

The Candidate's Forum gives candidates an opportunity to introduce themselves to the membership prior to the Annual Convention. This year candidates will run for the offices of Vice Speaker of the House, Secretary and Consumer/Board Member Representative. 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 (8/26-30) at the House of Delegates Meeting on Sunday, August 28, 2022, in Illinois at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. 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 29, 2022. Each Organizational Member receives four votes. For more information about dues or voting status, please contact the NACHC Membership Department at 301-347-0400.

CANDIDATE FOR VICE 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 to return as Vice Speaker of the House. The past four years, I am proud to have served as Vice Speaker, because Community Health Centers have proven that we represent the best of America. Guided by deep Civil Rights roots, we proactively responded to the pandemic, leading with innovations and robust civic relationships, and became the bastions safeguarding our communities. From anti-Black racism to anti-Asian hate, we continue to address and heal racial strife.

I have continued to use my voice to elevate the strengths of CHCs, and how much I love being a part of NACHC. I have served by participating on the Task Force on Undoing Racism, membership in and co-chairing several committees, writing blogposts and advocacy, moderating/facilitating conference sessions and meetings, uplifting health centers with every platform. Outside of NACHC-specific activities, I continue to see patients at Asian Health Services, in Oakland, California. I helped develop and serve as faculty for the NTTAP (National Training and Technical Assistance Partnership), which works alongside NACHC to improve access and care to patients at risk of, experiencing, or surviving the effects of intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and exploitation, through Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation. I elevate the needs of marginalized populations through academic writing – peer reviewed articles and textbook chapters. This year, I was appointed to President Biden's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

As Vice Speaker, I will continue to honor our history, deep roots of patient-centered care and advocacy, while embracing change, innovation, and a new era. We are vital to our patients, our communities, and the country. Together with you, I look forward to helping build the NACHC of the Future!

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY

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

SUE VEER

President and CEO
Carolina Health Centers, Inc.
Greenwood, SC



I am pleased to introduce myself and announce my candidacy for the office of Secretary of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Community Health Centers. I have served as the CEO of Carolina Health Centers, Inc., a federally qualified health center serving seven rural counties of South Carolina, for the past 16 years. I am also in my second term as one of the Region 4 Representatives on the NACHC Board.

My career in health care spans 35 years and various health care settings including three community hospitals, a major academic medical center, and a private OBGYN practice. The common thread throughout my career has been patient advocacy and ensuring access for those who are underserved. I was introduced to the Community Health Center program serendipitously while looking for expansion property for the OBGYN practice, and in less than three months, I was employed by the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association as Program Coordinator for Health Care for the Homeless. I found my home in the health center movement and have never looked back!

Because of my extensive and diverse healthcare background, coupled with the past 20 years in the community health center movement, I believe that I am well suited for a leadership position on the NACHC Board. However, during my last three years as a Regional Representative on the Board I have been an active participant in two initiatives that I believe position me to be an exceptional candidate for leadership as we move forward to build the NACHC of the Future. The first is the Task Force on Undoing Racism and the second is oversight of the Organizational Assessment process. I assure you that, if elected to the office of Secretary, I will be a strong advocate for transformational leadership.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTINUING FOR 2022-2023



Chair of the Board:
Michael A. Holmes
Cook, MN



Chair-Elect:
Paloma Hernandez
Bronx, NY



Immediate Past Chair:
Lathran J. Woodard
Columbia, SC



Speaker of the House:
Henry Taylor, MPA
Chicago, IL



Treasurer:
John Santistevan
Ft. Lupton, CO



Parliamentarian:
Jana Eubank
Austin, TX

CANDIDATE FOR CONSUMER/BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE

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

VIRGINIA FUATA (GINGER)

First Vice Chair, Board of Director

Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

Waianae, HI



Me 'oukou ka welina o ke aloha.

I greet you with grace and humility.

I, Virginia "Ginger" Fuata, am seeking election as your Consumer/Board Member Representative of the National Association of Community Health Centers.

It has been, and always will be, an honor to serve in this capacity in a position I have held and actively served throughout the years on the health center movement at the National, Primary Care Association, as well as on the Health Center level, ever mindful that "health care is a universal right" for all people across the nation.

Amidst the crisis that we all face, not only community and state-wide, but nationally as well, I have served on the NACHC Board as your Health Center Board Member Representation from 2015 to current and have served on NACHC committees since 2006.

The guiding tool of "Learn-Do-Plan" is used to respond through relational means, as individuals, as patients, as a community, and as a national organization. Most importantly, I believe that when capacity among our consumers and patients is created, then their voices will be heard throughout our communities.

I am grateful to all the leaders and pioneers of this great nation of ours who set forth and walked this path before me, those who themselves have learned, done, and planned with perseverance, dedication and hard work for the people of this nation.

Mahalo (thank you) to all of you for your support and aloha (the breath of life) you have provided me. What resonates within me is an old Hawaiian proverb that says, "No deed is too big when done together."

I humbly ask for your vote and continued support.

He ohu ke aloha; aohe kuahiwi kau ole.

Love is like a mist, there is no mountaintop that it doesn't settle upon.

