

# EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers:

To endure and grow, all movements for positive change continuously need new energy and fresh ideas and skills. These attributes very often come by way of nurturing and attracting younger generations as employees and/or volunteers to the cause. In addition to strengthening the mission of an existing movement, young people can also be the catalysts needed to launch *new* movements. Just look what the following individuals did *before* they turned 40.



- **Rev. Martin Luther King** became a key leader in the Civil Rights Movement at the **age of 26** starting with the Montgomery bus boycott.
- Labor leader **Dolores Huerta** co-founded the National Farmworkers Association (later the United Farm Workers) in her **early 30's**.
- Physicians **H. Jack Geiger, John Hatch** and **Aaron Shirley** were among many other young community and physician activists who laid the foundation for the creation of the first health centers and the birth of the Health Center Movement.

Today, thousands of dedicated young people all across America are actively involved in the Health Center Movement. Earlier this year we asked people to identify some of these individuals – representing the “Faces of Our Future” – to be featured in this issue of *Community Health Forum*. We could not unfortunately highlight all of those recommended due to the sheer number of names we received (Great News for the Movement!). We are pleased however, to share the personal and inspiring stories of some of these “change agents” who agreed to tell us how and why they joined the Movement and gave us advice on how we can continue to attract and engage other young and committed people like them to carry the mission forward.

To your good health,

Claudia Green Gibson  
Executive Vice President for Communications  
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