deputy Director of the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, where she led initiatives on addressing racial health disparities, data modernization, and COVID-19 recovery.

She earned her MD at Tulane University in New Orleans where she witnessed the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and

gained formative insights into improving community health. She completed her pediatrics residency at UCSF, served as chief resident at San Francisco General Hospital, and earned an MPH at UCLA. Dr. Schumer is passionate about systems change, leveraging data, and centering community voices to drive policies and programs that help to realize the vital conditions for optimal health across California.



John Ohanian

HE/HIM

Chief Data Officer for the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) and Director of the Center for Data Insights and Innovation (CDII)

John Ohanian leads efforts to create a person-centered data ecosystem that improves the quality of data, accelerates the secure exchange of health and social service information, and helps reduce racial and ethnic disparities in health outcomes. His work includes overseeing cross-departmental programs, launching initiatives like the Data Exchange Framework, CDII's Insights lab, and developing innovative processes to ensure equitable distribution of resources to all Californians.

Before joining CalHHS, John spent his career working with local businesses and nonprofits, specializing in startups leading organizational change, securing funding, and implementing sustainable social enterprise strategies. He also served as President and CEO of 2-1-1 San Diego, transforming it into a leading Community Information Exchange supporting health and social service data sharing. John holds a degree in Business Administration from the University of San Diego and has attended the Harvard Business School Executive Education Program. John is passionate about leadership development and organizational transformation.



Jonah Frohlich, MPH

HE/HIM

Senior Managing Director at Manatt Health

Jonah Frohlich, MPH, provides strategy, policy, and regulatory advice to a wide array of health care organizations, including state governments, academic medical centers, and health plans, with a particular focus on Medicaid and I/DD policy, health information technology, and health care delivery transformation initiatives. He has led multi-stakeholder engagements on behalf of state agencies, health systems, and foundations, developed strategic and business plans for large delivery systems, led planning efforts for state health information technology initiatives, and published reports describing the impact of state and federal policy on public and private markets.

Prior to joining Manatt, Jonah was the deputy secretary of health IT at the California Health & Human Services Agency. In this role, he served as the administration's top executive and advisor on health IT, coordinating the state's \$1.5 billion initiative for the development, application, and use of electronic health records and secure information exchange. He also facilitated policy, statutory, and regulatory changes needed to advance health information exchange. Previously, he served as senior program officer at the California HealthCare Foundation, where he designed and led initiatives to improve chronic disease care programs across public and private institutions. He also served as manager at Brown & Toland Physicians.



Katie Heidorn, MPA

SHE/HER

Director of State Health Policy at CHCF

Katie Heidorn, MPA, is the director of state health policy at CHCF, where she leverages the foundation's data, expertise, and partnerships to help California's state government make informed decisions about health care. Katie is based in CHCF's Sacramento office. She has nearly two decades of experience working in health policy, government, and nonprofits and is a skilled leader, facilitator, and communicator. She comes to CHCF after more than two years as executive director for the Insure the Uninsured Project (ITUP). Before that, Katie was the government affairs advocate for Health Net and the development director and policy lead at

the nonprofit California Coverage and Health Initiatives. Katie spent a decade in California state government, including as a deputy secretary for the California Health and Human Services Agency and principal consultant in the Senate Appropriations Committee. She is also an alumna of the California Senate Fellows Program.

Katie received her master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California and bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Comparative Literature from the University of California, Davis.



Kim Johnson

SHE/HER

Secretary of the California Health & Human Services Agency (CalHHS)

Kim Johnson was appointed Secretary of the California Health & Human Services Agency (CalHHS) in September 2024 by Governor Gavin Newsom. Prior to her appointment as Secretary, Ms. Johnson was appointed Director of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) by Governor Newsom, a position she held from July 2019 – August 2024. In this role, Ms. Johnson led a team of over 5,500 employees – the largest Department in CalHHS – serving over 7 million Californians.

