Ms. Hanley co-founded the Right Care Initiative in 2007 with the Deans of the University of California, Berkeley and UCLA's Schools of Public Health, clinical experts, and State of California leadership to improve patient outcomes in high yield areas for preventing disability and death, where the science is clear, but the uptake is uneven. The Right Care Initiative is a public-private, charitably-funded collaborative effort that has thus far worked in the areas of prevention and better management of Hospital Acquired Infections (HAI), heart attacks, strokes, diabetes and heart failure. Ms. Hanley has directed the initiative since its inception, in close collaboration with leading experts in the field. The hallmark of her public policy career is bridging across the disparate arenas of business, government, health care delivery, science and academia. Ms. Hanley received her Master’s degree in Public Policy from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, after studying health economics and pre-medical coursework at UC Davis. Since that time, she has applied her background in science and public policy in the areas of clinical quality improvement, public health preparedness and improving laws to protect patients. She was instrumental in the negotiations and passage of the set of California laws known as the Patient Bill of Rights, which includes the right to a Second Medical Opinion and Independent Medical Review. The Right Care Initiative is a program within the UC Berkeley School of Public Health’s Center for Health Organizational and Innovation Research (CHOIR). Ms. Hanley has been invited by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention to be a founding member of the National Hypertension Roundtable.
Oliver Brooks, MD

Medical Director, Watts Healthcare; Chief Medical Officer, L.A. Care Health Plan; Chairman, Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County

Dr. Oliver Brooks is the Immediate Past President of the National Medical Association and currently serves as the Medical Director of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine at Watts Healthcare Corporation in Los Angeles, California (CA). He is also a Medical Director for L.A. Care Health Plan, one of the nation’s largest Medicaid managed care plans whose mission is “to provide access to quality health care for Los Angeles County’s vulnerable and low-income communities and residents”. He holds staff appointments at Centinela Hospital in Inglewood, CA and at Martin Luther King Community Hospital in South Los Angeles, CA where he is Vice-Chair of the OB/Pediatrics Department and is a member of its Executive Committee. Dr. Brooks is the Chairman of the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County, a consortium of 30 community health centers in the southern California area and also serves as the Medical Director of the Jordan and Locke High School Wellness Centers. Dr Brooks received his undergraduate degree in biology from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia in 1977, graduating in three years and his medical degree in 1981 from Howard University College of Medicine. He completed a residency in Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital-Oakland, where he practiced for four years before accepting a position at Watts Healthcare Corporation. At the state and local level, he served as Past President of the Golden State (CA) Medical Association and Past President of the Miller-Lawrence Medical and Dental Society.
Rishi Manchanda, MD, MPH
Chief Executive Officer of HealthBegins; Commissioner, California Future Health Workforce Commission

Dr. Manchanda is Founder and President of HealthBegins, a social enterprise that provides training, clinic redesign, and technology to transform health care and the social determinants of health. Dr. Manchanda is a dual board-certified internist and pediatrician, a board member of the National Physicians Alliance, and a fellow in the California Health Care Foundation’s Healthcare Leadership Program. He is also active with Physicians for Human Rights and Doctors for America (formerly known as Doctors for Obama). He is the lead physician for homeless primary care at the VA in Los Angeles, where he has built clinics for high-utilizer homeless veterans with complex chronic disease. Dr. Manchanda was the first Director of Social Medicine and Health Equity at a large community health center network in south Los Angeles. In 2008, he started RxDemocracy, a nonpartisan coalition that has registered over 30,000 voters in doctors’ offices and hospitals nationwide. His 2013 book, “The Upstream Doctors,” introduces a new model of the health care workforce that includes clinical “Upstreamists” who address social determinants of health. Dr. Manchanda traces his roots in activism to his undergraduate participation in a Peace and Justice Studies program and his days interning at the Lincoln Filene Center, where he explored concepts of civic engagement. After receiving his M.D. and M.P.H. from Tufts University, Dr. Manchanda trained at UCLA in the Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency program, which specialized in community health and advocacy. During his time there, he served as chief resident and now serves on the program’s advisory board. Dr. Manchanda’s dedication to socially responsible medicine and effective advocacy on health issues is an inspiration to the entire medical community. His dedicated leadership inspires advocates of all backgrounds to speak out for public health.
Maria Lemus
Founding Executive Director, Visión y Compromiso

