

CLINIC LEGACY AWARD

In recognition of their distinguished careers and dedication to community healthcare.

Sue Compton

CEO, Axis Community Health

After graduating from Duke University with a degree in nursing, Sue Compton began her career as a public health nurse in rural South Carolina in the 70's - at a time when health disparities were first coming to light. The families she served didn't have electricity or plumbing, and chronic diseases were the norm. Hospitalizations only occurred in the most dire of circumstances - and poor patients were relegated to "public" wards, where care was minimal and families were expected to bring food to sustain their loved one. These inequities ignited Sue's passion for caring for the underserved.

Sue's career also included public health nursing in urban settings in Milwaukee, WI and Oakland, CA, which led to a position at a small health center in eastern Alameda County. The clinic was in its infancy, but it grew over the years, and Sue's role shifted to administration while she also earned a masters in health care administration from the University of San Francisco. She continued to oversee growth of the organization, and was named CEO of the health center, now known as Axis Community Health, in 2007. Under Sue's leadership, the health center gained FQHC status in 2009, and grew to a 200-employee organization with five sites (with a sixth location under construction). Sue also oversaw the implementation of dental services, the development of a 24,000 square foot flagship clinic, and the start of Axis Bridge, which is an innovative mental health urgent care service that quickly garnered both local and federal support.

In addition to serving as CEO at Axis, Sue served as Board Chair of the Alameda Health Consortium for the past four years and she also served on the board of directors of the Community Health Center Network for fifteen years. Sue retired from Axis in June 2022 and is now residing in the Sierra foothills in Nevada.

Lynn Dorroh

CEO, Hill Country Health & Wellness Center

As of March 31, 2022, Lynn Dorroh, CEO of Hill Country Health and Wellness Center retired after almost forty years with the organization. Lynn is one of four founding members of Hill Country; in fact, it was her vision that led to the creation of Hill Country in 1983, to provide quality healthcare to rural residents in Eastern Shasta County. During her tenure as CEO, Hill Country saw expansion first in Round Mountain, then with several satellite clinics in Redding to meet the overwhelming need, culminating with the building of the Center of Hope in 2021, a 45,000 sq ft facility that provides medical, dental, and behavioral health care, in addition to housing for transition age youth. Under her leadership, an urgent mental health facility was also established in Redding, the CARE Center, as well as the Mobile Crisis Outreach Team. In the 1990s, she founded Acorn Community Enterprises, a family resource center in Round Mountain, in addition to Woodhill House, an organization that provided housing, supervision, and care to at-risk youth. Lynn has been an active and valued member of the Health Alliance of Northern California Board of Directors, Northern California Rural Roundtable, the Shasta Health Assessment and Redesign Collaborative (SHARC), and the chair of SHARC's Integrated Care Committee (ICC). Lynn's guiding principles have always been to provide comprehensive health care to everyone, regardless of ability to pay, provided with kindness, integrity, and dignity. This is her legacy, and rural Northern California is fortunate to have had such a dedicated and capable visionary devote her considerable talent to the well-being of our residents.

Elizabeth Benson Forer, MSW, MPH
CEO & Executive Director, Venice Family Clinic

Elizabeth Benson Forer's visionary leadership has been integral to Venice Family Clinic's growth. She joined the Clinic in 1994, when it served 10,000 patients annually at one location. Today, the Clinic serves over 45,000 patients at 17 locations. During nearly three decades at Venice Family Clinic, Ms. Forer has guided the creation of new clinical programs and a robust network of over 200 community partnerships.

Ms. Forer has held numerous positions on boards, including the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County, the California Primary Care Association and the National Association of Free Clinics. In 2016, the Durfee Foundation recognized her as an outstanding leader and granted a three-month sabbatical to advance leadership skills. She was also a California HealthCare Foundation Health Leadership Fellow. Through these organizations and her direct advocacy work, Ms. Forer is involved at all levels of government to develop legislation and policy initiatives to help people with low incomes and people experiencing homelessness access health care.

