

Arturo Carmona

Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica, Executive Director

Arturo Carmona is the founding Executive Director of the Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica (COFEM) and has been with the organization since its establishment in 2005. As Executive Director, Carmona leads one of the most dynamic movements of organic immigrant leadership in the nation. With nearly 300 hometown associations and nearly 50 thousand members, COFEM is determined to mobilize its membership around key policy issues, improve the educational attainment of immigrant families in California, and promote binational economic development.

Through his leadership, COFEM has emerged as a key player on important areas impacting immigrants in California, particularly around immigration, health, and educational reform issues. Carmona has helped consolidate the organization through solid programs, sound strategic planning, and effective community organizing.

Prior to joining COFEM, Carmona served as Special Assistant to then MALDEF President Antonia Hernandez. He began his professional career as a fellow under the Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellowship Program in the California State Capitol. While in the State Capitol, Carmona worked on various key assignments including staffing legislation for Assembly Member Marco Antonio Firebaugh, the California Latino Legislative Caucus, and conducting budget analysis for Assembly Budget Subcommittees.

Carmona was born in Los Angeles to working class immigrant parents from Mexico. Throughout his career, Carmona has used his ability to bring people together to take on important challenges to help the community. As a civil rights advocate, political consultant, student body President, or leader in grassroots campaigns, Carmona has demonstrated a life commitment to civil rights, community development, educational opportunity, and international development.

Assembly Member Tony Mendoza

California State Legislature, Latino Legislative Caucus, Chair

Assemblymember Tony Mendoza was born at Hoover Hospital in South Central Los Angeles, the second youngest of nine children. As a young man living in a single-parent home, he witnessed first-hand the struggles of working families and the opportunities that a good education provided.

Mendoza graduated from high school and became the first in his family to attend and graduate from college. Mendoza enrolled at California State University, Long Beach where he earned his Bachelor's in Political Science: Public Administration and earned his Multiple Subject Bilingual Teaching Credential at California State University, Los Angeles.

For over 10-years, he taught elementary school in East Los Angeles while serving as a member of the board of directors with United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA). He was a representative with the California Teachers Association (CTA) and the National Education Association (NEA). His eagerness to help others motivated him to run for public office and allowed him to win a seat on the Artesia City Council. In 1997, Mendoza became the youngest and first Latino member of the Artesia city council and youngest to serve as mayor at the age of 26. After serving three successful terms on the city council, and being a tenured teacher of 10 years, Tony decided he could best serve fellow educators and parents by running for the State Assembly.

Assemblymember Mendoza authored legislation that was signed by the Governor and adopted into law. His bill AB 97 made California the first state in the nation to ban the use of Trans Fats, the health deteriorating food ingredient. In addition, he introduced AB 1488, a bill that would require smog checks of lightweight diesel vehicles, giving California the cleanest running vehicles in the country. Mendoza's Parenting Bill, AB 1291, helps parents take a lead role in the life of their child, who has been charged and convicted of a first-time gang related offense, by jointly enrolling in anti-gang courses to help prevent further involvement in gang related activities and lifestyle.

He leads the charge to improve healthcare and educational needs for overlooked and underserved communities. Mendoza serves as the Chair of the California Latino Legislative Caucus.

Xóchitl Castañeda

University of California- Berkeley, Health Initiative of the Americas, Director

Xóchitl Castañeda has been the Director of Health Initiative of the Americas, at the School of Public Health, University of California Berkeley, since 2001. A medical anthropologist by training, Xóchitl was educated in Guatemala and Mexico. She did a post-doctoral fellowship in reproductive health at the University of California, San Francisco. She also received training in social science and medicine at Harvard University and at Amsterdam University.

For over seven years, she was a Professor of Public Health Sciences and a P.I. Researcher at Mexico's National Institute of Public Health, where she directed the Department of

Reproductive Health. In 1999, she received the National Research Award on Social Science and Medicine. In 2010, the California Latino Legislative Caucus awarded her with the National Sprit Award for her leadership in initiatives to improve the quality of life of Latino immigrants in the U.S. Xóchitl has published over 100 manuscripts and has served as a consultant for more than 20 national and international institutions.

Her vision and commitment has led the creation of binational health programs. Under her direction HIA has coordinated for 10 consecutive years the Binational Health Week, one of the largest mobilization efforts in the Americas to improve the well-being of Latin American immigrants. Through these strategies, hundreds of thousands of Latinos have received medical attention and are referred to public and private agencies to obtain services. She has been twice elected to be an advisor to the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME), for which she has served as the National Coordinator of the Health Commission in the U.S.

