



APAICS

Asian Pacific American
Institute for Congressional Studies



APAICS

HEALTH SUMMIT

March 08, 2023

PROGRAM BOOK



March 08, 2023

agenda

Note that all times listed are in Eastern Time

12:00 PM - **Opening Remarks**

12:15 PM

Madalene Xuan-Trang Mielke, APAICS

Rep. Barbara Lee (CA-12), U.S. Surgeon General Vice Admiral Vivek Murthy

12:15 PM - **Diversity in Clinical Trials**

1:10 PM

Sponsored By: Amerisource Bergen, Amgen, Novartis

One major problem for health equity is ensuring that the studies that test medical treatments reflect the populations of people who will receive them. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought health disparities into the spotlight and further highlighted the stark differences in trial demographics—particularly with Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities. Despite regulatory directives and public expectations, there remain underrepresented populations in clinical trials, such as women, diverse ethnic and racial groups, people living with disabilities, children, and the elderly. This panel will discuss challenges and solutions towards increasing clinical trial diversity.

Opening Remarks: Sen. Alex Padilla (CA)

- **Kim Fookes, Novartis**
- **Linda Murakami, Amgen**
- **Dyisha Reliford, Amerisource Bergen**
- **Dr. Yanghee Woo, MD, FACS, Stanford CARE**
- **Moderator: Dr. Leana Wen, MD, MSc, George Washington University**

1:10 PM -

2:10 PM

Community-Level Engagement in Healthcare

Sponsored By: Biogen, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Johnson & Johnson

Community engagement is a process of developing relationships that enable stakeholders to work together to address health-related issues and promote well-being, and ultimately achieve better health outcomes. At its core, community engagement can address socio economic issues that are the root causes of many existing disparities in health equity. Through a collaborative process, members from the community, stakeholder organizations, and healthcare providers can work to identify needs most important to the community and pursue meaningful strategies to address those needs. This panel will explore the many challenges and opportunities in developing a successful and sustainable community engagement model.

Opening Remarks: Rep. Jan Schakowsky (IL-09), Rep. Debbie Dingell (MI-06) & John Bowman, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

- **Savine DaCosta, MBA, Biogen**
- **Jackie Leung, Micronesian Islander Community**
- **Rod Lew, Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy, and Leadership**
- **Zoua Vang, Hmong Youth Parents United (HYPU)**
- **Isha Williams, Johnson & Johnson**
- **Moderator: Ly Nguyen, Stanford CARE**

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2:15 PM –
3:10 PM

Innovation in the Healthcare Industry

Sponsored By: Grail, Novo Nordisk, Walgreens

In healthcare, the term “innovation” can apply to the development of new therapies, drugs, or medical devices. However, we have also seen unprecedented acceleration and adoption of innovative healthcare technologies as a direct result of COVID-19. As our nation continues to improve our healthcare system beyond the current pandemic, innovation must be explored in a broader context, examining previously underdeveloped opportunities in areas such as access to care, data analytics, consumer behavior, provider incentives, and process improvement in care delivery.

Opening Remarks: Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (CA-10)

- **Karen Chung, PharmD, MS, Grail**
- **Ayame Dinkler, LCMC Health**
- **Charley John, PharmD, Walgreens**
- **Sean Kolaskar, Alexandria Health Department**
- **Dr. Tonia Yee Vinton, MD, UT Southwestern Medical Center**
- **Moderator: Dr. Richard Pan, MD, MPH, AAPI Data**

3:15 PM –
4:00 PM

Empowered Patients: Changing Dynamics Between Patients and Providers

Sponsored By: Bristol Myers Squibb

Patient empowerment is a process through which individuals gain greater control over decisions and information affecting their own health. Empowering patients to actively participate in managing their care can enhance medical outcomes and lower costs. However, language barriers and cultural nuances can present challenges to ensuring AA & NH/PI patients can effectively manage their healthcare. Access to in-language patient navigators, accessible tools, and accurate information can be essential to patient empowerment. This panel will discuss opportunities and challenges toward that goal.

