

Speaker & Presenter Biographies



Susan Johnson

*Regional Director, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), Region 10
Seattle, WA*

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Susan Johnson was appointed in 2009 by President Barack Obama as Regional Director of Region 10 serving Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. As HHS Regional Director, she serves as Secretary Burwell's primary representative and liaison to key constituencies in the Region. In this role, Susan works with federal, state, local and tribal officials on a wide range of health and social service issues.

For twelve years prior to this she was Regional Health Administrator and Director of the King County Health Action Plan (KCHAP), a voluntary partnership of over forty organizations convened by Public Health - Seattle & King County to implement innovative collaborative policy development and pilot projects that focus on system change and improvement of worsening health trends affecting vulnerable populations within King County, Washington.

Before that, Susan was a member of the Washington State Health Care Policy Board, appointed by Governor Lowry in 1995, and prior to that was the state Governmental Relations Director for the Service Employees' International Union, then, the largest health-care union in the AFL-CIO.

Susan served on the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Shoreline Community College Board of Trustees. She graduated from Middlebury College, Vermont and when not working on health policy, Susan skis, plays tennis and golf, enjoys fly fishing, writes and does water colors.



Uriel Iñiguez

*Executive Director, Commission on Hispanic Affairs
Olympia, WA*

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mr. Iñiguez is an immigrant from Mexico; he was first appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire as Executive Director of the Commission on Hispanic Affairs in June 2005, and reappointed by Governor Inslee in January 2014. Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, he worked for the Department of Corrections, and served as volunteer Commissioner for the Commission on Hispanic Affairs. During his tenure in the Department of Corrections, he held the positions of Community Corrections Officer, Prison Counselor, Regional Correctional Manager, Associate Superintendent, Field Administrator, and

Management Services Chief. Mr. Iñiguez holds a BA in Human Resources Management from Eastern Washington University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from City University.

Mr. Iñiguez currently serves on the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees, the Washington Healthcare and Prevention Policy consortium, SEIU NW Nursing Career Pathway Advisory Committee, Washington state Migrant Education Advisory Committee, THRIVE Washington Board of Directors, and the Washington state Supreme Court's Minority and Justice Commission.

In the last few years, he has also been active in the following organizations:

- National Elected and Appointed Latino Officials (NALEO) Education Task Force
- DSHS's Diversity Committee
- DSHS's Economic Services Advisory Committee
- Construction Center for Excellence Steering Committee
- OSPI's Bilingual Education Advisory Committee
- Federal Way School District Heritage Leadership Camp
- KCTS Hispanic Advisory Committee
- Group Health Foundation
- CIELO Project, an organization that provides services to the Olympia area migrant community
- Thurston County Hispanic Roundtable, a group of Hispanic professionals who work to improve the lives of Latinos
- OSPI's (Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction) Multi-Ethnic Think Tank (METT)
- Attorney General's Latino Consumer Protection Planning Committee
- Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs, 2003 to 2005
- Local Neighborhood Association *Carlyon/North Association), 2002 to 2005
- Thurston County Community Network, 2003-2006
- Pioneer Elementary School Site Council
- Olympia School District Student Drop Out Prevention Committee
- Olympia School District Budget Advisory Committee



Marielena Hincapié

*Executive Director, National Immigration Law Center
Los Angeles, CA*

Keynote Speaker:

The Changing Face of Immigration Reform – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

Marielena Hincapié is the executive director of the National Immigration Law Center, the main organization dedicated to defending and advancing the rights of low-income immigrants in the U.S. Under her executive leadership, NILC has grown to be one of the premier immigrants' rights organizations, strategically using a combination of litigation, policy, communications, and alliance-building strategies to effect social change. Ms. Hincapié is highly respected for her legal and political strategies and is seen as a bridge builder within the immigrants' rights field as well as across broader social justice sectors.

Fully bilingual and bicultural, Ms. Hincapié serves as a resource and is often interviewed by media outlets such as Univisión, Telemundo, CNN en Español, MSNBC, the New York Times, and the Los Angeles Times, among others. She also is a frequent lecturer at national and international conferences, addressing issues of migration, and she works closely with emerging leaders in the social justice movement. Ms. Hincapié began her tenure at NILC in 2000 as a staff attorney leading the organization's labor and employment program. During that time, she successfully litigated law reform and impact-litigation cases dealing with the intersection of immigration laws and employment/labor laws. She then served as NILC's director of programs from 2004 to 2008, after which she became executive director.

Before joining NILC, Ms. Hincapié worked for the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco's Employment Law Center, where she founded the Center's Immigrant Workers' Rights Project. She holds a juris doctor degree from Northeastern University School of Law, served on the American Bar Association's Commission on Immigration, and is currently a member of the Jobs with Justice and Welcome.US boards of directors.