Maria Lemus is founding Executive Director of Vision Y Compromiso organization since 2000. Visión y Compromiso and its Network of Promotoras and Community Health Workers is committed to supporting Promotoras and Community Health Workers (P/CHW) towards achieving healthy and dignified lives for Latinos who endure disproportionate rates of health disparities by providing leadership, capacity building and advocacy for over 5000 Promotores and Community Health Workers associated with clinics, hospitals, community based organizations in rural and urban communities. Ms. Lemus is a member of several national boards and advisory committees including the National Association of Community Health Workers (NACHW), the Health and Human Services Promotores Advisory Committee, Latino Best Baby Initiative, National Teen Pregnancy Initiative, Hispanic/Latino Workgroup of the National Diabetes Educational Program- a diabetes education program of NIH and CDC; the National Alliance for Latino Behavioral Health Workforce Development, National Latino Infant Nutrition Initiative, the California Latino Mental Health Concilio for the Reducing Health Disparity Project, the Family Violence Prevention Fund Intimate Partner Violence Education Project and the California Hispanic American Cancer Society Hispanic Advisory Committee, March of Dimes and the Preconception Advisory Committee in California. Ms. Lemus’s dedication and passion to improving local community organizations has been well recognized over the years and she has received many awards. Prior to Visión y Compromiso, Ms. Lemus was active as a community consultant to local community organizations and 21 years management experience in Rural Health Division of the California Department of Health Services, the AIDS Office, City and County of San Francisco and the California Department of Corrections.
Steve Chen, PharmD, FASHP, FCHSP, FNAP

Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs; William A. and Josephine A. Heeres Chair in Community Pharmacy; Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, USC School of Pharmacy

In addition to his roles as professor and dean, Dr. Chen is part of a team of USC faculty directing $12 million grant-funded research, evaluating the impact of pharmacist-managed patient care services for underserved populations. Dr. Chen actively partners with the state of CA Department of Public Health in evolving the state laws and regulations on the practice of pharmacy. His current clinical practice role includes the supervision of clinical and consultative pharmacy services to 19 safety net community clinics in Southern California. At these clinics, Dr. Chen oversees teams of clinical pharmacists, pharmacy residents, pharmacy students and pharmacy techs. Prior to joining the USC faculty in 1998, Dr. Chen provided administrative and clinical services to Cedars-Sinai Medical Group (CSMG) in Beverly Hills and served as a Faculty-in-Residence at Cedars Sinai Medical Center. From 1994-1998, Dr. Chen served as Clinical and Residency Coordinator at the VA Outpatient Clinic in Los Angeles. Prior to that, he helped develop the Ambulatory Care and Education Program at Sepulveda VA Medical Center also in Los Angeles. Dr. Chen’s responsibilities include the provision of disease management and consultative services and coordination of clerkship students at several safety net clinics. Pharmacist-run disease management services provided include asthma, dyslipidemia, diabetes, hypertension, and heart failure. His lecture topics for the School of Pharmacy and postgraduate education include asthma/chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, arthritis, dyslipidemia, and other cardiovascular diseases. Chen received an honorary fellowship of the California Society of Health-System Pharmacists in 2000 and an honorary fellowship of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) in 2001. He received the Best Practices Award from ASHP in 2002, and has NABP certification in dyslipidemia and asthma management. Dr. Chen has received 7 teaching awards from USC students and residents. In 2013, Dr. Chen was awarded the American Pharmacists Association Foundation Pinnacle Award for Individual Achievement.
Jessica Abraham, PharmD, Aph