Opening Remarks: Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (NV) and Rep. Grace Meng (NY-06)

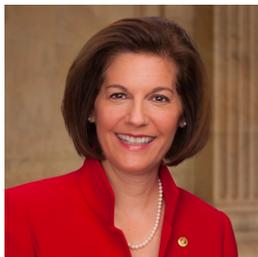
- **Jasmine Greenamyre, MPH, BMS**
- **Dr. Rita Kuwahara, MD, MIH**
- **Moderator: Princess Mae Visconde, MPH, APIAHF**

4:00 PM –
4:05 PM

Closing Remarks

Madalene Xuan-Trang Mielke, APAICS

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Senator Catherine Cortez Masto

Senate, Nevada

Senator Catherine Cortez Masto is a CAPAC Senate Associate Member and was elected to office in 2016. She was the first woman from Nevada and Latina elected to the United States Senate. Prior to holding office, she served two terms as Attorney General of Nevada. She sits on the Committee on Finance; the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; and the Committee on Indian Affairs, and currently serves as the chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee's Public Lands, Forests, and Mining Subcommittee. She is committed to increasing healthcare access and introduced bipartisan drug pricing transparency legislation to reduce costs for those in Medicare and Medicaid and protect these vital programs.



Senator Alex Padilla

Senate, California

Senator Alex Padilla is a CAPAC Senate Associate member and was appointed to office in 2021 and is the first Latino to represent California in the U.S. Senate. He sits on the Senate Committees on the Judiciary, Budget, Environment & Public Works, Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs, and Rules & Administration. His top priority upon entering the U.S. Senate has been to address the COVID-19 pandemic and deliver equitable economic relief for working families and communities across California. Prior to this position, he served as California's Secretary of State and two terms in California's State Senate.



Representative Barbara Lee

U.S. House of Representatives, CA-12

Representative Barbara Lee is a CAPAC Executive Board Member and the CAPAC Healthcare Task Force Co-Chair. She has been representing California's 12th District since 1998 and is the highest ranking African American woman appointed to Democratic Leadership, serving as Co-Chair of the Policy and Steering Committee and a member of the Budget Committee and the Appropriations Committee. During the drafting of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Representative Lee served as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and worked to ensure strong provisions that expand health care access, address health disparities and create incentives for people to live healthy lives.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Representative Jan Schakowsky

U.S. House of Representatives, IL-09

Representative Jan Schakowsky is a CAPAC Associate Member and proudly represents Illinois' 9th Congressional District and serves in the House Democratic Leadership as a Chief Deputy Whip. She is a member of the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, House Budget Committee, as well as the House Energy and Commerce Committee, where she serves as the Ranking Member of the Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee, and as a member of the Environment and Oversight & Investigations Subcommittees. She was a leader in passing the historic Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide healthcare coverage to all Americans and serves as Co-Chair in the 118th Congress in the Task Force on Aging and Families



Representative Ami Bera

U.S. House of Representatives, CA-06

Representative Ami Bera is the CAPAC Executive Board Member and CAPAC Healthcare Task Force Co-Chair and has represented California's 6th Congressional District since 2013. He is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic. Prior to his term, he served as Chief Medical Officer for Sacramento County and a clinical professor of medicine and associate dean for admissions and outreach at University of California, Davis.



Representative Grace Meng

U.S. House of Representatives, NY-06

Representative Grace Meng is the CAPAC First Vice Chair and represents New York's Sixth Congressional District. She's the 1st and only Asian American Member of Congress from the state of New York. In Congress, Grace serves on the House Appropriations Committee. She has fought to expand opportunities for communities of color and also serves as a co-Chair of the House Bipartisan Taskforce for Combatting Antisemitism, and as a Vice-Chair of the LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus. Prior to being elected to Congress, Representative Meng served in the New York State Assembly.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Representative Mark DeSaulnier

U.S. House of Representatives, CA-10

Representative Mark DeSaulnier is a CAPAC Associate Member and proudly represents California's 10th Congressional District. He currently sits on the Committee on Education and Labor, where he serves as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions (HELP). He also sits on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the House Committee on Ethics. He is also the founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Cancer Survivors Caucus and a member of the Mental Health Caucus. Prior to his time in Congress, he served as a California State Senator and Assembly member, where 61 of his bills became California state law.



