



## Meeting the Needs of Underserved Communities: The Potential of the University of California Programs in Medical Education

### Speakers

December 2022



**Sandra Hernández**, California Health Care Foundation

Sandra R. Hernández, M.D., is president and chief executive officer of the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF). Prior to joining CHCF, Hernández was chief executive officer of The San Francisco Foundation, which she led for 16 years. She previously served as director of public health for the City and County of San Francisco. She also cochaired San Francisco's Universal Healthcare Council, which designed Healthy San Francisco. It was the first time a local government in the U.S. attempted to provide health care for all of its constituents. In February 2018, Hernández was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the Covered California board of directors. In December 2019, she was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom to the Healthy California for All Commission, which is charged with developing a plan to help California achieve a health care delivery system that provides coverage and access through a unified financing system. She also serves on the board of the company 23andMe. Hernández 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. Hernández 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.



**Mallory Johnson**, Mathematica

Mallory Johnson, M.P.A., is a research analyst at Mathematica. She is a health geographer focusing on program evaluation, spatial research methods, and labor economics. She has extensive experience in health workforce research and health professions education. Johnson, who came to Mathematica in 2021, is working to incorporate measures of neighborhood-level social determinants of health into the Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System Analytic Files. These measures will enable analysts to understand Medicaid beneficiaries in the context of their neighborhood surroundings. Johnson also conducts evidence synthesis projects on undergraduate and graduate medical education for the California Health Care Foundation. Formerly, Johnson held research positions at the University of California

Davis School of Medicine and the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing and completed a Presidential Management Fellowship with the Veterans Health Administration. Johnson holds an M.P.A. in program evaluation from the George Washington University and is completing a Ph.D. in geography at the University of California, Davis.



**Michelle Ko**, University of California, Davis

Michelle Ko, M.D., Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Division of Health Policy and Management at UC Davis. She has served on admissions committees for the Drew/UCLA program, the UCLA PRIME program, and as a faculty advisor and lecturer for UC Davis PRIME programs. Her research broadly addresses the role of structural inequities, particularly racism, and health, healthcare workforce, safety net systems, and policy. Her past projects include longitudinal evaluation of the Drew/UCLA program, and physician workforce supply, distribution, and diversity in the state of California. Her current research projects include: 1) mixed methods studies delineating structural and institutional racism in academic medicine; 2) the role of structural racism in community violence, policing, and neighborhoods, on aging and cognition; 3) investigation of methods of practice evaluation for UC Davis Community Health Scholars programs. Ko is a member of the Health Affairs Health Equity Advisory Committee, former co-director of the UC Davis Center for a Diverse Health Workforce, and past chair of the Academy Health Disparities Interest Group. She is also the founder and director of the UC Davis Undergraduate Public Health Scholars program, a summer mentored research experience in public health, and the faculty advisor for the UC Davis School of Medicine Health Justice and Equity Research Fellowship program for medical students. She was recently awarded a UC Davis Chancellor's Fellowship in recognition of her contributions to diversity, equity, and inclusion to the university. Ko received her M.D. from the Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program and her Ph.D. in health policy and management from the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA.



**Melody Le Tran-Reina**, UC Davis School of Medicine

Melody Tran-Reina, M.D., is an assistant clinical professor of internal medicine at UC Davis and works as a primary care physician in a safety net clinic. She serves as the executive director for the Community Health Scholars programs at UC Davis School of Medicine, which are tailored pathway programs for medical students who want to work in rural, urban, Central Valley, or Indigenous communities. These programs include Rural PRIME and the newly launched Tribal Health PRIME programs. Tran-Reina is a graduate of the Community Health Scholar program for urban underserved communities, known as TEACH-MS (Transforming Education and Community Health for Medical Students). She received an M.D. from the UC Davis School of Medicine.



**Diane Rittenhouse**, Mathematica

Diane Rittenhouse, M.D., M.P.H., is a senior fellow at Mathematica and professor of family medicine and health policy at the University of California, San Francisco. She has two decades of experience researching primary care organization, delivery, finance, and workforce—and translating that research into policy. Rittenhouse has substantial mixed-methods evaluation experience, having led many studies that contributed to discussions on health care reform. She was principal investigator for the evaluation of federal efforts to restore, expand, and improve primary care services in greater New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and co-investigator on large-scale

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national studies of physician practices. Most recently, she was principal investigator on a project to identify policy options for strengthening graduate medical education in California. She has published in leading journals, including the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and has been cited in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *USA Today*. She practiced family medicine for 10 years in a community-based faculty practice at the University of California, San Francisco. Rittenhouse received her doctorate in medicine from the University of California, Davis, and her master's degree in public health with an emphasis in health policy and management from the University of California, Berkeley. Before her medical training, she worked for the California Statewide Office of Health Planning and Development and the U.S. deputy assistant secretary for health in Washington, DC.



**Sidra Suess, Kaiser Permanente**

Sidra Suess, M.D., is an outpatient internist practicing at Kaiser Permanente in Stockton, California. She works within the Adult Family Medicine Department and has interests in palliative medicine as well as cardiology. She is also involved in teaching medical students rotating through the San Joaquin Valley. Sidra was one of the first graduating cohorts of the San Joaquin Valley PRIME Program in 2015, and after completing residency in the Bay Area, returned to the Valley to establish her practice. She received an M.D. from the UC Davis School of Medicine.

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