Marc Schenker

University of California- Davis, Migration and Health Research Center, Professor

Marc Schenker is Professor of Medicine and Public Health at the UC Davis School of Medicine. He has over 30 years experience in medicine and public health. Dr. Schenker is the founding director of the Davis Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, the Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety and the Migration and Health Research Center. He is co-director of the Center of Expertise on Migration and Health of the UC Global Health Institute. Dr. Schenker's specialty is occupational and environmental disease. He is board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary disease and occupational health. He conducts epidemiologic research and teaches in these areas, with a particular focus on lung disease, reproductive hazards, and the health of immigrants and farmworking populations. Dr. Schenker has published over 150 scientific manuscripts and 5 textbooks.

Lucien Wulsin

Insure the Uninsured Project, Executive Director

Lucien is an attorney with over 30 years of experience in programs covering the uninsured and low-income populations. Mr. Wulsin is involved in efforts throughout the state to develop, discuss and disseminate practical solutions to cover the uninsured with counties and local initiatives, purchasing pools, commercial health plans, employers, policy makers, hospitals, doctors and clinics. To highlight these efforts and opportunities, Mr. Wulsin has developed and distributed extensive written materials, put on annual conferences on "Insuring the Uninsured" and organized an ongoing series of state and regional workgroups on efforts to cover the uninsured through counties and local initiatives, employers, unions, and health plans.

Dylan Roby

University of California- Los Angeles, Center for Health Policy Research, Research Scientist

Dylan H. Roby, PhD, is a research scientist with the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and an adjunct assistant professor of health services in the UCLA School of Public Health. Roby is currently working on a study of the characteristics of HMO enrollees for the Office of the Patient Advocate, as well as a study predicting the impact of health reform on California's population with the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education. He is also working on several projects evaluating state programs, including a long-term evaluation of a chronic care disease management program for Medi-Cal and an evaluation of the Health Care Coverage Initiatives. He also conducts data analyses and policy research related to hospital financing, health insurance affordability, workers' compensation, managed care and provision of care to the uninsured. In addition to his research, Roby teaches the politics of health policy courses for the MPH Program and two courses on the U.S. Healthcare System and Quality Improvement and Health Information Technology for the Certificate Program in Health Care Management and Leadership for the School of Public Health's MPH for Health Professionals programs and UCLA Extension.

Before his current position at the Center, Roby worked for four years as a senior research associate at The George Washington University Center for Health Services Research and Policy. He worked on safety net issues, including data analysis and research on community health centers and public hospitals. During his time in Washington, DC, he also worked for the National Association of Community Health Centers, the National Governors' Association's Center for Best Practices, and the Progressive Policy Institute. Roby was also an instructor at The George Washington University Department of Health Policy. Prior to that, he was a research assistant at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

Roby graduated from UCLA with a bachelor's degree in geography and a minor in public policy. He earned his doctoral degree in public policy from The George Washington University.

Delia de la Vara

National Council of La Raza, Vice President, California Region

Delia de la Vara is NCLR Vice President for the California Region. She oversees NCLR's strategy to strengthen the NCLR-Affiliate relationships through capacity building, partnership development, leadership and organizational development, and fundraising efforts for the region and the 57-member California Affiliate network.

Delia has also served as Vice President of NCLR's Strategic Communications Group where she was responsible for an \$8M budget and all aspects of oversight and presentation of NCLR

signature events—the Capital Awards, the Annual Conference, and the ALMA Awards. She also managed the 30-member NCLR Corporate Board of Advisors. Delia co-managed NCLR’s Resource Development Component, a team of four people responsible for raising general operating support for the organization, oversight of NCLR’s individual membership and donor programs, and development of general NCLR communications materials including Annual Report and quarterly newsletters.

Delia also played an instrumental role in NCLR’s re-branding initiative, spearheading efforts that led to institution-wide brand standardization, a refreshed NCLR logo, and consolidation of the Graphics and Design Unit under the Strategic Communications Group. These efforts have been invaluable to increasing the visibility of NCLR’s brand and core messages and to developing an infrastructure that will carry cohesive visibility efforts into the future.

Delia began her career with NCLR in 1998 in the Affiliate Relations division where key projects included developing membership processes, establishing criteria for program standards and quality, and creating NCLR’s Affiliate Council.