Representative Debbie Dingell

U.S. House of Representatives, MI-06

Representative Dingell is a CAPAC associate member and represents Michigan's 6th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives and serves in House Leadership as a Co-chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee. She is a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Natural Resources Committee, where she leads on critical issues including affordable and accessible health care, clean energy and water, domestic manufacturing and supply chain resilience. She is proud to lead the fight for Medicare for All in Congress. Under her leadership, there have been four hearings on the bill - the first hearings ever on Medicare for All. She has worked in a bipartisan way to pass the Sustaining Excellence in Medicaid Act, which President Trump signed into law on August 6, 2019, and extends the critical Money Follows the Person program, as well as critical spousal impoverishment protections that are so essential to so many families.



Dr. Vivek Murthy

Vice Admiral, U.S. Surgeon General

Dr. Murthy was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in March 2021 to serve as the 21st Surgeon General of the United States. As the Nation's Doctor, the Surgeon General's mission is to help lay the foundation for a healthier country, relying on the best scientific information available to provide clear, consistent, and equitable guidance and resources for the public. As the Vice Admiral of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, Dr. Murthy commands a uniformed service of over 6,000 dedicated public health officers, serving the most underserved and vulnerable populations domestically and abroad. During his previous tenure serving as the 19th Surgeon General under President Obama, Dr. Murthy created initiatives to tackle our country's most pressing public health challenges, including the Ebola and Zika viruses, the opioid crisis, and the growing threat of stress and loneliness to Americans' physical and mental wellbeing.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 1 – DIVERSITY IN CLINICAL TRIALS



Kim Fookes

Global Head, Diversity & Inclusion, Clinical Trials, Novartis

Kim has 29+ years of experience working in clinical research. Prior to being named the Global Head of DICT, Kim was responsible for all US clinical trial deliverables across Novartis' portfolio, including early and late phase oncology and non-oncology. She joined Novartis from AbbVie where she was the Head of Site Management & Monitoring, overseeing Global Site Management. While at AbbVie, Kim also managed operations for the Global Medical Affairs' Therapeutic Areas and US Medical Affairs. Prior to AbbVie, she worked at Takeda, CROs, and Site Research Centers. In her role as Global Head of DICT, she is working to imbed diversity across the R&D continuum so teams can consider diverse patient populations very early, including phase I trials.



Linda Murakami

Advocacy Relations Director, Strategic Partnerships and Capabilities, Amgen

Linda Murakami leads Health Equity, Patient Engagement and Strategic Partnerships Amgen, and is responsible for developing and executing Amgen's engagement strategy with patient, professional and other key stakeholders across the oncology and general medicine ecosystem. Linda works closely with the early development teams as they design and implement clinical trial programs ensuring historically underrepresented patient populations insights and preferences are reflected in program development. Linda started her career working in the office of US Senator Daniel K. Inouye (HI) followed by 20+ years working with state policy leaders at the National Conference of State Legislatures. She took this policy expertise to the private sector working as a lobbyist and advocacy professional. Linda attended the University of Colorado, Boulder where she received undergraduate degrees in Political Science and International Affairs and graduate school at Regis University where she received a Masters in Non-Profit Management.



Dyisha Reliford

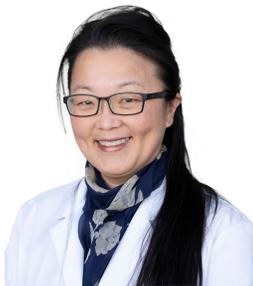
Vice President, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Strategic Initiatives, Amerisource Bergen

In her current role as Vice President of DEI Strategic Initiatives, Dyisha drives cross-functional initiatives to advance health access globally and health equity locally for AmerisourceBergen team members and in communities the enterprise serves. Partnering closely with business leaders and their teams, she leads the development, alignment, activation, and acceleration of partnerships and initiatives that elevate, expand, and embed health equity into business practices; ultimately enhancing a platform of pharma and biopharma services to support pharmaceutical innovation and access.

