

Everything Has Changed!

Considering our world since March, it seems as if our work and the way we go about it, has turned upside down and inside out.

For example, most of our staff worked in offices and traveled from there to client homes. These days, staff work from home, and travel electronically to client homes, either by telephone or computer!



Our conference rooms were once hives of activity abuzz with

meetings. Now, those meetings happen online using a computer program called ZOOM. And,

you had to be fast to catch anyone from the Community Wellness team before they headed out to one of numerous locations to hold their workshops and classes. In what seemed but a moment, that team quickly worked out how to transform evidence-based classes and workshops into virtual versions for computer and phone.

What has not changed is *Partners'* commitment to meeting the needs of our clients, who are among some of the frailest and most-at-risk in our communities.



If staff heard during a call that a client had no food, they personally delivered grocery boxes to that person's porch and then arranged an ongoing solution for meeting their food needs. *Partners* staff regularly call clients to check-in, make sure they are safe and provide reassurance that they are not alone and forgotten. Social isolation and loneliness clearly are among the hidden scourges of this pandemic.



Our ability to help is only limited by our resources. Staff have been marvelous in their response, going above and beyond expectations. Just as importantly, donors and foundations have been generous in contributing to our Special Needs Fund, which allows staff to obtain items for clients that insurance and state programs do not cover.

To say these past few months have been among *Partners'* finest might be understatement. I could not be prouder of our achievements. The pandemic has taught us how to provide services using a broader palette of techniques. For the future, that is a good thing.

Be safe,

*June Simmons, President & CEO
and the Executive Team*

Meet the Partners in Care Team

For more than 20 years, *Partners* has been a significant change agent in the social determinants of health arena. We have been called a “powerful innovator,” a “leader of change” and a “source of charity for those most in need of help.” Our success is due to people who are passionate about making things happen and have the skills to bring ideas to fruition. Each issue we introduce staff and Board members who have helped shape *Partners* success.

Adrian Stern, CPA

Founding Member, Clumeck, Stern, Schenkelberg & Getzoff

Partners in Care Foundation Board Member since 1998



Adrian Stern has over 40 years of professional public accounting experience and as a key investment advisor. He brings expertise in a broad range of areas including, but not limited to, tax and financial planning, business consulting, and fraud detection and prevention. He is also a Certified Forensic Accountant.

A founding member of the Encino firm of Clumeck, Stern, Schenkelberg, & Getzoff, he offers clients expertise in a number of areas, including advice in acquiring, selling and managing real estate and related accounting issues; expert witness testimony regarding computer systems, damage calculations, loss of earnings and professional malpractice cases; consultation to business firms regarding valuations, mergers and acquisitions and royalty determinations; auditing and accounting involving various types of manufacturing, distribution and professional service clients; and various areas of bankruptcy and equity receivership on federal and state levels.

A graduate of USC’s Marshall School of Business, Stern has advanced training in business valuations techniques from the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysis and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He serves on a number of non-profit boards and also has a master’s in Non-Profit Management.

.....

Donate Now
picf.org/donate

Terri Cammarano, JD, LLM, CHC

Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs, and General Counsel,
Cedars-Sinai Health System

Partners in care Foundation Board Member since 2018



Terri Wagner Cammarano is a legal executive with over 25 years of private practice and general counsel experience in the healthcare sector. She is currently serving as the Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs, and General Counsel of Cedars-Sinai Health System in Southern California. She is admitted to practice law in California, Hawaii and Massachusetts, and is a Certified Healthcare Compliance professional. She is a graduate of Loyola Law School (J.D. and LL.M. (Taxation) where she has served as adjunct faculty, and California State University, Fullerton (B.A.), where she has been recognized as one of “50 Women of Distinction.” Ms. Cammarano is a member of the Board of Directors of the Partners in Care Foundation, and a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, and member of the American Health Lawyers Association, where she currently services as a Vice Chair of the Fair Market Value Affinity Group.