Director of Population Health, University of Southern California

Dr. Jessica Abraham is Director of Population Health for the USC School of Pharmacy, where she establishes partnerships with stakeholders to develop value-based pharmacy strategies aligned with their population health priorities. Dr. Abraham directs the USC Medication Management Center (MMC), which provides medication therapy management services remotely. She oversees USC’s Virtual Pharmacist Care (VPC) team, which is comprised of clinical pharmacists and technicians as well as pharmacy residents, interns and students who support the provision of clinical services using a combination of video and/or telephonic outreach. In addition, she serves as the project manager on several population health initiatives including the California Right meds Collaborative (CRMC) which is a consortium of health plans, pharmacies, and academic and professional organizations who partner to deliver high-impact Comprehensive Medication Management (CMM) services through a sustainable, value-based payment model. Dr. Abraham completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy and PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency in ambulatory care at the University of Southern California (USC) School of Pharmacy. Previous to her current employment with USC, she worked in managed care for 5 years, where she oversaw the managed care and specialty pharmacy operations of the organization. Dr. Abraham was also one of the lead pharmacists providing care as part of USC’s $12 million CMMI grant promoting pharmacist collaboratively working with physicians to improve patient care and health outcomes while reducing costs.
Though Dr. Ilan Shapiro has only been with AltaMed since 2016, he has already made a significant impact on the organization and the greater communities it serves. Dr. Shapiro's a tireless advocate for health care equality, with a deep affinity for innovation and public health policy, especially relating to the Latino population. Currently, Dr. Shapiro serves as AltaMed's Medical Director of Health Education and Wellness, helping to create and implement programs and services that expand access to care and improve outcomes for the community. Between 2016–2017, he also served as Medical Director for Behavioral Health, and was instrumental in strengthening the practice and expanding AltaMed's offerings. One of his biggest accomplishments at AltaMed has been the development of a dedicated AltaMed health and wellness facility. The center uses the latest technology, as well as traditional evidence-based principles and a hands-on approach, to teach members healthy habits relating to nutrition, fitness, and chronic condition management. The center, located in Santa Ana, will serve as a prototype for future sites in Los Angeles and Orange County. Dr. Shapiro's background includes award-winning public health work, often on the international stage. After graduating as Honorary Valedictorian with his medical degree, he worked for the Mexican Secretary of Health as the liaison between Mexico and the World Health Organization (WHO). He has created binational public health programs to improve the health of Hispanic communities on both sides of the border. In 2011, he was invited to join the White House Hispanic Policy Group and help educate and raise awareness for the Affordable Care Act. Dr. Shapiro is also a recent recipient of the Othli Award, an honor presented by the Consul of Mexico to recognize individuals working to improve the lives of Mexican nationals living in the United States and abroad. Prior to joining AltaMed, Dr. Shapiro held numerous health and leadership roles that focused on traditionally underserved communities. He spent five years working with migratory agricultural workers' families and the homeless in Southwest Florida and as a pediatric resident at Mount Sinai Children's Hospital in Chicago. He believes these roles sparked his passion for meaningful, community-focused work. In addition to his work at AltaMed, Dr. Shapiro serves on the Board of Governors at L.A. Care Health Plan. He currently acts as the regional director for the National Hispanic Medical Association.
Jessica Solares, MPH, MCHES

Director, Health Education and Wellness, AltaMed

Jessica Solares, MPH, MCHES, is the Director for the Health Education and Wellness program at AltaMed. Her passions lie in influencing the health outcomes of vulnerable populations through health education and other multifaceted approaches. Jessica earned her Master’s degree in Public Health from Yale University, with a study emphasis on global health. She continued her education and became a Master Certified Health Education Specialist offered by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. In her current role at AltaMed Health Services, she has had the privilege of co-leading the organization’s Health Education and Wellness Department. Her team is comprised of 70+ staff members including health educators, registered dietitians, community health workers, program coordinators, project managers, and more. Collectively, they provide individual and group education, digital programs and tools, patient linkage to community resources, and deliver preventive health screenings in the community via a mobile unit. The Health Education and Wellness organization values and engages in collaborative research, program evaluation and community health impact projects. Their services center focuses on chronic disease prevention and management, patient support, and addressing social determinants of health. In her twelve-year tenure at AltaMed, Jessica has gained experience in strategic planning and community partnership development. Furthermore, she has implemented and managed multiple evidenced-based preventive programs that include lifestyle interventions such as healthy eating, physical activity and stress management. She possess an in-depth knowledge of specific disease topics, federal grants compliance, staff management and development, budget analysis, system-building, program implementation and evaluation.
Carol Zaher, MD, MPH, MBA

Chair, Right Care Initiative University of Best Practices; Medical Director, Health Net California Medical Management, Centene

Dr. Carol Zaher is a cardiologist and Medical Director of Health Net of California. She was Chief of Cardiology and Director of Electrophysiology at Kaiser Permanente Southern California and subsequently worked as a health care consultant in disease management, clinical guideline and policy development, international health care, strategic product marketing, and medical education. She completed Medical School and an Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Pennsylvania and a Cardiology and Electrophysiology Fellowship at Cedars Sinai Medical Center. She obtained a Master’s degree in Business Administration from Pepperdine University and Masters in Public Health from UCLA.
Catherine Knox, RN, MSN, PHN
Clinical Director, POS Integrated Care Management, Inland Empire Health Plan