With over 20 years of healthcare experience across companies including Pfizer, GE Healthcare, McKinsey & Company, and now AmerisourceBergen, along with a passion for social impact and change, Dyisha continues to work tirelessly to advocate for those underrepresented and to stay true to her personal mission to empower and develop people to perform at their highest potential.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 1 – DIVERSITY IN CLINICAL TRIALS



Dr. Yanghee Woo, MD, FACS

Stanford Center for Asian Health Research and Education (CARE)

Yanghee Woo, MD, FACS, is an internationally recognized surgeon scientist with expertise in robotic surgery and gastric cancer. Rising to leadership in her field, Dr. Woo has dedicated her global perspective and cutting-edge expertise in bringing the best of surgical innovation and medical advancements for the cure and care of gastric cancer patients. At City of Hope, Dr. Woo is an Associate Professor, Vice Chair of International Affairs & Community Outreach and the Director of Minimally Invasive Therapies Program in the Department of Surgery. She spearheads the Gastric Cancer Program and the translational efforts that investigate immune biomarkers for earlier detection of gastric cancer and novel therapeutic targets, translates novel agents such as oncolytic viruses and CAR-T cell therapies against advanced stage cancers, and safely integrates novel surgical technologies to improve patient outcomes.

Dr. Woo's service to the community began as president of KASA at Princeton University continuing throughout her life as the immediate past president of KAGMA. Currently, she serves as a Global Faculty Member of Stanford CARE, a founding member of the U.S. Gastric Cancer Disparities Initiative and the Social Determinants of Health Care Disparities Workgroup at City of Hope. She is loved by her patients as an amazing surgeon, compassionate doctor, and an advocate who is passionate about diversity in clinical trials and an outspoken about cancer care equity for AANHPI and Hispanic communities. Additionally, she serves on the Executive Committee of the ISSPP (an international multidisciplinary society dedicated to bringing novel therapies through cutting edge surgical techniques and design of integrative clinical trials for the treatment of end-stage cancers involving the peritoneum) and is an active member of ACS, ASGCT, SSO, AACR, ASCO, and IGCC. Dr. Yanghee Woo will continue to bring us closer to a cancer free society as she strives to live up to her name which means bright (YANG) hope (HEE).



Dr. Leena Wen, MD, MSc (Moderator)

Research Professor of Health Policy and Management, George Washington University

Dr. Leana Wen is an emergency physician, professor of health policy and management at George Washington University, and a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. She is also a contributing columnist for The Washington Post, a CNN medical analyst, and author of the critically-acclaimed book on patient advocacy, *When Doctors Don't Listen: How to Avoid Misdiagnoses and Unnecessary Tests* (St. Martin's Press, 2013) and a new memoir, *Lifelines: A Doctor's Journey in the Fight for Public Health* (Metropolitan Books, July 2021). Previously, she served as Baltimore's Health Commissioner, where she led the nation's oldest continuously operating health department in the U.S. to fight the opioid epidemic, treat violence and racism as public health issues, and improve maternal and child health. Dr. Wen obtained her medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine and studied health policy at the University of Oxford, where she was a Rhodes Scholar. She completed her residency training at Brigham & Women's Hospital & Massachusetts General Hospital, where she was a clinical fellow at Harvard Medical School.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 2 – COMMUNITY-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE



Savine DaCosta, MBA

Health Equity Capabilities Lead, Biogen

Savine DaCosta is the Health Equity Lead with the Patient Engagement Equity and Transparency Team within Global Clinical Operations at Biogen. Savine's career spans 20+ years in the Pharma/Biotech industry including substantial experience in sales, marketing, patient engagement and currently health equity. She also has a strong commitment to building trust in underrepresented and underserved communities. This is accomplished through the rigorous identification, creation, and implementation of community engagements. These engagements are designed to educate patients on disease awareness, prevalence, and clinical research.