Karen Schneider

Vice-President of Development,
Partners in Care Foundation

Karen Schneider has been with the agency since 2018. She is a visionary and passionate professional with strong leadership and management skills. She has significantly increased funding using organization, strategic planning, and marketing skills together with an exceptional ability to cultivate and enlist donor support with a focus on major gifts and gift planning. Her past experience includes Vice President of Advancement for Keck Graduate Institute, and Senior Officer of Major Gifts at City of Hope. In addition to being a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals for over 25 years, Chairing National Philanthropy Day in Los Angeles, she has had the privilege of being a consultant to many non-profit organizations sharing her expertise and knowledge to aid in their growth and development. Through the course of Karen’s career, she has raised over a hundred million dollars on teams of various non-profits.



Partners at Work in the Community

Angie's Story

While *Partners* has a long history of working with older adults, more and more we find requests coming to us are to help people of all ages.

For example, we have recently been working with the parents of a 23-year-old woman who is about to be discharged from a skilled nursing facility (SNF) back to their home.

“Angie” (not her real name) had a stroke in June of 2018 and was admitted to the SNF.

Following the stroke, she became dependent on a Gastrostomy Tube for feedings, has a Tracheostomy and uses Oxygen due to respiratory issues. “Angie” is non-ambulatory, dependent on others for all transfers and needs help moving in her bed. She is unable to perform any activities of daily livings (ADLs) or independent activities of daily living (IADL’s). As a result, she requires round the clock monitoring, seven days a week for health intervention.

The first step in “Angie’s” move was taken by the SNF director who applied on Angie’s behalf to the *Partners’* Home and Community Based Alternatives (HCBA) MediCal Waiver program, and the California Community Transitions program. When *Partners* learned these applications had been approved by the state, a team consisting of Diana Richardson, Angela Martinez, and Natalie Monden began working on the necessary steps for “Angie” to leave the SNF and return home. The *Partners* team visited with “Angie” in the SNF, and then performed an accessibility evaluation of her parent’s home.

With “Angie” being both bed and wheelchair bound and completely dependent on others, the move back to her parent’s home would require widening a bedroom door making it wheelchair accessible, and the construction of a wheelchair ramp providing “Angie” access in and out of the house.

Not only did the team identify what needed to be done to the home, they identified additional services that “Angie” qualified for, and also the firms that could complete the home modifications.

Quickly, the Team went to work on “Angie’s” behalf. A referral was made for her to In Home Support Services for personal care, such as feeding and bathing. The Center for Healthcare Rights was contacted for help with Medi-

Cal benefits. A call went to Abilities Expo for up-to-date information on some disability programs and durable medical equipment. Pacific Coast Contractors were hired to put in the ramp and widen the bedroom door. A referral was made to Bet Tzedek Legal Services, which

specializes in issues related to disability. Making much of this possible was CCT, which provided a fund of \$7,500 to purchase the necessary durable medical equipment that would enable “Angie” to transition from the SNF to her parent’s home. LA Care helped locate a community physician for “Angie,” and Gerry Kane, Esq. helped her parents make plans for “Angie’s” future needs.

The *Partners* Team also identified that showering was going to be an issue best addressed by securing a portable shower. As these aren’t covered through any existing California program, they put a request in to Partner’s Special Needs Fund, which agreed to purchase the item.

The teamwork demonstrated by Partners in Care was great. Our family will be forever grateful for all your coordinated efforts to get “Angie” home again.



As work progressed towards readying both home and arranging services for “Angie’s” March return, her parents continually expressed their appreciation to all involved. As progress was made, her mom told the team “How exciting to see things coming together. Thank you for all your help with funding the ramp and the shower!”

She went on to extend her thanks to those who helped make possible the Special Purpose Fund. “We are really thankful there is a program to help folks like us in need, and we are thankful from the bottom of our hearts for the waiver program! The teamwork demonstrated by Partners in Care was great. Our family will be forever grateful for all your coordinated efforts to get “Angie” home again.”