Prior to joining the Clinic, she served as Executive Director of Settlement Health and Medical Services, a nonprofit community health center in East Harlem, New York, and directed a department at Metropolitan Hospital in New York City, where her mission was to make the hospital more accessible to local residents. Ms. Forer holds master's degrees in social work and public health from Columbia University.

Naomi Fuchs
CEO, Santa Rosa Community Health

Ms. Fuchs has served as CEO for Santa Rosa Community Health for the past 22 years and brings more than 40 years of experience in health care executive management. Ms. Fuchs came to this position after 15 years as the CEO for the Redwood Empire Medical Group, a leading physician organization in Sonoma County, and five years of national consulting in physician organization, board development, strategic planning, and business development.

Under the leadership of Ms. Fuchs, Santa Rosa Community Health has grown from serving 5,000 patients in one location to 40,000 patients at eight health center sites. She has expanded programs to include a school-based clinic, a behavioral health program, a dental health center, and an outpatient residency training program for 36 family medicine residents, as well as a residency program for family nurse practitioners, the first accredited residency for family nurse practitioners in the country. She also led SRCH's response and recovery for the 2017 Tubbs wildfire that destroyed SRCH's largest health center, the Vista Campus. She earned her degree in Anthropology from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and her MBA at Sonoma State University.

Sherry Hirota
CEO, Asian Health Services

For more than 40 years, Sherry M. Hirota has championed underserved communities and has made an impact fighting for health care as a right, not a privilege. As a leader of movements to expand health access, educate and advocate for linguistic and cultural competency, and lift the voice of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Sherry has created positive change locally, regionally, in California, and throughout the nation.

Chief Strategy Officer and Founding Executive of Asian Health Services (AHS), Sherry is also Co-Chair of One Nation Commission and Founder of One Nation AAPI which fought to stop Public Charge and anti-immigrant

attacks. Sherry created a local model that sets the highest standards for community health centers on a national stage. AHS provide high quality care in 14 languages, serves over 50,000 patients each year, and operates a \$65 million budget that supports 12 clinic sites, 11 clinical, advocacy, and educational programs, and a professional staff of nearly 500, 99% of whom are bilingual.

As an advocate and pioneer in the Asian American and Pacific Islander health movement, Sherry's courageous and creative leadership in health care, public policy and advocacy forged the way to the establishment of national and statewide language and cultural competence standards in managed care. She advises Congressional leaders on health issues ranging from eligibility criteria for indigent care population-based medically underserved designations, strategies for urban health policy, language access standards, and stabilization of core infrastructure funding for community-based organizations. She also intentionally forges coalitions and partnerships with multi-ethnic, multi-racial, disabled, and LGBTQ advocates to build unity around each other's common agendas and strengthen impact for the greater good.

Sherry's leadership is deeply rooted in her family's history. Sherry's grandfather came from Japan when he was only 14 years old; he lived through the 1906 earthquake. Her mother was born in Stockton, California, to immigrant parents who were farmworkers. Her mother's family, unable to support five children, sent their three sons to Japan to be raised by relatives. One died on the ship to Japan.

Her grandparents on both sides spoke little or no English and worked for meager wages laundry workers, housekeepers and gardeners. They built communities in Berkeley and Oakland, CA, but being law abiding, tax paying and hardworking, did not protect them from the racism that ripped Americans of Japanese descent from their homes and incarcerated them during World War II. The family was forced to live in horse stalls at the Tanforan Race Track and later at Topaz Concentration Camp in the Utah wilderness. They were stripped of their rights without due process.

"Community Health Centers represent the kind of health care that I wish my Grandparents could have enjoyed: Culturally relevant, in their own language, and affordable regardless of ability to pay. At Asian Health Services, I honor their strength of character to face adversity and make something better through hard work and sacrifice. They embodied "Gaman" -- the Japanese concept of enduring the seemingly unbearable with patience and dignity. I strive to honor the Gaman spirit of today's immigrants, whose hard work and contributions makes life better for all Americans."