Jackie Leung

Executive Director, Micronesian Islander Community

Jackie is the Executive Director of the statewide nonprofit, the Micronesian Islander Community (or MIC), and is an Assistant Professor at Linfield University. Jackie's background is in public health advocacy, policy, and research. Her work includes working in Medicaid, healthcare access, chronic diseases, COVID-19 wrap-around services, and leadership pathways for community health workers. She serves in several leadership positions, including co-chairing the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs and serves as a traditional health worker representative on the Oregon Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Committee. She is a Public Voices Fellow of AcademyHealth in Partnership with The OpEd Project.



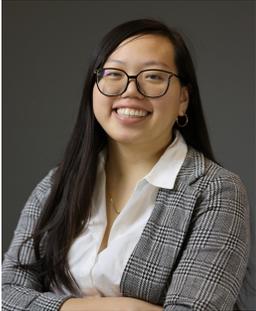
Rod Lew

Executive Director, Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership

Rod is the Founder and Executive Director of Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL), a national non-profit organization created in 1994 to advance health justice issues for Asian Americans (AAs) and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs). Rod has over 30 years of experience in developing national models on cross cultural leadership, capacity building, community-based research, strategic planning, health equity and policy change on commercial tobacco, food, active living and the opioids epidemic. Rod has given hundreds of presentations in 38 states and territories and 10 countries and trained more than 1500 community advocates from across the five major racial/ethnic groups and LGBTQs.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 2 – COMMUNITY-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE



Zoua Vang

Program Manager Hmng Youth Parents United (HYPU)

Zoua Vang is the current Program Manager of the Health Equity Initiative Program in non-profit community-based organization, Hmng Youth & Parents United. She is based in Sacramento, CA, and graduated from UC Davis with Bachelor's degrees in Human Development and Psychology. From 2018-2021, she interned for a free student-run clinic under the UC Davis School of Medicine called, Hmng Lifting Underserved Barriers (HLUB) Clinic and Paul Hom Asian Clinic, which serves Hmong, Asian, and other underserved communities of Sacramento, CA. She worked closely with patients as a patient advocate and Hmong translator in the clinical setting, and conducted culturally responsive community outreach and engagement strategies in the community setting. She has created linguistic and culturally appropriate materials for the Sacramento Hmong population revolving around various health topics and inequities, including HPV, Medi-cal and Covered CA health insurance, and more. From 2021 - present, she has worked with Hmng Youth & Parents United in their health program to provide wrap-around services to those directly impacted by COVID-19 illness, host COVID-19 vaccination clinics, and conduct COVID-19 vaccination outreach and community health education. In addition, she works closely with community members in overcoming barriers and teaching them how to access and navigate health and social services, such as Medi-Cal insurance, naturalization processes, and more. She has a strong passion for serving and helping uplift the Hmong, AAPI, and other underserved communities in Sacramento for over the past 5 years.



Isha Williams

Head of Media Excellence and Culturally Inclusive & Relevant Marketing Johnson & Johnson