Partners’ News

Loneliness Research

For 20 years, through the development and cultivation of the Geriatric Social Work Education Consortium (GSWEC), Partners in Care Foundation (*Partners*) and its partnering organizations have served as a training ground for many social workers to enter a career in the field of aging.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, *Partners’* GSWEC Intern, Eunice Chen from Azusa Pacific University, completed her capstone project on *The Impact of [the Community Wellness Department’s] Evidence-Based Programs on Social Isolation Among Older Adults*. Data collected through pre and post surveys in the Department’s evidence-based health and wellness programs using the Campaign to End Loneliness Scale enabled Eunice to conduct several analyses showing decreases in self-reported loneliness scores among the following groups:

- Participants of Chronic Disease Self-Management Education community programs (including the Chronic Disease, Diabetes, and Chronic Pain Self-Management Programs) who attended at least four out of six sessions
- Participants of Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs held in residential facilities
- Participants of Diabetes Self-Management Programs held in Multipurpose Senior Service Organizations (Multi-Purpose Senior Centers with wraparound services)
- Participants of Chronic Pain Self-Management Programs held in Senior Centers

For more information on this research, please send your request to Partners@picf.org. Please join us in celebrating Eunice’s research!

This research has been published on the National Council on Aging’s website, and *Partners* is pleased to move this research toward publication in a peer-reviewed journal - continuing in our role as the Social Determinants Specialists!



Stay Healthy While Staying Home

During this time of staying safe at home, we understand an unintended consequence is a sense that people feel left on their own, isolated not just from friends, but the larger community as well. The good news is there are ways to combat this sense of loneliness!

Recognizing this need, the *Partners* Community Wellness Team have redesigned most of their evidence-based wellness programming so people can participate online from the comfort and safety of their own home. These programs are crafted to keep you healthy, mentally engaged, and best of all, entertained! They are fun, done right from home, and connect you to others.



Here is a sampling of *Partners'* online programming:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program

Participate in low-impact exercises and gentle activities to help increase joint flexibility and range of motion, and to help maintain muscle strength. Sessions take place for 1 hour twice per week for 6 weeks. All you need is an internet-connected device with a camera to participate.

Bingocize

Try Bingocize at home to exercise and connect with others! It's a 10-week online health promotion program combining Bingo with fall prevention exercises and health education. Bingo games are twice per week for 1 hour. All you need is an internet-connected device to get the fun started!

Diabetes Prevention Program

If you have prediabetes, there's good news! Prediabetes can be reversed. Access a personal health coach and meet with a small group to get support on how to make healthier food choices, be more active, and lower your risk of type 2 diabetes. This is a 1-year online workshop with 1-hour sessions (16 weekly, 2 bi-weekly, then 8 monthly meetings). All you need is internet, a connected device and a diagnosis of prediabetes from your physician to participate.

Healthier Living

This program teaches practical everyday skills like problem-solving, nutritious eating, and relaxation techniques that help those living with chronic conditions. This online workshop consists of 2 1/2-hour sessions, once per week for 6 weeks. All you need is an internet-connected device to participate. If you have Chronic Pain or Diabetes you can participate in a tailored version of this workshop.

Healthier Living Tool Kit

Have a chronic condition but no access to a computer or internet? This workshop is for you! Participants receive a mailed tool kit that walks them through information focused on better management of their health. Participate through small group phone calls for 30 minutes, once per week, for 6 weeks. All you need to participate is a phone. If you have Diabetes or Chronic Pain, you can participate in a tailored version of this workshop.

There is no charge for our programs, but donations will be gratefully accepted. Inquire today about availability and scheduling. Call *Partners* Community Wellness at: 818-403-5452. Or email us at: ebprograms@picf.org

NCQA accreditation

This Spring, the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) awarded *Partners'* Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) its third accreditation in Complex Case Management – a significant accomplishment!

Widely regarded as representing the gold standard for the assessment of and reporting on healthcare provision, NCQA is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. Achieving and maintaining accreditation demonstrates that *Partners'* MSSP program continues to meet NCQA's strict guidelines for industry best practices in the arena of case management.