Sherry has served on the Boards and Advisory Councils of numerous influential philanthropic, advocacy, health care policy, and governmental organizations, including The California Endowment, East Bay Community Foundation, and Edible School Yard (Chez Panisse Foundation). She has been inducted into the SF State University Hall of Fame, has received the Health Equity Champion award from Centers of Disease Control, Office of Minority Health, the California State Legislature Martin Luther King Legacy Award, Outstanding Woman of the Year in Health-Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame award, Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award, the California Wellness Foundation and Woman of the Year for the 16th Assembly District of California.

Lisa Shelton-Finch
CEO, Family Health Matters Community Health Center

The CEO, Ramona Shelton-Finch, MBA is a seasoned health care executive. Her experience includes seven years as Chief Operating Officer for the Coalition of Orange County Community Health Centers, two years as Clinical Operations Manager for a private start-up health care organization in Detroit, Michigan establishing integrated primary care offices for dual-eligible beneficiaries (Medicare/Medicaid), and nearly three years of experience as

Senior Clinical Implementation Manager for a large integrated health care system that owned hospitals and medical groups, as well as employed physicians. In her last position, Ms. Shelton-Finch successfully led an entire inpatient utilization management electronic platform for all markets and regions and led the case management team to attainment of compliance thresholds that resulted in 200% in health plan funding. She has a B.A. in economics from Dartmouth College, and an M.A. in international business and a M.B.A. in finance from University of Texas, Dallas. She has a deep passion for improving health care for persons with barriers to access and intends to establish a comprehensive primary care delivery system that is effective, efficient, and responsive to the unmet needs of vulnerable residents in the health center's service area.

As the CEO, Ms. Shelton-Finch is responsible for all staff and patient-related activities that occur at NOCRHF. The CEO also works closely with the Board to ensure full compliance with the implementation of its vision and direction, including all HRSA scope of work requirements. Ms. Shelton-Finch is an employee of NOCRHF and evaluated yearly by the Board. As the CEO of NOCRHF, Ms. Shelton-Finch participates as a non-voting member in the monthly Board meetings to facilitate ongoing communications, knowledge of clinic operations, and strategic planning efforts.

During her tenure at NOCRHF she led a team that successfully acquired a New Access Point designation, moved the health center to a new location and expanded primary care staffing and services to include behavioral health. Funding was awarded and the groundwork laid to add vision and dental services for the communities served. The health center was rebranded as Family Health Matters (FHM) Community Health Center. FHM now provided needed services to the city of Placentia using its mobile unit while working collaboratively with the city's school district.

Ralph Silber

Executive Director, Alameda Health Consortium

Ralph Silber has a Master's degree from UC Berkeley in Public Health, with a concentration in health policy and planning. He has more than forty years' experience in community health, primary care, and health policy. For more than 40 years, he has served as the Executive Director of the Alameda Health Consortium, the association of eight non-profit community health centers in Alameda County, California. He is also the Chief Executive Officer of the Community Health Center Network, a managed care and practice management organization with more than 181, 000 Medi-Cal managed care members.

Mr. Silber is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the California Primary Care Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the Integrated Healthcare Association. He has served on numerous government advisory committees at the federal, state, and county levels and has delivered presentations at numerous national conferences.

Terri Stratton

Executive Director, El Dorado Community Health Center

Ms. Stratton has been the Chief Executive Officer of the El Dorado Community Health Center in El Dorado County, California, since 2014. Ms. Stratton has a Master's Degree in Public Health with over 35 years of experience in health care and community public health. She has guided the Center's transition and leadership through the pandemic, providing leadership in the delivery of COVID testing and vaccination, mitigation measures for the safety of staff and patients, and risk communication during the delivery of primary healthcare. This leadership included the Center's concurrent response to the Caldor Fire, severely impacting patients, staff,

and community. Ms. Stratton also oversaw the recent construction of a new comprehensive clinic site, and the opening of other sites, expanding telemedicine services, securing grants, and expanding clinical services. Growth under her leadership expanded EDCHC from 2 sites, 40 employees and a \$5.8 million dollar budget to 5 sites, 150 employees and a budget of \$20.5 million.