Isha Williams is the Head of Media Excellence and Head of Culturally Inclusive & Relevant (CIR) Marketing for The Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson and Johnson. A member of the Patient Engagement and Customer Solutions Team, Isha leads the critical work to drive the paid media engagement of Johnson & Johnson, and to develop and embed a CIR Marketing capability across Janssen North America, to transform health experiences and outcomes for diverse patient populations. An accomplished strategic marketing leader with proven success, Isha has touched countless consumer lives through her leadership in U.S. and global-based roles in general management, integrated brand and customer marketing, innovation, and multicultural marketing. With a heart for global travel, languages, and culture, Isha's career and family adventures have taken her around the world, reinforcing her passion for diversity, equity, and inclusion, and transformational business impact. This includes Isha's recent return to the U.S. from a four-year international work assignment in Latin America with her prior organization, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare, where she led as the Country Manager of Ecuador (based in Quito, Ecuador), leveraging her fluency in the Spanish language, and as the Head of Marketing for Latin America (based in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil). Before moving abroad, Isha served as Global Business Leader for the GlaxoSmithKline's Smokers' Health franchise (leading global strategy and innovation for the Nicorette Gum and Nicorette CQ stop-smoking brands). In her free time, Isha is co-founder of the [GirlExec](#) professional coaching series on YouTube and proudly serves on the Board of Directors for the [Research for Action](#) educational research organization.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 2 – COMMUNITY-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE



Ly Nguyen (Moderator)

Program Manager Stanford Center for Asian Health Research and Education (CARE)

Ly Nguyen is the Public Health Policy Program Manager at the Stanford Center for Asian Health Research and Education (CARE) at Stanford University's School of Medicine. She leads CARE's policy campaigns and initiatives focused on Gastric Cancer, a cancer that impacts Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities at disproportionately high rates. Ly began her career in health policy at Health Care for All in Boston, MA working to increase access and secure quality and affordable health care for underrepresented populations through enrollment, education, and advocacy. She has previous experience in regulatory compliance in cannabis licensing focused on equity applicants at the local and state levels, as well as grantmaking experience at the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health where she also co-founded the Asian American and Pacific Islander Employee Resource Group, the first in the Foundation's history. She is passionate about improving health outcomes within her Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community through education, representation, and collective power. Ly received her Bachelor of Science in Social Work from the University of Vermont, and her Master of Science in Global Health Policy from Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 3 – INNOVATION IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY



Karen Chung, PharmD, MS

Senior Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research, Grail

Karen Chung received her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Southern California (USC), completed her residency in pharmacy practice at the VA West Los Angeles, and a fellowship in infectious diseases pharmacotherapy at USC. It was during residency and fellowship that Karen developed an interest in assessing the value of healthcare interventions and proceeded to complete a Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Administration with an emphasis on health economics and outcomes research at The University of Arizona. With over 20 years of healthcare experience in the pharmaceutical, biotech, and diagnostics sectors, Karen leads the Health Economics and Outcomes Research group at GRAIL, LLC to help delineate the value of multi-cancer early detection, an innovative technology with the potential to change the cancer paradigm and positively impact patient outcomes.



Ayame Dinkler

Chief Administrative Officer, LCMC Health

Ayame Dinkler is the Chief Administrative Officer for LCMC Health, a non-profit health system on a mission to provide the best possible care for every person in Louisiana and beyond. As CAO, she has executive responsibility for government affairs, innovation, and several strategic and operational partnerships. She joined LCMC Health in 2015 after spending more than a decade in public service.

Ayame previously served in a Chief of Staff capacity at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, DC, and also served in various leadership roles at the City of New Orleans and on Capitol Hill.

National healthcare publication Becker's Hospital Review recognized Ayame as one of its Rising Stars for 2018. She has been recognized by New Orleans CityBusiness as a Healthcare Hero (2019) and Women of the Year (2021). She serves on the boards of America's Essential Hospitals' Policy Committee, Youth Force NOLA, the New Orleans Building Corporation, Greater New Orleans Inc.'s NextGen Council, the Independent Women's Organization, the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation, United Way of Southeast Louisiana, the AntiDefamation League South Central Region, and is active with several community organizations focused on women's issues and youth development.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 3 – INNOVATION IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY



Charley John, PharmD

Senior Director of Public Policy, Walgreens

Charley John serves as Director of Healthcare Policy and Strategy for the Walgreen Company. He has been with Walgreens for 24 years, 10 of them as a pharmacist. He attended the University of Florida where he completed his doctorate of pharmacy. He started his career in South Florida as a pharmacy intern and had stints in Cincinnati, and the Washington, D.C. metro area. At these stops, he has served in a pharmacist and in an operations leadership capacity. His work included overseeing the Washington, D.C. district in efforts to grow and transform the role of the pharmacist, both in the retail and specialty setting. He has worked to improve equitable access to healthcare through pharmacy by championing the role pharmacists play with medication counseling, adherence, disease state management, and immunizations. He has been featured in the Washington Post's, "A day in the life" series and served as a panelist at Senate and House briefings to showcase how pharmacist can play an increasing and effective role in healthcare. He was the recipient of the National Minority Quality Forum's 40 Under 40 Leader in Health Award. He has worked in the community collaborating with several organizations to increase awareness of health topics such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and infectious disease care and bringing resources to the underserved through screenings, medications, and consultations. His work now primarily involves engaging with public officials and industry and community leaders around healthcare policy in efforts to improve the administration and outcomes of our healthcare system. Central to this is strategic policy efforts to increase or enhance the role that pharmacy plays in innovative care models and value based care arrangements. During the pandemic, he has worked closely with both the Administration and Federal Agencies on the COVID testing, vaccine, and therapeutics distribution and administration effort, contributing to the operational, public health, and policy planning.



Sean Kolaskar

Public Health Informatics Specialist, Alexandria Health Department

Sean Kolaskar serves as the Public Health Informatics Specialist for the Alexandria Health Department. In this role, he oversees multiple public health data platforms, data and operations optimization analytics efforts, and the acquisition and implementation of multiple health technology solutions. Prior to this role, Sean also served as the Vaccine Unit Operations lead, working within the Department's Incident Command Structure to operationalize and manage COVID-19 vaccination events. Before his shift to the public health space, Sean worked in the political advocacy and political education space. He served as the National Programs Director for New Leaders Council, a national non-profit focused on training the next generation of progressive leaders. Additionally, he served as a South Florida Political Director for the Hillary for America campaign. He helped lead the federal advocacy program for Broward County, Florida and worked for a bipartisan advocacy firm in Washington DC. Sean earned his Bachelors of Science in Economics from George Mason University. He resides in Northern Virginia with his wife and 2 children.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 3 – INNOVATION IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY



Dr. Tonia Yee Vinton, MD

UT Southwestern Medical Center Assistant Professor

Dr Tonia Yee Vinton is an obesity specialist, double board certified in Internal Medicine and Obesity Medicine. She is currently the medical director for UT Southwestern's Weight Wellness at Texas Health Dallas. She is Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center and is a member of the Division of Endocrinology. She was previously the medical director for the Nutrition and Weight Management Center and co-chair of the Weight Wellness Committee at Baylor Scott and White in Dallas, Texas. She is also the founder and president of the Dallas Obesity Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and engaging clinicians in the treatment of obesity as a chronic disease. Dr. Vinton received her undergraduate degree in biology from the University of Texas at Austin and her medical degree from UT Southwestern Medical School. She completed her internship and internal medicine residency at UT Southwestern. She practiced Hospital Medicine for seven years prior to her combined internal medicine and obesity practice at Baylor.



Dr. Richard Pan, MD, MPH (Moderator)

Senior Policy Analyst and Former California State Senator

Dr. Richard Pan is a pediatrician, Senior Policy Advisor to AAPI Data, former California State Senator and Immediate Past-Chair of the Asian American Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus (AAPILC) in California. Dr. Pan brings over 35 years of experience in health policy, health services research and health professions education. Prior to serving in the legislature, Dr. Pan was a University of California, Davis professor and Director of the Pediatric Residency Program where he established a nationally recognized service-learning curriculum on child advocacy and social determinants of health, Communities and Health Professionals Together. He was the principal investigator for over \$2 million in grants in health professions education and health services research and authored numerous research and policy articles published in peer-reviewed journals.

In the legislature, Dr. Pan served as Chair of the Assembly and Senate Committees on Health and Chair of the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and he authored key legislation on Affordable Care Act implementation and coverage expansions, public health including vaccination and civil rights. As AAPILC Chair, Dr. Pan led passage of the \$165 million API Equity Budget in 2021.