The accreditation process includes an in-depth review of the internal protocols and service delivery structure to ensure that the program meets the needs of complex patients in order to improve health and/or functional

capacity. Accreditation demonstrates *Partners'* ability to adapt to both the ever-evolving changing healthcare environment to successfully address our population's needs and provide the highest level of care for our clients.

Partners maintaining its accreditation facilitates implementation of ongoing best practices and regularly targets areas for change or improvement. Additionally, the insight and knowledge gained from this process of continuous improvement provides substantial information that is crucial to support resource and business decisions.

Congratulations to the *Partners* team responsible for this impressive achievement.



Donate Now
picf.org/donate

Recent Gifts of Support

We have been fortunate to be the recipient of three grants of late that provided us with emergency safety net fund relief to allow for a rapid response during the COVID crisis. A tremendous thanks to the California Community Foundation, the Confidence Foundation and the Edward A. and Ai O. Shay Family Foundation for their support that will help address issues of our wait list and other pressing needs of our vulnerable community.

Partners in Care continues to be most grateful to all of the generous donors that have contributed to our

Special Needs Fund. Because of your assistance, we have been able to supplement the needs of many to help them survive these difficult times. We invite your support of this vital and important Special Needs Fund which provides an optimal level of services and resources for fragile community members beyond what is covered through government contracts.

Please contact Karen Schneider, Vice President Development, at kschneider@picf.org for further information.

Grants

Individual, corporate, and foundation support make much of our work possible. Here are the most recent contributions towards the *Partners* Mission:

\$105,000	The Edward A. and Ai O. Shay Family Foundation provided us with a 3-year grant for our Home and Community-Based Alternatives (HCBA) Waiver Program. They also gifted us with an additional \$5,000 for our emergency safety net fund relief to allow for a rapid response during the COVID-19 crisis.
\$53,000	The California Community Foundation (CCF) allowed us to provide basic and critical needs for individuals and families facing hardships as a result of COVID-19, serving clients through emergency case management and direct services. Specifically, this hardship grant helped us support individuals and families with direct financial assistance for basic needs, including food, housing, and other vital expenses during the global pandemic.
\$50,000	The Confidence Foundation supported our Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) by establishing a fund to provide services to those on the waiting list before full enrollment is completed. This generous gift also allowed us to fund a new, vital and important Special Needs Fund to provide crucial services and resources during this waitlist period.
\$50,000	The Mericos Foundation helped us support aging, frail, isolated and vulnerable people in the Santa Barbara region through our Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP). Their generous gift enabled us to provide services designed to keep these individuals safe, healthy, and independent in their own homes.
\$25,000	The Ann Peppers Foundation granted us with additional funding to help vulnerable older adults in the Pasadena area learn important skills to live a healthier life. This gift facilitated the re-tooling of our Community Wellness programs as we needed to re-format to meet the post COVID-19 reality.

Recently Received In-Kind Donations



L.A. Care graciously provided us with 300 thermometers to disburse to our clients facing hardships due to COVID-19. Many of our clients live on a fixed budget, so these essential items allowed us to assist our most vulnerable population with managing their health challenges during a global pandemic. Partners in Care appreciates its partnership with L.A. Care and thanks the entire team for coordinating this essential in-kind donation.

GoodRx gifted us with 1,000 pill boxes and discount cards for our clients. A huge thank you to Trevor Bezdek, Lysa Stone and Zach Levin from GoodRX for this generous donation.



PillMap also gifted us with 100 PillMap management systems from inventor Kimber Westmore. PillMap is a visual pill planner guide for medication and vitamins management for pill box organizer containers. These units, together with a GoodRX pill box, will be given as prizes for the new Bingocize program that has been developed by our Community Wellness Team. Thank you to PillMap and Kimber Westmore for this generous in-kind donation.

Worldwide Produce donated a truckload of food for us to distribute to vulnerable clients. The abundance provided by Worldwide Produce included lettuce, tomatoes, potatoes, avocados, salad mix, rosemary, bananas, apples, melons, milk, heavy cream, and yogurt. Sixteen *Partners* staff members, with added hands from the L.A. Family Housing group and the Valley Inter Community Center, packaged over 200 bags of food that were delivered to HHP and HCBA clients between the ages of 18 and 70. Our tremendous gratitude goes out to Michael Brombart, Joshua Perez, and Jane Cowan from Worldwide Produce. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors *Partners'* staff, we cannot thank you enough!