Prior to joining NCLR, Ms. de la Vara was an Aide in the Mayor’s Office for the City of Phoenix handling constituent concerns related to Police, Fire, Neighborhood Services, and Transportation. She also worked for a public utility in Monterey, California in administration and human resources. Ms. de la Vara holds a bachelor’s degree in Regional Development and Latin American Studies from the University of Arizona.

Carmela Castellano-Garcia

California Primary Care Association, President & CEO

Carmela Castellano-Garcia, Esq., is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the California Primary Care Association (CPCA), overseeing an organization of over 800 nonprofit, community-based primary health care clinics which serve over 4 million patients a year, over half of them Hispanic. Ms. Castellano-Garcia has been committed to advancing multi-cultural health policy issues for over 17 years, focusing on areas such as cultural and linguistic competency in health care delivery, ensuring the viability of safety net providers, health care reform, and access to care for vulnerable populations.

Presently, Ms. Castellano-Garcia sits on the Board of Directors of the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California and the Board of Advisors for the Insure the Uninsured Project (ITUP). She is also a member of several advisory groups, including: the Health Information Exchange (HIE) Advisory Board, tasked with improving health outcomes and the overall healthcare delivery system; the Health Initiative of the Americas (HIA), which focuses on implementing innovative strategies to address unmet health needs of the Latino-origin population living and working in the United States; the OSHPD California Healthcare Workforce Diversity Advisory Council, which

strategizes for improving the diversity of the health professions and addresses California's health workforce shortages; the Social Justice Advisory Committee (SJAC) of the California Mental Health Directors Association, tasked with supporting and assisting the California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) in decision and policy making that aims to reduce disparities in service, access and care; the Statewide Advisory Committee for the California Initiative to Increase Health Professions Workforce Diversity, which focuses on increasing diversity in the health professions workforce contributing to improved access and quality of care; the Oral Health Access Council (OHAC), directed toward improving the oral health status of the state's traditionally underserved and vulnerable populations; the Community Clinics Initiative (CCI) Advisory Committee, committed to attaining health equity for traditionally underserved communities in California; and the Working Committee on Waiver Development and Medi-Cal Expansion, which is a working committee to probe how California can more effectively draw down federal dollars to help support expansion of healthcare coverage to more Californians.

Prior to joining the CPCA, Ms. Castellano-Garcia served as the Founder and Executive Director of the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California (LCHC), a health care policy and advocacy organization seeking to improve access to health and human services for California's Latino population. In this position, she was involved in building a statewide coalition of Latino health organizations and health care professionals who provided significant input into health care reform and advocated for access to health care for the uninsured. The LCHC also played a leadership role in advocating for, and ultimately achieving, the adoption of cultural and linguistic standards in the Medi-Cal managed care program in California and in the state's mental health program. These standards and the advocacy process that led to their adoption have served as a national model of cultural and linguistic access to care.

Ms. Castellano-Garcia is a graduate of Yale Law School and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley. While a student, she spent a year at La Universidad Central de Venezuela as a Rotary Foundation International Scholar.

Assembly Member V. Manuel Perez

California State Legislature

First elected in November 2008 and now in his second term, State Assemblymember V. Manuel Pérez represents the 80th Assembly District, comprised of eastern Riverside and Imperial counties. He currently serves as chair of the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy. He is also a member of the Assembly Committees on Aging and Long-term Care; Government Organization; Health; and Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Pérez has a background in health services delivery, having been a community health director for a rural clinic system in the Eastern Coachella Valley, a medically underserved area.

Through his work to provide quality, accessible, and culturally competent care, he became an advocate for the use of community health workers, also known as promotores, for serving medically vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations. Mr. Pérez sees the implementation of federal health care reform in California as an opportunity for the growth and more widespread use of this workforce.

Mr. Pérez is a lifelong resident of the 80th Assembly District. Born in Indio and raised in Coachella, Mr. Pérez attended public schools, graduated from U.C. Riverside, and earned a Master's degree in Education from Harvard University. He has served as a school teacher, a youth advocate, and a community healthcare director. Before being elected to the Assembly, he served on the Coachella Valley Unified School District Board.

Daniel Zingale

The California Endowment, Senior Vice President, Policy, Communications, & Public Affairs

For more than 20 years, Daniel Zingale has been at the forefront of public policy innovation in health care reform, human rights, national AIDS policy, Medicaid reform, and California financial solvency issues. He currently serves as Senior Vice President of Policy, Communications and Public Affairs for The California Endowment, a private, statewide health foundation working to build healthy communities, with a special focus on systems and policy changes that will result in a prevention-based health care system and improved community health.