Among the awards Ms. Hincapié has received are Univision's Corazón Award for 2013, in honor of her commitment to the Latino community. The media company, which honors one organization and one individual each year, cited her leadership at the National Immigration Law Center as a key reason she received the award. In 2014, she received the Latina of Influence award from Hispanic Lifestyle, the National Public Service Award from Stanford Law School, and was selected as a Prime Mover Fellow by the Hunt Alternatives Fund. She also recently served as the Northeastern University School of Law Daynard Distinguished Visiting Fellow and the Practitioner-in-Residence at the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law.

Ms. Hincapié immigrated as a child from Medellín, Colombia, to Central Falls, Rhode Island. She is the youngest of 10 children.



Dr. Esiquio Casillas

*Regional Medical Director for the Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), AltaMed Health Services
Los Angeles, CA*

Session I:

Effective Patient-Centered Medical Home Models – Closing the Equity Gap for Latino Health

Dr. Esiquio Casillas is the Regional Medical Director for the Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) and Senior Services at AltaMed. In this role he directs programming to improve health care delivery to senior populations. Previously, Dr. Casillas worked at the Jewish Home for the Aging as an Associate Medical Director for the Department of Home and Community Based Services. Dr. Casillas also worked as an Associate Medical Director at Regal Medical Group where he developed and directed programming for high risk patient populations, including a high risk case management program, home

visiting physician program, and a high risk clinic program. Prior to that, Dr. Casillas worked with Care Level Management as a home visiting physician for elderly patients where he cared for patients in the South and East Los Angeles areas.

Following his residency training Dr. Casillas completed a Health Policy Fellowship at White Memorial Medical Center funded by The California Wellness Foundation, where he helped develop innovative strategies to address health policy issues affecting underserved communities. During his year fellowship, he organized and coordinated the first annual Practice Management in Primary Care Conference for physicians and residents in California, which was designed to assist health care providers, build successful and sustainable medical practices in underserved communities.

Dr. Casillas continued his studies of health policy at the Harvard School of Public Health where he was a California Endowment Health Policy Scholar, completing a Masters in Public Health focusing on stabilizing the health care Safety Net by improving Community Physician private practice infrastructure and processes. Dr. Casillas received his medical degree in 2001 from Harvard Medical School, and completed his residency in Family Practice in 2004 at White Memorial Medical Center. Dr. Casillas enjoys traveling, running, hiking and outdoor activities.



Michael Hochman, MD, MPH

*Medical Director for Innovation, AltaMed Health Services
Los Angeles, CA*

Session I:

Effective Patient-Centered Medical Home Models – Closing the Equity Gap for Latino Health

Michael Hochman, MD, MPH, is a board-certified general internist who graduated from Harvard Medical School. He completed his residency in internal medicine at the Cambridge Health Alliance in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He also completed a *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* fellowship at the University of California, Los Angeles. Currently, Dr. Hochman is the medical director for innovation at AltaMed Health Services, a multisite medical group in Southern California and the largest independent community health center in the nation. At AltaMed, Dr. Hochman leads efforts to refine the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model of care. Dr. Hochman also has published original research in top medical journals and recently authored *50 Studies Every Doctor Should Know*.



Matías Valenzuela, Ph.D.

*Director, Office of Equity and Social Justice, King County
Seattle, WA*

Session II:

Community Partnerships – Operationalizing the Promise of Health Equity to Improve Latino Health

Matias Valenzuela, Ph.D., is the Director of the Office of Equity and Social Justice in King County, a countywide effort to address the root causes of inequities working with all county agencies and the community. Previously he worked for 14 years in Public Health – Seattle & King County, collaborating with local organizations and residents to advance the public's health. His areas of expertise include policy and program planning, community engagement and development, evaluation, language access, grant writing, communication and media advocacy, and of course equity. Early in his career, he worked as a print and broadcast journalist in the United States and abroad. He has taught as a Fulbright professor in Nicaragua, and he is an Affiliate Assistant Professor at the University of Washington's School of Public Health and Community Medicine.



Frank Perez

*National Director of Cure Violence, School of Public Health, University of Illinois
Chicago, IL*

Plenary Session:

The Cure Violence Model – Changing the Culture of Violence and the Devastating Impact on Health Equity

Frank Perez has worked in crisis/violence intervention programs for over 25 years and has a master's degree in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago. Previous to Cure Violence, Mr. Perez worked with Dr. Irving Spergel on the Crisis Reduction Intervention Services Program (CRISP), the Little Village Project, and the Comprehensive National Youth Gang Model.

At Cure Violence, Mr. Perez serves as the National Program Director and was previously the Director of Outreach Services. As National Program Director, he oversees the implementation of the Cure Violence model in national sites including Baltimore, Kansas City, Phoenix, Philadelphia, and Newark, and also works with new communities interested in implementing the model. Mr. Perez is a lifelong resident of the city of Chicago who has devoted his life to violence prevention and the betterment of his people, community, city and country.