We are extremely grateful to be the recipient of in-kind donations. For further information about opportunities such as this, please contact Karen Schneider, VP of Development at kschneider@picf.org.



Partners Awarded Two Significant ACL Grants

We are proud to announce that the *Partners* Community Wellness team has successfully competed for two Administration on Community Living (ACL) 3-year grants that will enable us to scale powerful evidence-based health self-management programs throughout California. These are tough competitions – winning means our team stands out as leaders in this field of practice and are respected for their continuing innovations, introduction of new programs, and strong quality measurement and evaluation. Their model is to bring funding, licensure, training, and technical assistance to selected key local agency partner organizations in many counties who, in turn, will help spread this work across their regions through a team of host agencies. Bravo to this team! Look what they have won for our communities:

Covering the 2020 – 2023 award period, one grant is for \$1.4m to expand Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) programming while the other is for \$1.2m to expand Falls Prevention. *Partners* will be sharing funding and working in partnership with organizations across California to implement both grants.

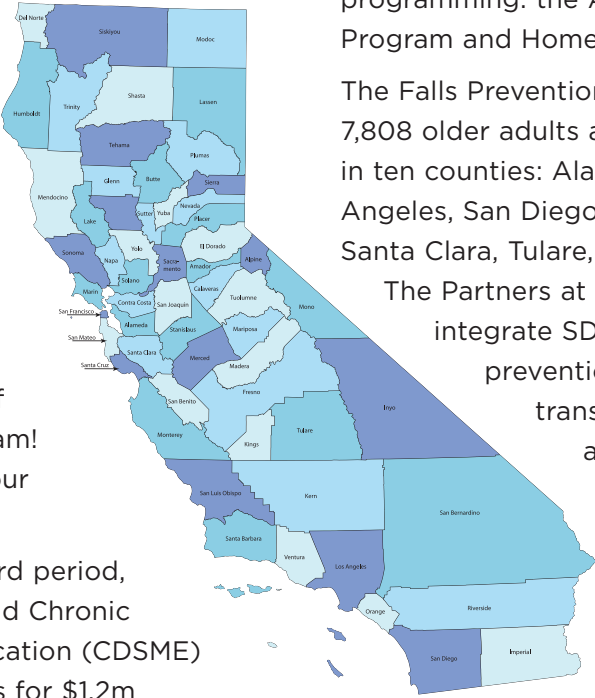
The CDSME grant goal is to reach 5,628 older adults and adults with disabilities in 9 counties: Los Angeles, Tulare, Ventura, Fresno, San Diego, Kern, Orange, San Francisco, and Humboldt. This will be accomplished by strengthening and expanding the Partners at Home(PAH)

network leadership while significantly increasing participation in CDSME and other self-management support programs, as well as social determinants of health (SDOH) initiatives. The primary programs included in this grant are Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, Tomando Control de su Salud, Diabetes Self-Management Program and Chronic Pain Self-Management Program. Two additional evidence-based programs are included as support programming: the Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program and HomeMeds.

The Falls Prevention grant goal is to reach 7,808 older adults and adults with disabilities in ten counties: Alameda, Humboldt, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Tulare, Orange, and Ventura.

The Partners at Home Network (PAH) will integrate SDOH initiatives with falls prevention programming to address transportation, food security and social connectedness challenges. It will include seven approved Evidence Based Health Programs (EBHP) addressing fall risks/ strength building: A Matter of Balance, Tai Chi for Arthritis, Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance, Bingocize, Enhance Fitness, SAIL and CAPABLE. All ten counties will receive funding and support to establish a partnership with their local Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Departments to create a referral process to EBHPs.

Please join me in congratulating our Community Wellness Team for their excellent leadership in this area and for this elegant national recognition for this work!