Ms. Johnson started with CDSS in 2015 and had previously been appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to serve as Deputy Director of the Family Engagement and Empowerment Division, CalWORKs and Child Care Branch Chief, and Child Care and Refugee Programs Branch Chief.

Ms. Johnson has over 25 years of experience working in both community-based organizations and government focused on advancing the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities most in need of resources. The mission of CalHHS is aligned with her purpose.



Kiran Savage-Sangwan, MPA

SHE/HER

is the Executive Director of the California
Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN)

Kim Johnson is the Executive Director of the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN). CPEHN is a statewide multi-cultural health advocacy organization focused on eliminating persistent health inequities and addressing structural racism in health care. Prior to becoming Executive Director in 2019, Kiran served as CPEHN Deputy Director and Health

Integration Policy Director. Kiran has a background in immigrant and mental health organizing and advocacy. She also previously served as the Chairperson of the Sacramento Community Police Review Commission. Kiran graduated from New York University with a B.A. and a Master of Public Administration.



Lemeneh Tefera (Tef), MD

HE/HIM

Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Director for
Clinical Innovation at the California Department of
Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)

Lemeneh Tefera (Tef), MD (he/him) is the inaugural Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Director for Clinical Innovation at the California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). In this role, he provides clinical, policy, and strategic planning expertise for the Director's Office and across the department's multiple programs.

Prior to joining HCAI, Dr Tefera helped lead plan benefit design at the California Public Employees' Retirement System, served as a US Senate Health Policy Fellow, and served as a policy advisor for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Dr. Tefera is a practicing emergency medicine physician with over 25 years of clinical experience. He earned his medical degree from the University of Southern California School of Medicine and a health policy master's degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Lisa Bari, MBA, MPH

SHE/HER

Founding CEO of Civitas Networks for Health

Lisa Bari, MBA, MPH (she/her) is the founding CEO of Civitas Networks for Health, the national nonprofit organization with a mission to support community and data-led health improvement and information exchange to address health outcomes and provide the infrastructure for health equity. Civitas Networks for Health counts more than 170 regional health improvement collaboratives, regional and state-wide health information exchanges, and affiliated organizations as members.

Lisa's notable prior roles included Interim CEO of the Strategic Health Information Exchange Collaborative, which became Civitas Networks for Health; Health IT and Interoperability Lead at the CMS Innovation Center working on primary care payment models; and earlier in her career, part of the executive leadership team of a venture-backed health technology firm. She holds an MBA from Purdue University and an MPH in Health Policy from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Lisa serves on the Boards of Directors of Zorya Foundation, and eHealth Exchange.



Mary-Sara Jones

SHE/HER

Health and Human Services
Interoperability Advocate

Mary-Sara Jones is a Health and Human Services Interoperability Advocate. She brings more than 25 years' experience in health and human services, leading service delivery transformation, applying technical innovations, and guiding agencies to navigate policy and business challenges. Working with organizations across the US and globally, she guides customers to move beyond organizational boundaries to provide a more holistic, person-centered approach to care while concurrently reducing costs and improving outcomes.

Mary-Sara's work underscores her commitment to enhancing decision-making and care coordination to address some of our most critical social challenges such as homelessness, substance use disorder, recidivism, and child safety.



Megan Esparza MAS, RDN, CLC

SHE/HER

Executive Director of the California WIC Association

Megan Esparza MAS, RDN, CLC, is the Executive Director of the California WIC Association. She has grown her career working for WIC, realizing early on the value and importance of the program. While attending UC Davis, she had the opportunity to intern with Community Resource Project WIC, cultivating her passion for lactation support and serving families. After graduating, she worked for Nevada WIC at both the local agency and state levels, where her responsibilities

included working on policy, local agency training, and conducting program reviews. A native Southern Californian, Megan returned home and has spent the last decade working for Camino Health Center, serving as WIC Program Director since 2016. In August of 2024, she began her current role at the California WIC Association, where she enjoys collaborating with partners at the local, state and national level. Website: Calwic.org



Michael Marchant

HE/HIM

Director of Digital Applications at
Sutter Health

Michael Marchant leads the Sutter Community Connect and Enterprise Data Integration teams, driving innovation and collaboration to enhance patient care and data sharing. He is a seasoned healthcare technology executive with over 30 years of leadership experience. His expertise lies in the strategic implementation and integration of complex enterprise systems and workflows across diverse healthcare environments. Michael has held pivotal roles with technology vendors, government contractors, and healthcare provider organizations, providing him with a well-rounded perspective on industry challenges and opportunities.