Prior to his January 2009 appointment at The Endowment, Zingale served for more than three years as Chief of Staff to First Lady Maria Shriver and Senior Advisor to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, during which he was an architect of California's 2007 bold effort to reform health care. The plan offers a framework for comprehensive health care reform which has garnered unprecedented agreement among key stakeholders, a Republican governor, and a democratically controlled state assembly.

Zingale has held numerous high-profile positions, including a two-year term as a board member of California's Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB). In 2003, he served as Cabinet Secretary and Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Gray Davis, where he was responsible for overseeing the Governor's Cabinet. Zingale was also the Founding Director of the California Department of Managed Care, an agency created in response to an urgent need to better protect HMO patients and promote a more stable and solvent managed health care industry. In that role, Zingale was credited as "...an effective, thoughtful regulator, just what the state needed" by the *Los Angeles Times*.

Zingale is also nationally recognized as being an effective and innovative champion in the fight against AIDS. From 1997 to 1999, he served as Executive Director of the Washington,

D.C.-based national patient advocate organization AIDS Action, which has been credited as the “most powerful AIDS lobby” by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *ABC News*, and “among the nation’s most powerful advocacy groups” by *The New York Times*.

In addition, Zingale served for three years as the Public Policy Director of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation’s largest lesbian and gay civil and human rights organization. His myriad accomplishments in that role include bringing the lesbian and gay civil rights movement into the nation’s larger civil rights community by pioneering partnerships with leaders such as Coretta Scott King and Kweisi Mfume, and through his service on the Executive Committee of Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

Zingale also served as the Managing Director of Government Relations for the American Psychological Association from 1991 to 1993, and also as Deputy Controller and Chief of Staff in the Office of the California State Controller from 1987 to 1991.

A native and resident of Sacramento, Zingale attended California State University, Sacramento, and earned his B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley, with high honors. He also graduated from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University where he earned his M.P.A.

Gil Ojeda

UC Berkeley School of Public Health, California Program on Access to Care, Director

Gil Ojeda is CPAC’s founding Director and a leading expert on healthcare issues pertaining to immigrants, the working poor, those with limited English, and medically uninsured populations. On behalf of the University of California, Mr. Ojeda’s duties include developing and guiding CPAC’s long-term health policy initiatives, administering CPAC’s technical assistance program for legislative bodies, and overseeing an extensive competitive grants program to research healthcare issues salient in our state. Mr. Ojeda’s 38 years of healthcare experience include program development and planning, contract negotiations, and advocacy for underserved communities. He also has extensive experience advising members and staff of the California Legislature, California executive branch officials, and the U.S. Congress.

In 1978, Mr. Ojeda founded and directed the Chicano Health Institute/California Raza Health Alliance based in Berkeley, California. Eight years later, he was Executive Director of a five county regional health planning agency in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1990, he became the Senior Advisor to the five UC Academic Medical Centers. While working as a governmental affairs advisor in 1996-97, Mr. Ojeda helped launch the L.A. Care Health Plan, the largest public based health maintenance organization in the nation. In 1997, he was selected to establish and direct the California Program on Access to Care (CPAC) under University of California’s Office of the President. Presently, he is a Board Member of the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California, an organization he co-founded in 1992, and he also serves as an advisor to the California Latino

Legislative Caucus. With a background in planning and market analysis, Mr. Ojeda is skilled at interpreting the implications of federal, state, county, and health industry policies as they relate to healthcare delivery and reimbursements.

Mr. Ojeda received his B.S. in Systems Engineering from the University of Illinois in Chicago. He was a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Illinois, Chicago Medical Campus in Physiology and Bioengineering, and a Ph.D candidate at UC Berkeley in Industrial Engineering and Health Planning.

Jeannette Zanipatin

Mexican American Legal Defense Fund, Legislative Staff Attorney

Jeannette Zanipatin is a Legislative Staff Attorney with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) where she focuses on education, health, immigrant rights, civil rights, and voting rights issues. Jeannette helped to reopen MALDEF's Sacramento policy office in May 2010. Prior to joining MALDEF, she worked as a Policy Director/Consultant and an Immigration Attorney for various non-profit organizations focusing on immigrant rights, health, domestic violence and civil rights. She has practiced immigration law for over thirteen years representing clients before the Immigration Court, the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and has worked on policy issues for the past eight years including securing the passage of critical laws to protect immigrants and domestic violence victims in California. She has an undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley and a Juris Doctorate degree from Seattle University School of law. Jeannette lives in Northern California with her husband, Vladimir, and her two daughters, Mikaela and Danilka.