Prior to coming to EDCHC, Ms. Stratton held senior management positions with state (DHCS and CDPH) and local county government in a variety of areas. During this time she provided leadership for facilitating CA Smokefree Workplace (Governor's Executive Order and CA Smokefree Workplace laws); policy related to women's health and domestic violence prevention; CA restaurant menu calorie listing and ban on Transfats; Affordable Care Act policy development, Covered CA marketing/outreach; and public health emergency planning and response to H1N1, anthrax and other biological threats, wildfires, and planning for future pandemics, such as the one we are currently facing. Ms. Stratton has devoted her career to improving the health of her community, both locally and statewide, and is grateful for the opportunity to have made a difference in the lives of Californians.

HERO AWARD

In recognition for his long-time commitment to guiding and advising California's community health centers.

Lawrence "Larry" B. Garcia, JD

On February 1, 2022, Larry retired from the practice of law with over 46 years of experience in counseling and representing of clients in highly regulated business environments with a heavy concentration in providing support for healthcare providers, senior living providers, and small businesses. Larry's legal practice activities also included mergers, acquisitions, financings, commercial transactions, healthcare law, construction law, and facilitated conflict resolutions, as well as the representation of clients before regulators. His legal work also extended within his community by providing legal counsel to integral nonprofits such as California Primary Care Association, and the California Hispanic, Asian and Black Chambers of Commerce.

Currently, Larry operates a solo consulting firm, Garcia Performance Solutions "GPS", in which he leads clients by providing tailored strategy and governance support for health care providers and nonprofit corporations seeking to improve the contribution of their governing boards to their nonprofit mission.

Larry is also a founding member: of (i) the Institute for Senior Living, a think-tank of leaders that works as a catalyst for innovations to meet and address the needs of the growing aging population and develop creative solutions; and (ii) the Nueva Epoca Leadership Program that supports diversity and inclusion by preparing members of the Latinx Community for informed participation on boards and commissions to further initiatives in the Greater Sacramento Region.

HEALTH CENTER HERO AWARD

In recognition of her service of more than a decade to the California Primary Care Association and contributions to its mission of health care for all.

Andie Martinez-Patterson

CEO, Alameda Health Consortium/Community Health Center Network

As of Spring 2022, Andie Martinez-Patterson is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at the Alameda Health Consortium (AHC)/Community Health Center Network (CHCN). Prior to serving at CHCN, Andie worked at the California Primary Care Association (CPCA) for nearly 15 years, working to advance the mission

of community health centers statewide. For the last decade, she worked to build and advance a payment reform initiative for health centers in California. Her last role at CPCA was as the Senior Vice President for Strategy, Integration and System Impact.

Andie's background includes public policy, community organizing, advocacy, and membership engagement. She has an undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a master's degree in Public Policy from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs (UMN). Andie is also a graduate of the Clinic Leadership Institute sponsored by Blue Shield of California Foundation.

HEALTH CENTER HERO AWARD

In recognition of his service to the California Primary Care Association and contributions to its mission of health care for all.

Mike Witte, MD

Vice President & Chief Medical Officer, CPCA

Dr. Witte joined the CPCA staff in 2015. He has a long history of providing services to health center patients, and he was an active CPCA board member for almost six years prior coming on staff as Chief Medical Officer. As a Board-Certified Physician in both Family Practice and Pediatrics, he founded the Point Reyes Clinic in 1981, which has since grown to three sites and joined the Petaluma Health Center. Dr. Witte received his MD from the Medical College of Wisconsin and then completed a three-year pediatric residency at Children's Hospital in Oakland. He subsequently became Board certified in Family Practice. He started the pediatric clinic at La Clinica de la Raza, and worked as an ER physician at Kaiser in San Rafael before founding the Coastal Health Alliance.