Passionate about advancing healthcare interoperability, Michael actively contributes to shaping the future of the industry through his leadership roles in various organizations. He serves as Chair of Epic's Care Everywhere Governing Council and Co-Chair of the Carequality Advisory Committee, as well as a board member for eHealth Exchange. Michael previously served as Co-Chair of AAMC's Diversity and Inclusion Workgroup, served twice as a member of the HIMSS Interoperability Committee, SDoH/Blockchain Task Force, and several HL7 FHIR Accelerators (FAST, Da Vinci, Gravity).



Michelle Baass, MPP

SHE/HER

Director of the California Department of
Health Care Services (DHCS)

Michelle Baass, MPP was appointed Director of the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) by Governor Gavin Newsom in September 2021. The Department supports the health of over 13 million Californians. Before her appointment to DHCS, Ms. Baass served as Undersecretary of California Health and Human Services Agency (Agency) and Deputy Secretary of the Office of Program and Fiscal Affairs at Agency.

Prior to joining the executive branch, Ms. Baass worked for the Legislature for 13 years, including positions at the California State Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, the Senate Office of Research, and the California Legislative Analyst's Office. Ms. Baass earned a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree from California State University, Sacramento and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Notre Dame. Ms. Baass is honored to serve Californians.



Palav Babaria, MD, MHS

SHE/HER

Chief Quality & Medical Officer and Deputy Director of Quality and Population Health Management of the California Department of Health Care Services

Palav Babaria, MD, MHS was appointed Chief Quality & Medical Officer and Deputy Director of Quality and Population Health Management of the California Department of Health Care Services in March 2021. In that capacity, she and her team are responsible for ensuring the quality, health equity, population health outcomes, and value based payment approaches for the 14 million Californians enrolled in Medi-Cal. Prior to joining DHCS, she served as Chief Administrative Officer for Ambulatory Services at the Alameda Health System (AHS), where she was responsible for all outpatient clinical operations, quality of care, and strategy for primary care, specialty care, dental

services, and integrated and specialty behavioral health, as well as executive sponsor for value-based programs including the Medi-Cal 1115 Waiver. She also previously served as Medical Director of K6 Adult Medicine Clinic.

Dr. Babaria has over a decade of global health experience and has published extensively. She received her bachelor's degree from Harvard College, and her MD and Masters in Health Science from Yale University. She completed her residency training in internal medicine and global health fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco.



Priti Rane, MS, RD, IBCLC

SHE/HER

Director of Nutrition Services and WIC Director for
the San Francisco Department of Public Health

Priti Rane, MS, RD, IBCLC leads efforts to enhance community nutrition, food security, and public health education. Passionate about addressing social determinants of health and reducing health disparities among San Francisco families, she focuses on improving access to healthy foods through high-quality nutrition services, innovative programming, and strategic partnerships. Priti leverages technology and data-driven solutions to streamline service delivery, improve outreach, and measure impact effectively. With a strong background in public health nutrition, she is dedicated to advancing equitable and sustainable nutrition initiatives.

Priti holds a Master's in Public Health Nutrition from Case Western Reserve University and is a Registered Dietitian and International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant.



Ravi Kavasery, MD

HE/HIM

SVP and Chief Medical Officer at Blue
Shield of California

Ravi Kavasery, MD is SVP and Chief Medical Officer at Blue Shield of California, a nonprofit health plan with over \$25 billion in annual revenue, serving nearly 6 million members in the state's commercial, individual, and government markets. He is also a board-certified internist and continues to see patients in East Los Angeles. Prior to Blue Shield, he served as medical director for AltaMed Health Services and Iora Health. He currently serves on the executive steering committee for the California Quality Collaborative.