Donate Now
picf.org/donate



Join us in September to Celebrate Paul Viviano

Partners' Annual Tribute Dinner – originally scheduled for Monday, June 8, 2020 – is now scheduled for Sept. 30, 2020.

The Partners in Care 2020 Tribute Dinner will honor **President and CEO of Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Paul Viviano**, with the prestigious Vision & Excellence in Healthcare Leadership Award.

Mr. Viviano joined CHLA as President and Chief Executive Officer as well as a member of the Board of Trustees in 2015. He has enjoyed three decades of success leading academic medical centers, for-profit health care organizations and nonprofit community hospitals.

Prior to joining CHLA, Mr. Viviano served as the Chief Executive Officer of UC San Diego Health System and Associate Vice Chancellor of UC San Diego Health Sciences. There he oversaw the entire \$1.7 billion UC San Diego health care enterprise, which included leading-edge medical care; training of medical students, residents and fellows; and patient care delivery for two teaching hospitals.

Mr. Viviano serves in leadership capacities on various community and health care organizations and was named a 2016 Leader of Today honoree by the Health Policy and Management Alumni Association of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and that same year received the Leadership in Healthcare Award from the National Medical Fellowships. He was named one of the LA500, LA's Most-Influential, in 2017, 2018 and 2020 by the Los Angeles Business Journal. In 2020 he was named as a recipient of the prestigious Cardinal's Award.

Mr. Viviano is a California native and earned his bachelor's degree at the University of California, Santa Barbara, as well as a master's degree in public administration-public health at the University of California, Los Angeles. Mr. Viviano is a deeply respected leader and highly deserving of the honor this evening represents.

Tickets and sponsorships originally purchased for the June date will be honored in September. Both tickets and sponsorships are now available for the new date. Purchase instructions are available below.

We look forward to seeing you among the safety of friends and colleagues at the Beverly Hilton in September. For more information, please feel free to contact *Partners* VP of Development, Karen Schneider at kschneider@picf.org or 818-837-3775 x121.





The Social Determinants Specialists

732 Mott Street, Suite 150
San Fernando, CA 91340
818-837-3775
www.picf.org



Donate Now
picf.org/donate

©2020 Partners in Care Foundation

Does Medication Impact SDOH?

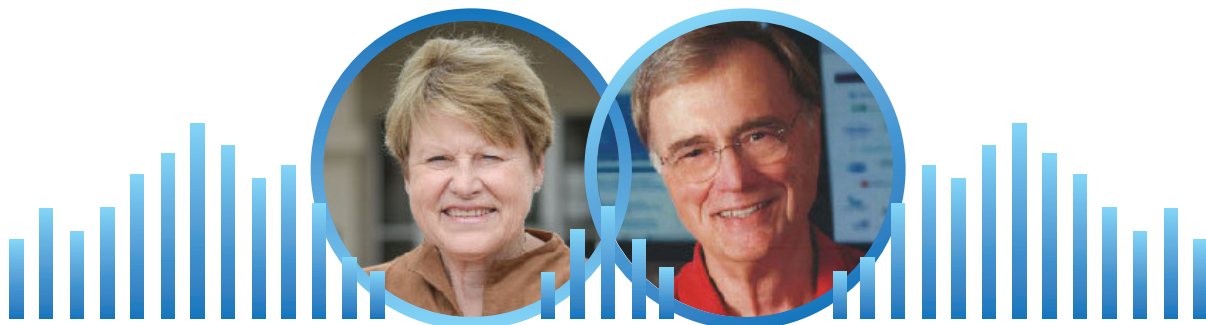
This podcast tells you how!

Two nationally-recognized experts apply their training and experience to a discussion of the impact that medications can have on social determinants of health (SDOH).

Partners' President and CEO June Simmons, along with AZCert President Ray Woosley, MD, offer their valuable insights during this 30-minute podcast.

To hear the podcast, visit: <https://bit.ly/3gJ4Z3V>

Visit here to learn more about HomeMeds: <https://www.picf.org/homemeds/>



How Community Healthcare Workers Innovate to Overcome Medication-Related SDoH Barriers
with June Simmons & Ray Woosley