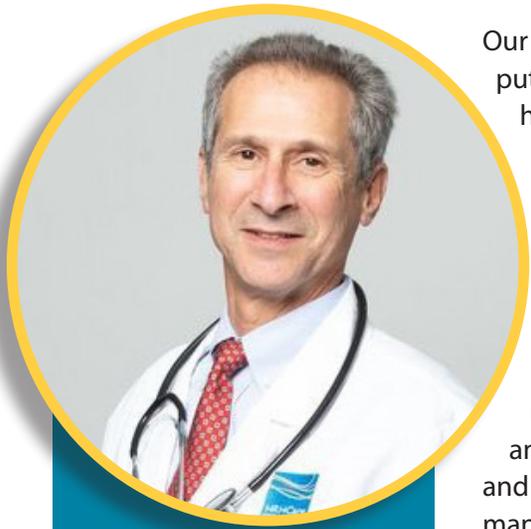
CANDIDATE FOR CLINICIAN REPRESENTATIVE

DANIEL MILLER, MD

Chief, Graduate Medical Education & Behavioral Health Integration

Sun River Health

Peekskill, NY



Our CHC movement was born in Freedom Summer 1964 when Dr. Robert Smith put out a call for clinicians from around the country to come to Mississippi to help him minister to the injuries he knew would result as Black people in the state exercised their fundamental civil right to vote. Dr. Jack Geiger was one of those who came that summer and a short time later, he and Dr. Count Gibson secured federal support for the country's first two CHC's. Our movement was born in the struggle against racism and the drive for Justice.

This is as true today as it was at our birth. As we have become the nation's leading-edge of primary care, delivering outstanding clinical care and addressing the social drivers of health, we recognize that the illnesses and health disparities our patients face are most commonly the physical manifestations of poverty and racism.

NACHC stands at some crossroads now, as does our movement. We have been through some difficult times and there is much work to be done. There are also great opportunities for us. This moment brings us the opportunity to continue evolving and transforming our practices and systems, while we explore and develop new alternate methods of payment. At the same time, it brings the opportunity for us to partner ever more deeply with our patients and communities as they help us lead the country towards truly outstanding and equitable health and healthcare.

This is a time in our movement and in our organization for vision and clarity. It is a time to manifest our values, to listen to each other and to support our community. I believe I have demonstrated these qualities during my tenure on the NACHC Board since 2014. I would be honored to serve another term.

CANDIDATE FOR HEALTH CENTER BOARD MEMBER

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 seeking to serve as the Health Center Board Member Representative on the NACHC Board.

I am the former Executive Director of Southeast Community Services (SECS) on the southeast side of Indianapolis. Our building also 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.

I love the quote from Margaret Mead: "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 a citizen of our world. We, as a community of health centers, as well as a community of 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 crises, turmoil, change, and growth in our country. We have learned so much. Going forward, we must keep the momentum to do the impossible. What we thought was a sprint is really a marathon, and we are still in that race.

CANDIDATE FOR HEALTH CENTER BOARD MEMBER

MALIKAH MUHAMMAD

Board Secretary
The Wellness Plan
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 views.

Currently, I am NACHC Certified in Health Center Governance. I have been attending P&I conferences since 2017; I joined NACHC in 2019. At the 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 school teacher from Detroit Public Schools, Election Chairman in Detroit; Precinct 150, Certified Consultant for 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 respective departments.

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

If I am honored to serve as NACHC Health Center Board Member Representative on NACHC's 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

DEBORAH E. WOOLFORD, LMSW

Board Chair
Park West Health Systems, Inc.
Baltimore, MD



GREETINGS TO MY FELLOW SERVANTS AND WARRIORS IN THE NACHC MOVEMENT

My name is Ms. Deborah E. Woolford, LMSW, Board Chair, Park West Health Systems, Inc. in Baltimore, Maryland. I have been a member of the National Association of Community Health Centers since 2007 and joined the ranks of lifetime membership in 2021. I have served on the following committees: Consumer Board Member, Health Care for the Homeless, and Service Integration for Behavioral Health & HIV for many years. I am Board Governance certified and a graduate of the Advocacy Leadership Program.

I am seeking your vote to be the next Health Center Board Member Representative to the NACHC Board. Since joining the NACHC movement, I have used my passion and skills to keep the legacy of our founders alive. I am known as a coalition builder, team player, problem solver, and a tenacious voice for our patients to ensure they have access to outstanding affordable health care regardless of their ability to pay.

As your next Health Center Board Member Representative, I will see opportunities on the national, state, and local levels to establish or participate in partnerships that extend health care centers abilities to improve the quality of life for the people we serve. In addition to other health care organizations, partners could include schools, food supply centers, housing agencies and economic development corporations. These entities play a major role in the health conditions of our constituents.

There is nothing more important than health which is our principal capital asset. Quality and affordable health care is a human right.

It will be my humble pleasure to serve as our next Health Center Board Member Representative.



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NACHC CANDIDATES' FORUM 2022

Election Sunday, August 28

NACHC HOUSE OF DELEGATES
Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, IL