Catherine Knox, RN, MSN, PHN currently serves as Clinical Director for Point of Service Care Management at IEHP (Inland Empire Health Plan). She oversees the Model 2 Health Home Program Care Teams internal to the health plan. Catherine’s nursing career has spanned from acute care to public health to working in a managed care health plan. She is passionate about working with underserved populations, so overseeing the M2Health Home Program is very aligned with her mission and values. Catherine began her nursing career in New Zealand and went on to work in Australia and Great Britain, before settling in the United States. While working in the U.S., she has worked in both the public and private sectors in Southern California, including LAC/USC Medical Center, UCLA Medical Center, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, Heritage Medical Group and the Inland Empire Health Plan.
Lily Lee, DrPH, MPH

Director, Promotores Academy and San Manuel Gateway College; Assistant Research Professor, Loma Linda University

Dr. Lily Lee is a public health professional with over 20 years of experience in program design, public health practice, leadership and management, teaching, research and evaluation. After completing her undergraduate studies at UC Berkeley, she began her work with Community Health Workers/Promotores in clinical, community and school-based settings in the early 1990s at La Clínica de la Raza in Oakland, CA. This work stirred her interest to pursue further training at Emory University earning an MPH degree in Behavioral Sciences and Health Education. Dr. Lee continued working alongside national experts at the Agency for Research and Quality, DHHS, and physicians and policymakers at the American Academy of Pediatrics. She joined Loma Linda University in 2015 where she completed her doctorate degree and is currently serving as the Director of the San Manuel Gateway College and Program Director for the Promotores/CHW Academy. In her current role, Dr. Lee has been able to grow the CHW/P training programs to expand from community-based trainings, to clinic-based and school-based trainings, as well as through traditional, intensive and hybrid delivery models. Dr. Lee works closely with various stakeholders and partners to develop and refine CHW/P training curricula, to support CHW/P workforce capacity building, and to strengthen integration/implementation efforts. She is committed to disseminate her work and expand the larger knowledge of CHW/P training and practice. Dr. Lee’s recent publications assessed the need for training clinic-based CHWs for workforce integration in hospitals, community-based clinics and health plan settings from the perspective of employers, CHWs and patients. Dr. Lee continuously engages with CHWs/Ps in the field and national experts working on CHW/P training, integration, and policy efforts.
William J. Bommer, MD, FACP, FACC

Chairman, Right Care Initiative Capital Region University of Best Practices; Executive Committee, American College of Cardiology, California Chapter; Professor, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, University of California, Davis

Dr. Bommer’s service to the American College of Cardiology includes his current role on the California Executive Committee; as well as former roles as President, Vice-President, Governor, and Member of the Board of Governors. As an accomplished UC Davis Clinical Professor of Medicine, he directs UC Davis Cardiology’s Noninvasive Services; directs the Cardiology Fellowship Training Program and sees patients in the CCU. As the longest-tenured UCD Training Director, he has trained over 200 practicing cardiologists. Dr. Bommer has been the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator of multiple NIH, NHLBI, and international research trials. He is a member of 50 international, national, state, and university education commissions and committees. Dr. Bommer founded and is a Board Member of numerous hardware and software startup companies and is an inventor or co-inventor of patents for xerography, color-flow ultrasound imaging, and contrast echocardiography. His public service includes consulting with the State of California and directs multiple programs including CA Pilot PCI (offsite) Program, CA Elective PCI (offsite) Program, and CA Cardiac Surgery and Intervention Outcomes Program. He has authored over 250 scientific publications, received over 100 Honors and Awards, presented over 1000 papers at International, National, and Statewide meetings, and coauthored California Legislation including SB 357 and SB 906. A Physics and Chemistry graduate of Cornell University, he received his medical degree from the State University of New York. He is an Honorary Lifetime Member of the British Cardiovascular Society and an accomplished marathon runner.
Scott Flinn, MD

Regional Medical Director, Blue Shield of California; Co-Founder Right Care University of Best Practices; Retired Navy Medical Officer

Dr. Flinn is a Regional Medical Director at Blue Shield of California where he focuses on improving the value of care delivered to Blue Shield members. Previously, Dr. Flinn was the Chief Medical Officer at Arch Health Partners, and he served 22 years in the US Navy. Highlights included two tours with the Navy SEALs, Medical Director for primary care at Naval Hospital San Diego, and Force Surgeon for Naval Surface Forces in charge of the health care for all Navy ships worldwide. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh medical school, Dr. Flinn is a member of the American Academy of Family Practice and the American College of Physician Executives, becoming a Certified Physician Executive in 2013. He is board certified in Family Practice with a CAQ in Sports Medicine. Dr. Flinn formerly co-chaired The Right Care Initiative’s 1st University of Best of Practices in San Diego.
Joseph Sky, MD, FACP, FACP

Co-Chair, Capital Region University of Best Practices; Chief of Cardiology, United States Air Force David Grant Medical Center; Medical Director, Metabolic Clinic and Heart, Lung & Vascular Center David Grant Medical Center

Joseph Sky, MD, is the chief of cardiology and medical director of the Heart, Lung and, Vascular Center at David Grant USAF Medical Center serving veterans, active duty military, and their families at Travis Air Force Base. Dr. Joseph Sky was raised in a community closely connected to one of the Blue Zones areas and is currently an active speaker for the Loma Linda Project. Dr. Sky received his bachelor of science from Pacific Union College and his MD from Loma Linda University (1999). He completed his training in internal medicine and cardiology in the US Air Force. Prior to becoming a cardiologist, Dr. Sky served as a flight medicine physician and later chief of the Internal Medicine Branch of the US Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine where he monitored and kept our nation’s pilots and those of allied air forces healthy and fit for duty. He is a specialist in integrating modern medical treatments with evidence-based preventive medicine to safely allow military pilots, unmanned aircraft operators, and commercial pilots with cardiovascular disease to continue flying. While Dr. Sky fully embraces western medicine, his enjoyment is finding patients willing to use diet and lifestyle as medicine. He returned from a tour of duty in Iraq in 2018 and is excited to be practicing at a time when science shows the proven value of complementary preventive cardiology.
Matthew P. Wonnacott, MD

Co-Chair Capital Region University of Best Practice, Medical Director, Barton Community Health Center

Dr. Wonnacott recently retired as Colonel in the United States Air Force, previously serving as Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Commander for David Grant Medical Center, the Air Force’s largest and busiest inpatient platform. He now serves as Medical Director for the Barton Community Health Center in the South Lake Tahoe region, and recently joined the leadership team as co-chair of the Capital Region University of Best Practices for the Right Care Initiative. Dr. Wonnacott completed his undergraduate coursework at Southern Utah University and received his Medical Degree from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences as well as his additional certification from the American Board of Family Medicine. He is a physician leader specializing in Family Medicine, with clinical expertise in treating children, adults and geriatric patients. He has served in a variety of clinical, operational, and executive medicine roles over 25 years. He is known for many different professional qualities including compassion and clinical acumen, strategic insight and initiative, with particular strengths in motivating and influencing people, team leadership and collaboration, partnerships, working with physicians and clinic workflow optimization.
Susan Ivey, MD, MHSA

Professor, Adjunct, School of Public Health, UC Berkeley; Director of Research, Health Research for Action

Dr. Ivey is an adjunct professor at University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health, and Director of Research at Health Research for Action (a UCB affiliated research center). She teaches in the UCB-UCSF Joint Medical Program. She is a family physician with a Master’s in Health Services Management and Policy. She also completed a 2-year post-doctoral research fellowship in Health Policy and Health Services Research at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Ivey conducts health services research including design and evaluation of health care interventions, particularly for low-income populations, recent immigrants, and Asian Americans. She is especially interested in chronic disease care across diverse groups (diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension). Dr. Ivey has written over 70 peer-reviewed publications, a book on immigrant health, and several book chapters.
Cindy S. Giambrone, PharmD
Director, Performance Improvement and ACO Pharmacy Risk, MemorialCare Medical Group; Co-chair, Right Care Initiative Heart Failure Work Group

Dr. Giambrone currently serves as Director of Performance Improvement and Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Pharmacy Risk for the MemorialCare Medical Foundation. Her responsibilities include building and overseeing programs and processes related to managing ACO pharmacy risk and improving quality metric scores for employers and health plans. She has a long-standing interest in the management of Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) resulting from her professional and personal experience.