Dr. Pan earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biophysics from Johns Hopkins University, a Medical Doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh and a Masters of Public Health from Harvard University. He is a child of immigrants from Taiwan and practices as a volunteer physician at the Sacramento County Health Center.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 4 – EMPOWERED PATIENTS: THE CHANGING DYNAMICS BETWEEN PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS



Jasmine Greenamyre, MPH

Executive Director Global Patient Advocacy, BMS

Jasmine Greenamyre is the Executive Director of Global Patient Advocacy at Bristol Myers Squibb. She has nearly 15 years of hands-on experience working for patient advocacy organizations and the biopharmaceutical industry, building strong and trusting relationships across a diverse set of internal and external stakeholders including the patient community, health care providers and policy leaders. Throughout her career, Jasmine has been recognized as a transformative team orientated global leader by various strategic partners.

At the Colorectal Cancer Alliance, she oversaw the strategic direction of the organization and established the organization as 4 Star Charity Navigator (highest rating) six years in a row. Prior to that, at the Prevent Cancer Foundation, Jasmine led a CDC cooperative agreement for a 5 year 13 states colorectal cancer leadership summit for physicians, nurses, researchers, advocates, legislators and third-party payers to address the needs of medically underserved populations. At EMD Serono, Jasmine led U.S. oncology and fertility patient advocacy as well as medical society partnership engagements, expanding in particular her immuno-oncology team in view of launching 1 asset and 3 indications jointly with Pfizer. In her last role, leading global strategic partnerships, Jasmine oversaw a global cross-functional team delivering impactful initiatives with positive patient, social and reputational outcomes including a company initiated 2022 APEC Caregiver Policy Toolkit sponsored by the US Department of State.

Jasmine received her Master of Public Health in Health Education and Health Behavior from the University of Michigan and her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Michigan State University. She also completed an Executive Leadership Intensive Course on Non-Profit Performance Measurement at Harvard University. Jasmine authored/co-authored several meaningful publications on various topics including global unpaid caregivers unmet emotional, financial and physical needs, defining value in cancer care, and the link between women's health and their economic empowerment.

She splits her time between Virginia and the New England coast with her husband, daughter and bonus son.



Dr. Rita K. Kuwahara, MD, MIH

Primary Care Internal Medicine Physician

Rita K. Kuwahara, MD, MIH is a primary care internal medicine physician and a 2022-2023 fellow with the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies. She has been working to address health inequities in the Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities and previously served as a fellow with the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations. She received her M.D. as a distinguished medical scholar from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, earned her Master of International Health from the University of Copenhagen and is a graduate of Wellesley College.

Panelists & Moderators

PANEL 4 – EMPOWERED PATIENTS: THE CHANGING DYNAMICS BETWEEN PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS



Princess Mae Visconde, MPH (Moderator)

Community Engagement Manager, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum

Princess Mae Visconde is the Community Engagement Manager at Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF). She earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Saint Mary's College as well as her Master of Public Health degree specializing in Health Policy and Management and Certificate in Public Administration, Nonprofit Management from the University of Hawai'i (UH) at Mānoa. Princess has extensive experience working for nonprofit and government organizations including the Hawai'i Children's Action Network (HCAN) as a Public Health Research Fellow, the Lili'uokalani Trust (LT) as a Community Change Initiatives intern, and the Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) as a disease investigator. Most recently, she was a project coordinator for the DOH-UH Contact Tracing Training Program and a Public Health Advisor contracted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

About

APAICS

Founded by former Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and former Delegate Robert Underwood in 1994, APAICS is a national non-partisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to building the Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (AA & NH/PI) political pipeline at all levels, from community advocacy to elected office.

INSPIRE: *Identifying future leaders for tomorrow*

EDUCATE: *Building public policy knowledge*

EMPOWER: *Developing individual leadership*

CONNECT: *Bridging local, state, and national politics & the AA & NH/PI community*

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