Dr. Kavasery received his undergraduate degree with honors from Johns Hopkins University, and his medical degree, with honors, from Yale University. He completed his residency training in internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and was a clinical fellow at Harvard Medical School.



S. Monica Soni, MD

SHE/HER

Chief Medical Officer at Covered California

S. Monica Soni, MD is the Chief Medical Officer at Covered California, leading the organization's Health Equity and Quality Transformation division. She is working to improve the health of Covered California's 1.9 million enrollees and the quality and affordability of care for all Californians.

Dr. Soni is a board-certified internal medicine physician and Associate Professor at UCLA and CDU. She graduated from Harvard College and Harvard Medical School and completed residency at the University of California, San Francisco.



Sandra R. Hernández, MD

SHE/HER

President and CEO of the California Health Care
Foundation

Sandra R. Hernández, MD is president and CEO of the California Health Care Foundation. Prior to joining CHCF, Sandra was CEO of The San Francisco Foundation. She previously served as director of public health for the City and County of San Francisco. In February 2023, Sandra was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom to serve on the state's Health Care Affordability Board. From 2018 to 2023, she served on the Covered California board of directors, after having been appointed by Governor Jerry Brown. In 2019, she was also appointed by Governor Newsom to the Healthy California for All Commission. During her time at the San Francisco Foundation, she cochaired San Francisco's Universal Healthcare Council,

which designed Healthy San Francisco. It was the first time a local government in the US attempted to provide health care for all of its constituents.

Sandra practiced at San Francisco General Hospital in the HIV/AIDS Clinic from 1984 to 2016 and was an assistant clinical professor at the UCSF School of Medicine. In 2024, UCSF awarded Sandra its highest honor, the UCSF Medal. Sandra is a graduate of Yale University, the Tufts School of Medicine, and the certificate program for senior executives in state and local government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



Scott MacDonald, MD, FACP, FAMIA

HE/HIM

UC Davis Health's Chief Medical Information Officer (CMIO) and a practicing physician

Scott MacDonald, MD, FACP, FAMIA is UC Davis Health's Chief Medical Information Officer (CMIO) and a practicing physician, double-board certified in Internal Medicine (2000-present) and Clinical Informatics (2013-present) with extensive experience implementing and improving an electronic health records system in a complex academic health system. He is the primary leader for optimizing the system to support high quality and high value clinical care, research, education, and interoperability across all venues of the Health System. He leads teams of informaticists and analysts from various

specialties and venues to design and deploy solutions, and the strategies to support change. Current key initiatives include AI implementations, as well as several organizational operational priorities. As the co-chair of the Care Everywhere Regional User's group, he has led optimization and standardization of health information exchange across California organizations that use Epic. He is also a member of the careEquality Advisory Council, which works to facilitate the national transition to TEFCA-based interoperability.



Waldo Mikels-Carrasco, MA

HE/HIM/EL

Director of the Center for Health Information Sharing & Innovation at the Illinois Public Health Institute and the newly named Managing Director of the Chicago Regionwide Community Information Exchange

Waldo Mikels-Carrasco, MA is the Director of the Center for Health Information Sharing & Innovation at the Illinois Public Health Institute and the newly named Managing Director of the Chicago Regionwide Community Information Exchange. Waldo also serves as the Co-Director of Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH), an initiative supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and part of the DASH team supporting the Data Modernization Initiative (DMI) of the CDC's Public Health Infrastructure Grant, providing technical assistance to state, local, and territorial health departments through the PHIG grant.

Previously, he worked at the Indiana Health Information Exchange, developing partnerships to improve public health data interoperability, Transitions-in-Care for populations experiencing prison and jail reentry, homelessness/housing insecurity, HIV/AIDS, substance use disorder, and the need for Long-Term Social Services.