

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee - Presenter Biographies

CalHHS and Stakeholders: Partners in Progress

Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly

Dr. Mark Ghaly was appointed Secretary of the California Health and Human Services by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2019. In this role, Dr. Ghaly will oversee California's largest Agency which includes many key departments that are integral to supporting the implementation of the Governor's vision to expand health coverage and access to all Californians. Dr. Ghaly will work across State government, along with County, City, and private sector partners, to ensure the most vulnerable Californians have access to the resources and services they need to lead healthy, happy, and productive lives.

Before joining Governor Newsom's team, Dr. Ghaly worked for 15 years in County health leadership roles in San Francisco and Los Angeles. In San Francisco, he was Medical Director of the Southeast Health Center, a public health clinic located in the Bayview Hunters Point community. In addition to having a large primary care pediatrics practice, Dr. Ghaly led the clinic's transition to the patient-centered medical home model of care, expanded specialty care and diagnostics services, and addressed issues such as teen health, youth violence, food security, and environmental health issues.

In 2011, Dr. Ghaly became the Deputy Director for Community Health and Integrated Programs for the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. In this role, Dr. Ghaly directed clinical operations in the Los Angeles County Juvenile Detention system and led the transition of jail health services from the Los Angeles County Sheriff and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health into one integrated system of care. Dr. Ghaly also led a County team to expand health and behavioral health services on the Martin Luther King, Jr., health campus in South Los Angeles, which included the opening of the public-private Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Hospital. Additionally, Dr. Ghaly was the architect of the Los Angeles County Whole Person Care Pilot program, oversaw the launch of the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System in Los Angeles County, and established the County's Office of Diversion and Reentry which has diverted over 3,000 individuals out of County jail and into community-based treatment and permanent supportive housing. Among Dr. Ghaly's most important accomplishments was the creation and continued development of the County's Housing for Health program. Since 2012, Housing for Health has supported over 6,500 chronically ill individuals facing homelessness, many of whom are stuck in acute care facilities, to gain permanent supportive housing through federal subsidies and LA County's Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool.

Dr. Ghaly continues to see patients in the Los Angeles safety net system, currently working at Olive View UCLA Medical Center. Mark's prior clinical work within Los Angeles County also included seeing patients at the Los Angeles County Juvenile Detention System and the Martin Luther King Jr. Outpatient Center Medical Hub that serves children and youth in the Los Angeles Child Welfare System. Dr. Ghaly looks

forward to continuing his clinical practice while serving as the State's Secretary for Health and Human Services.

Dr. Ghaly was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He earned dual B.A. degrees in biology and biomedical ethics from Brown University, his M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School, and his M.P.H. from the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Ghaly completed his residency training in Pediatrics at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Ghaly is married to Christina Ghaly and has four young children.

Dr. Ghaly is honored to serve Governor Gavin Newsom and looks forward to forging partnerships and relationships across California to make the Governor's vision a reality for the benefit of all Californians.

Community Health Workers/Promotores

James Regan is the Assistant Deputy Director of Health Workforce Development at the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). At HCAI, James helps manage a portfolio of programs to support and build the health workforce in California. Before coming to HCAI, James spent seven years leading a variety of population health initiatives and COVID-19 response efforts with the California Department of Public Health. Prior to state service, he managed community-based health promotion efforts in California's Central Valley.

Maria Lemus is founding Executive Director of Visión Y Compromiso since 2000. Visión y Compromiso and its Promotora and Community Health Worker Network 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 who are associated with clinics, hospitals, community-based organizations in rural and urban communities as volunteers or staff.

Ms. Lemus is a member of numerous advisory committees and national boards including founding board member of the National Association of Community Health Workers providing advancing the Community Transformation Model and the integration of the Promotor Model for community wellness. Maria provides consultation to numerous community-based organizations and promotoras across the United States, Mexico and Central America advancing the importance of lifting up community leaders as partners in health.

Prior to Visión y Compromiso, Ms. Lemus was active as a community consultant to local community organizations. Ms. Lemus has over 21 years management experience in state and county health departments and began her public service career with the California Department of Corrections.

Ms. Lemus received a California State Assembly Recognition Resolution for her work with Visión y Compromiso, is an alum of two outstanding leadership programs, the National Hispana Leadership Institute and the California Women's Policy Institute of the Women's Foundation. Maria has numerous awards and recognition including the Community Latina Award by the California Latinas for Reproductive Justice, the Champions of Health Award from the California Center for Public Health, and the Siempre Award by Tiburcio Vasquez Community Clinic, served as a Board member of the Koshland Committee at the San Francisco Foundation, a Fellow of the Purpose Prize, Fellow of the Mexican American Solidarity Foundation, recipient of the Contra Costa Women's Hall of Fame "Women Improving Healthcare", Faculty Advisor for the Women's Health Leadership as mentor for emerging

women leaders, Past President California Chicano Correctional Workers Association and most importantly Outstanding President of the Mira Vista PTA.

Ms. Lemus received her B.A degree from the University of California Riverside. She was born in San Bernardino, of Mexican parents who immigrated to the United States in hopes for a better life for their children. Maria has been married 38 years and has two adult children.

Dementia Care Aware

Dr. Anna Chodos is the Principal Investigator of Dementia Care Aware, a state-wide program to improve detection of dementia in older adults who have Medi-Cal benefits. She is also Co-Principal Investigator of the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program, which is training health care providers and social service providers in geriatrics principles. Clinically, she is Director of Whole Person Geriatrics for the San Francisco Health Network, with the task of improving ambulatory care medical for older adults, and the director of two clinics: the outpatient Geriatrics Consult Service and the Geriatrics-Neurology Cognitive Clinic at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. The Geriatrics-Neurology Cognitive Clinic is an interprofessional assessment and treatment clinic for adults with cognitive disorders.

Danielle Taylor is the Director of Operations for Dementia Care Aware and is responsible for coordinating program efforts to ensure key milestones and goals are met. Danielle, a Bay Area native, earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Neuroscience and a Minor in Public Health at Boston University and is currently pursuing her MBA at Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley in their evening and weekend program. Prior to her role at Dementia Care Aware, Danielle worked for the City and County of San Francisco in the Department of Homelessness and the Department of Public Health with much of her time spent focusing on standing up and adapting programs quickly as a part of the city's COVID-19 response. Danielle also received the California Association of Public Hospitals and Health System (CAPH) / California Health Care Safety Net Institute (SNI) 2021 Quality Leader Award for Innovation for her work in San Francisco's school reopening effort.

Clara Park is the Director of Strategy for Dementia Care Aware. In this role, she is responsible for Dementia Care Aware's data collection and program evaluation efforts as well as the strategic goals and direction of the program. Clara has a Master of Public Administration degree with a focus on Health Policy & Management and has over nine years of experience in healthcare. Her recent roles have been in process improvement and quality improvement where she managed large portfolios of projects aimed at improving clinical and operational goals. She has worked at several academic healthcare institutions including UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals, Duke University Health System, and Mount Sinai Health System.