Pamela Ronson

*Nutrition and Garden Coordinator, Concord International / Marra Farms
Seattle, WA*

Session III:

Empowering Children and Families Towards Healthy Choices

Pamela Ronson, Concord International's Nutrition and Garden Coordinator in South Park, has been a volunteer at Solid Ground's Marra Farm since 2013. With family roots in Guadalajara, Mexico, and as a former Chicago Public Schools teacher, she brings to the position previous experience working with youth, collaborating with families in Spanish, and a community-driven social justice agenda. Her current position involves teaching nutrition classes for Concord students and parents, educating families about gardening as a food resource at Marra Farm, and hosting environmental stewardship field trips at Hamm Creek.

Dr. Norma Zavala , Ph.D.

*Principal, Concord International Elementary School
Seattle, WA*

Session III:

Empowering Children and Families Towards Healthy Choices

Norma Zavala was introduced by her aunt to the Cesar Chavez's farmworker's movement as a teenager. This introduction resulted in her advocacy for improved farm worker working conditions and health care rights in her local community where she served as the secretary for the committee of community members that worked with local residents that had been farmworkers and others from the Department of Health Education and Welfare to successfully accessed a farmworker's health clinic, which is still in Othello under the name of the Columbia Basin Health Association.

After graduation, Norma attended the University of Washington where she earned her BA in psychology, masters in educational leadership and doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies

Dr. Zavala's work includes working for Migrant Education and in several roles in the Seattle Public Schools including tutor, instructional assistant, teacher, head teacher, and principal. Her passion for creating schools where all students have an access to excellent education was strengthen through numerous years of serving on the state's Multi-ethnic Think Tank where she was chosen to be one of the writers of the call for action position paper on cultural competency that was presented for state legislators and higher education institutions from across the state. She was also a board member of the University of Washington's Friends of EOP (Minority Affairs) and is currently a board member of the University of Washington President Advisory Committee, REACH and serves on the Seattle Public School Race and Equity committee. She has facilitated educational groups at the Center for Educational Leadership Summer Institutes and she was a University of Washington presenter for principals at a summer institute in China.

Dr. Zavala is committed to improving the education for students that have been disenfranchised and for raising the bar for all. She integrates the current educational research and her current knowledge of the community into her work at the school and district level. She also applies her knowledge of the community and real life school experience to her work on committees.

She has chosen education as the vehicle for closing the opportunity gap. She is currently Principal at Concord International School where she works closely with families on a daily basis introducing them and helping them navigate the education system. Dr. Zavala values her time mentoring instructional assistants to pursue higher education and works closely with teacher candidates/teacher residents as well as principal interns to strengthen their work with families and students while they are pursuing their educational dreams. This work of broadening the school community is vital for ensuring that each student receives a quality education where their family values are at the core, especially the Latino community that is often disenfranchised from the learning system. Dr. Zavala is committed to bringing all community members through collaboration with cultural competency and high expectations as foundation for the school culture.



Teresa Mosqueda

*Political and Strategic Campaign Director, WA State Labor Council, AFL-CIO
Seattle, WA*

Call To Action

Teresa Mosqueda was named WSLC Political and Strategic Campaign Director in May 2015. In this position she advances the council's work developing shared agendas, strategic organizing campaigns (raising wages, naturalization, revenue reform, etc.), and recruiting, training and electing political champions for working people.

Teresa first joined the WSLC as a member of the lobbying team in January 2011, and in May 2013, she began serving as the Government Affairs Director. Teresa has been the council's lead on health care policy and serves as Chair of the Healthy Washington Coalition, the state's largest health care advocacy group. Teresa was appointed by the Governor to represent workers in Washington and the Healthy Washington Coalition on the Health Insurance Exchange Board, where she is former chair of the Exchange Public Policy Committee and a sitting member of the Policy and Audit committees.

Teresa represents the labor council on the Washington State Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee, the Human Trafficking Task Force, and works with affiliates and community partners on the Stop Wage Theft Coalition and the Farmworker Coalition, and many other policy issues that affect working families.

She grew up in Olympia, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Washington, and a Master of Public Administration degree with a focus in health policy from The Evergreen State College. Her professional experience in advancing health and social justice policies began at Sea Mar Community Health Centers where she served as Latino Senior Program Manager. She went on to work for the Washington State Department of Health as the Legislative and Policy Coordinator for the Community and Family Health Division. She continued her work on health and nutrition policies at the Children's Alliance as the Health Policy Director, and then as the lobbyist advancing policies to protect children's health, access to education and food, and against the consequences of poverty. Soon after the passage of federal health care reform law, Teresa went onto work at the Community Health Plan and Community Health Network of Washington as the Health Care Reform Specialist.

Teresa continues her commitment to eradicating poverty, addressing health disparities and ending inequity through her current work with the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO.