

Partners in Care Foundation Takes Leadership Role in Co-Design of Aligned Social Care System

Co-Designing a Social Care Delivery System

The Partnership to Align Social Care – A National Learning and Action Network (Partnership) is a group of diverse stakeholders collaborating to co-design a multi-faceted strategy to enable successful partnerships between health care organizations and networks of community-based organizations (CBOs) delivering social care and social services. These partnerships will create the efficient and sustainable ecosystems needed to provide individuals with holistic, person-centered care.

The *Partnership*, co-chaired by *Partners'* CEO June Simmons and national health care consultant Tim McNeill, includes senior leaders from community-based organizations, health plans, health systems, and national associations. Federal agency leaders are also being engaged as liaisons to the *Partnership*. According to Simmons, "This group offers a unique collective commitment to transformation and to seize upon this opportunity to effect meaningful alignment of health care and social care systems. The synergy of this collaborative will ultimately impact positive health outcomes for the neediest in communities across the country."

Leading the Way on Aligning Health and Social Care

The *Partnership* aims to align with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Innovation Center Strategy Refresh and aspires to support health and social care delivery system transformation through the evolution of a sustainable, community-centered social care delivery system that enables value-based care. To succeed, this delivery system must have shared governance, sustainable

financing, multi-stakeholder accountability, and supportive policy changes at the federal, state, and local levels. As McNeill observes, "The shift to value-based care will not be achieved unless sustainable models of SDOH delivery are

implemented. The work of the *Partnership to Align Social Care*...is an essential component of the CMS Strategy Refresh to achieve Health Equity for all vulnerable populations."

This work lies at the very heart of *Partners'* mission for over 25 years. Today, the importance of addressing the social determinants of health as a pathway to improved health outcomes is taking hold across California and nationally. "Social and environmental factors have a profound effect on long-term health, and interventions to address

Partnership to Align Social Care

A National Learning
& Action Network

social determinants of health are essential to achieve better health outcomes and an equitable health system,” explained *Partnership* member Ji Im, MPH, System Senior Director, Community and Population Health at CommonSpirit. “Underinvestment in these interventions has led to a rise in unmet needs and resulting disparities, particularly among older low-income adults in underserved communities. This is the problem the *Partnership* aims to solve.”

The work of the *Partnership* will support the growth of CBO networks that can act as equal partners to health care organizations and create a social care system that ensures the holistic needs of beneficiaries are met. This proposed shift will be difficult to achieve unless sustainable models of social care delivery are implemented.

Building Sustainable CBO Network Capacity

Beginning in early 2022, *Partnership* members, joined by additional experts, including government liaisons and thought leaders, convened workgroups to address priority issues that are central to a fully aligned health and social care system, including:

1. Core competencies and an approach for qualifying CBO networks;
2. Encouraging widespread use of existing and proposed billing codes;
3. A streamlined contracting process between health systems, payers, and CBOs;
4. Common IT security and interoperability standards; and
5. Enabling organization and financing strategies for sustainable CBO network infrastructures.

Envisioning the Ideal State

The *Partnership* will produce and drive adoption of resources and tools across stakeholders that build the capacity of CBO networks to deliver health-impacting social care, as well as to co-design common standards for effective and sustainable partnerships between CBO networks, health plans, and health systems. Concurrent with the workgroup activities, *Partnership* members, in consultation with other key experts will produce a written framework that reflects a balanced, common vision for

achieving an “ideal state” of health and social care alignment. This framework will include:

- Key system attributes relative to experience for individuals in need
- Financing options for system and services
- Workforce needs
- Quality and accountability processes
- Policy and technology enablers

Stages of transformation are being identified to illustrate the pathway to an ideal state of alignment where CBO networks are equal partners to health care entities and all work collaboratively across a community to improve health outcomes.

Aligning Social Care Planning Committee Member Roster

Co-Chairs:

*Timothy McNeill and June Simmons***

AgeSpan

Jennifer Raymond, Chief Strategy Officer

Aetna CVS Health

Luke Barnhill, Manager of Strategic Planning

RJ Briscione, Senior Director, Social Determinants of Health Strategy & Execution

Anthem, Inc.

Shantanu Agrawal, MD, Chief Health Officer

Merrill Friedman, Regional Vice President, Inclusive Policy and Advocacy

Pamme Lyons-Taylor, VP/Chief Community Health Officer

Lisa Watkins, Health Policy Director

Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers

Mark Humowiecki, Senior Director

Kathleen Noonan, CEO

Centene Corporation

Haleta Belai, Senior Director, Social Determinants of Health Innovation

Chris Priest, Vice President, Medicaid Solutions

CommonSpirit Health

Ji Im, System Sr. Director, Community and Population Health

Detroit Area Agency on Aging

Ronald Taylor, President & CEO

Epiphany LLC

Dr. Matt Longjohn, Chief Executive Officer

Humana

Abbie Gilbert, Associate Director, Population Health

*Andrew Renda, MD, Vice President, Bold Goal
and Population Health Strategy*

Will Shrank, MD, Chief Medical Officer

Independent Consultants

Kyle Allen, DO

*Timothy McNeill, Freedmen's Health***

Independent Living Research Utilization

Richard Petty, Co-Director

Mid-America Regional Council

James Stowe, Director, Aging and Adult Services

Ohio Association of AAAs

Larke Recchie, Chief Executive Officer

Partners in Care Foundation

*June Simmons, CEO***

Ester Sefilyan, Vice President, Network Services

Rush University

Robyn Golden, Chairperson, Department of Social Work

UnitedHealthcare

*Alexander Billioux, MD, Vice President, Social
Determinants of Health*

*Andy McMahon, Vice President, Policy/Health and
Human Services*

USAging

*Marisa Scala-Foley, Director, Aging and Disability
Business Institute*

Federal Liaisons

*Kelly Cronin, Deputy Administrator, Administration
for Community Living (ACL)*

*Kristie Kulinski, Team Lead, Office of Network
Advancement (ACL)*

Partners at Work in the Community

Changing A Young Girl's Life One Step at a Time



Meet Ellie and her family. Ellie experienced a traumatic birth injury that deprived her of oxygen for a concerning amount of time. She was transferred immediately to Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) where she was diagnosed with a brain injury and other medical

conditions. Ellie spent 59 days hospitalized and was discharged with feeding difficulties.

Ellie, now two-years-old, has made significant progress. She lives with her family and receives full-time care from her mother, who left her full-time job to become a full-time caregiver. Ellie requires occupational therapy and speech therapy. Therapy tools are slowly introduced to help her strengthen her suspected weakened mouth muscle and reduce her dependency on her G-tube. Although Ellie's ability to eat has drastically improved, Ellie is still intimidated by some tools used by her therapists. She has a long road

ahead of her, however with therapeutic interventions she continues to improve.

These excellent care and resources available to Ellie and her family through our Home and Community-Based Alternatives Waiver program. But there are many essentials recommended by her therapists that are not covered by insurance. In an effort to fill in some of the gaps, *Partners* used our Urgent Needs Fund to purchase mouth and tongue tools to aid with Ellie's oral development and a Montessori toy for toddler sensory development.

Ellie's family extends their thanks to *Partners* for meeting Ellie's primary needs, especially from home, given the COVID-19 pandemic. They report that having the ability to continue to improve Ellie's mouth muscle exercises with the therapy tools and fun straws has been beyond helpful. Ellie's mother writes, "Thank you for allowing my sweet girl to continue to work to reach her full potential."

You can help others like Ellie by donating today to Partners' Urgent Needs Fund: <https://bit.ly/3Ht5lZw>

Meet the *Partners* Team

For over 25 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.” This success is due to people who are passionate about making things happen and have the skills to bring ideas to fruition. In each issue, we introduce staff, Board Members, and our Board of Councilors who have helped shape *Partners*’ success.

Gordon M. Johnson

President, KeyGroup

Partners in Care Foundation Board Member since 1998



Gordon Johnson has devoted his professional career to the health care industry. His 45-year background includes experience in finance and planning in healthcare and senior living settings, focusing on real estate appraisal. He has been involved in several retirement communities and hospital expansions and has been a long-time advocate for at-home healthcare. As a Board Member of the Visiting Nurse Association of Los Angeles (VNLA), he was involved in the creation of *Partners* and has proudly served on the *Partners* Board since its inception. He chaired the Visiting Nurse Community Services (VNCS) Board for many years, as it saved several community-based programs from closing and found new organizations to further those missions. He continues his tenure on the VNCS Board and currently serves on *Partners* Finance Committee.

Although he claims to be retired, he still “answers the phone, and if I like the job, I do it.” He is maintaining his Fellow status with the Healthcare Financial Management Association and The American College of Healthcare Executives, as well as his MAI designation from the Appraisal Institute. He continues to lead docent tours of downtown Los Angeles for the Los Angeles Conservancy as he has for 40 years and relishes his reunions with musical buddies when his old bands are inducted into state rock and roll halls of fame. He received his B.A. degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and an M.B.A. in Health Care Finance from UCLA.

Adriana M. Mendoza, MSW, MAPP

Associate State Director, AARP California

Partners in Care Foundation Board Member since August 2021

Adriana Mendoza currently serves as Associate State Director for AARP California. In this role, Adriana works to position AARP as a trusted resource and leader in local communities, as well as with elected officials, business leaders, and non-profit organizations. Adriana also has statewide responsibilities in

overseeing AARP California's Hispanic/Latino community engagement strategy. Before joining AARP in 2002, Adriana worked for former Congressman Esteban Torres in his district office. She also worked for AltaMed Health Services Corporation, a leading national Latino health services organization in East Los Angeles. With more than 20 years' experience in gerontology and community organizing, she specializes in diversity and aging issues, caregiving, long-term care, and multicultural outreach.

Adriana also serves on UCLA's L.A. Community Academic Partnership for Research in Aging Community Advisory Board and is a current Board member of La Plaza de Cultura y Artes as well. In addition, she is an honorary member of the College of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Jalisco, Mexico. Adriana holds B.A. degrees in Spanish and in Public Policy & Administration from California State University, Bakersfield, as well as a master's degree from UCLA in Social Welfare and a master's degree in Public Policy from Claremont Graduate University. She is also a graduate of the American Society on Aging's New Ventures in Leadership program and alumna of our Geriatric Social Work Education Consortium (GSWEC). Adriana has been a guest lecturer at the University of Guadalajara's Department of Public Health in Jalisco, Mexico, and California State University, Long Beach. Adriana is currently pursuing a PhD in Political Science at Claremont Graduate University.



Spotlight Feature – Board of Councilors

Allen Mathies, MD

Former Chief Executive Officer & President Emeritus, Huntington Hospital



Allen Mathies, MD, is former CEO & President Emeritus of Huntington Hospital, as well as Dean Emeritus of Keck School of Medicine of USC. The Mathies Award was named in honor of Mrs. Weta Mathies and Dr. Mathies' remarkable leadership of the Visiting Nurse Association of Los Angeles (VNA-LA) and as the founding Chair of Partners in Care Foundation. After receiving his MD degree, cum laude, in 1961 from the University of Vermont College of Medicine, Dr. Mathies completed an internship and a residency in pediatrics at LAC+USC Medical Center. In 2000, *Partners* honored Dr. and Mrs. Allen Mathies during the inaugural Tribute Dinner.

Community Health Workers

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are trusted community partners that provide an important link between health services, social services, and the community, helping chronically ill older adults among others, access medical and social services. They focus on improving quality of life for those in need by helping them apply for public benefits such as food stamps and Supplemental Security Income, finding emergency housing, and arranging transportation to appointments, among numerous community resources. CHWs are necessary as they are local and great at establishing trust in communities where that is key to building timely access to health and social care resources needed to optimize their health.

Here at *Partners*, CHWs are employed in the Network Services Division including placement in contracted physician practices, and in Long Term Services and Supports providing participant outreach, care coordination and linkages to community resources.

It is anticipated that Community Health Workers as a workforce is projected to grow as the demand for trusted individuals in the health system grows. *Partners* is working to fill the gaps of doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals by building a local workforce known for establishing trust and helping those in need navigate through the complex health system. Governor Gavin Newsom has called for recruitment and training of up to 25,000 culturally and ethnically diverse Community Health Workers by 2025, and we hope to play a role through continuing to build and much more widely offer our training resource going forward.

With funding from the Archstone Foundation, *Partners* is collaborating with the Los Angeles

Department of Aging, the Center for Health and Social Care Innovation at Rush University Medical Center, and Los Angeles Valley College to launch no-cost Community Health Worker training workshops that educates and trains members from the community to be CHWs and provide social care management both in an office and through home visits.

Blue Shield of California engaged with *Partners* in the past to develop their own Community Health Advocate (CHA) Curriculum that trained members from their community to serve as liaisons between local communities and healthcare resources to reduce social challenges and barriers and achieve positive health outcomes. Their goal was to place these health advocates in medical practices and resource centers throughout the state. An estimated 69 Community Health Workers and Advocates have since been employed through the Blue Shield curriculum and *Partners* continues to support them with monthly webinars and quarterly check-ins.

“This training allowed me to find a job where I have the opportunity to make a difference” said CHA Kristy Malloy. Her dream job was to make an impact on other people’s live and now as a CHA, she can create and advocate for change in the community.

CHA Apryl Avril saw the training as a great opportunity to gain knowledge and experience in the social work and social services industry. She stated, “What you learn from the training can be applied directly to the job.” She found that the training provided an abundance of knowledge that was tremendously useful after joining the workforce.

We are extremely proud of our role in the development of these curriculums that educate and train members from the community to be CHWs and will contribute to the expanding workforce in the new health systems.

Recent News

CEO June Simmons Featured on Community Conversations Podcast

Partners in Care Foundation's CEO and President June Simmons is one of the nation's leading experts on healthcare, and she had the great pleasure of joining Jonathan Weedman on the Community Conversations podcast. June discussed her background in the healthcare industry, and shared her unique perspective, knowledge and understanding about the most urgent issues facing healthcare in our world today.



We are exceptionally grateful for the opportunity to have June guest speak on Jonathan Weedman's podcast. Jonathan Weedman is the former Senior Vice President of the Wells Fargo Foundation and in 2012, was named among the 500 most influential business leaders in Los Angeles by the LA Business Journal. His weekly podcast features interviews with distinguished Los Angeles Community Leaders from the nonprofit, arts, foundation, corporate, civic, and political world. They are extraordinary individuals with extraordinary stories to share, and *Partners* is proud to have June amongst the group to share her story and bring to light the great work the agency is doing for the community.

Direct YouTube Link to June Simmons' Episode:
<https://youtu.be/rvw8ptx24CE>

You can follow his podcast on YouTube:
<https://bit.ly/35nFHYS>

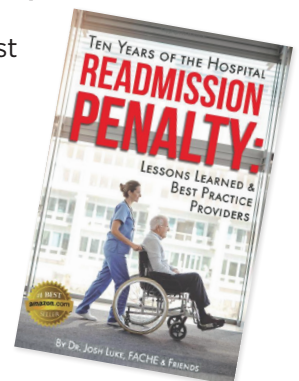
We appreciate this opportunity to highlight all the incredible care coordinator services we offer to assist individuals lead longer, safer, healthier, and fuller lives.

10 Years of the Hospital Readmission Penalty hits #1 Selling Medical E-Book on Launch Day

Our very own VP of Network Services Ester Sefilyan and CEO June Simmons were guest authors in Dr. Josh Luke's new book "Ten Years of the Hospital Readmission Penalty." It became the #1 bestselling medical eBook on launch day and we could not be prouder!

They share real-world data and experiences on how healthcare providers and doctors can work together to prevent avoidable hospitalizations.

If you are interested in picking up the book, it is \$0.99 on Amazon Kindle:
<https://amzn.to/33vYUHg>



Annual Campaign Success

At the end of the year, we asked our supporters to make the coming season easier and brighter for those in need by donating to our Urgent Needs Fund. Thanks to our generous Board of Directors, Board of Councilors, Executive and Senior Staff Members, Foundations, and many other donors and supporters, we were able to change the lives of so many!

**Every dollar made a difference.
We raised over \$66,000!
Because of your generosity, *Partners* helped:**

6 families struggling to care for a loved one with medically complex challenges with household items, nutritious food, transportation vouchers, minor home repairs, and other essentials.

400 older adults with meaningful support, encouragement, and recognition as they achieved significant milestones on the path to better health.

7 frail individuals with one week of skilled respite care for the caregivers.

9 mobile devices with one year of internet service to help older clients combat social isolation and stay connected with friends, family, and clinicians.



4 home repairs to help frail individuals live safely in their home.

6 low-income seniors with nutritious food for the entire month.



19 children with complex medical needs

with cozy pajamas, slippers, and age and medically appropriate toys that we want every child to enjoy during the holidays.

Donate Now
picf.org/donate

Board of Councilors Convenes for its Winter Meeting

Partners is extremely fortunate to have the support and guidance of many outstanding leaders in the healthcare field. Our Board of Councilors represents the pinnacle of those achievers. The Board of Councilors was created as a high-level think tank for our organization. They provide guidance in three key areas:

- Strategic review of *Partners'* initiatives focused on the social determinants of health
- Insights as to how emerging trends and issues may affect those initiatives
- Advice in identifying individuals worthy of nomination to receive *Partners'* prestigious Vision & Excellence in Healthcare Leadership Award.

On January 21, the Board of Councilors convened its semi-annual meeting to learn more about *Partners'* leadership in the national collaborative, *Partnership to Align Social Care - A National Learning and Action Network (Partnership)* and discuss its implications from their various perspectives in the healthcare industry.

The meeting was led by Board of Councilors' co-chairs Lloyd Bookman and Robert Lundy. June Simmons, CEO of *Partners* in Care Foundation and co-chair of the *Partnership*, served as the moderator. June was joined by a prominent panel of *Partnership* members who offered comments and facilitated an

interactive discussion among panelists and Board of Councilors members about some of the key issues that the *Partnership* will be undertaking. Panelists included:

- **Ji Im**, System Senior Director, Community and Population Health, CommonSpirit Health, who set the stage with a discussion focused on Setting the Vision: A View of the Ideal State
- **Tim McNeill**, Freedmen's Health Consultant and Co-Chair of *The Partnership to Align Social Care*, who presented insights on Empowering CBOs and CBO Networks
- **Kelly Cronin**, Federal Liaison to the *Partnership* and Deputy Administrator, Center for Innovation and Partnership, Administration for Community Living, who explored the issue of Building NLE/Network Infrastructure
- **Alexander Billioux, MD**, Vice President, Social Determinants of Health, UnitedHealthCare, who tied the presentation together with comments on his views on Advocacy to Get Us to the Future State and the Value of this Work

For more information about the Aligning Social Care Initiative, don't miss our article in this newsletter! For more information about Partners in Care Foundation Board of Councilors and to read the biographies of its 33 members, be sure to visit us at <https://www.picf.org/about-us/board-of-councilors/>.

A Special Thank You CommonSpirit Health - \$100,000

Partners in Care Foundation has received this generous award on behalf of the *Partnership to Align Health Care - A National Learning & Action Network (Partnership)*. CommonSpirit Health has designated

this funding for the purpose of supporting the *Partnership*, particularly to cover unmet core expenses, staffing, and initiating the initiative's project communication plan. The *Partnership's* primary and initial funder is Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. CommonSpirit has stepped up with the next major gift intended to fill gaps and ensure that the initiative is off to a sound and productive start.



Council for the Future – *Meet Fran Hanckel*

We are honored to highlight some of our long-time donors who are now participating in our Council for the Future. The Council for the Future is Partners' way of recognizing and saying thank you to generous donors who have created a legacy gift for the benefit of Partners in their estate plan.

Reflecting on her long career in health care, Fran Hanckel says that her real education was on the job. She is grateful for the opportunity to have learned from so many of the senior physicians, managers, Board Members, and staff with whom she worked as well as when she was a grad student at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Several of the faculty helped her learn new subjects as well as obtain a grant to complete her dissertation.

Fran also recalls early learning in situations focused on change through advocacy experiences including anti-war marches, government visits and vigils that she began in her late teens and continued for a decade. All of this work laid the groundwork for her to later recognize the need for change in the healthcare systems.

Fran was the Vice President of Planning at the University of Maryland Medical System in Baltimore and the Associate Health Director and Chief Planning Officer at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia. Later she was the Chief Administrative Officer of Long Beach Memorial Hospital and then an executive in the Memorial Care System focused on system wide internal services like IT that support the clinical services. This helped her grow professionally and spurred her to better understand what we really need today is healthcare outside the hospital.



With such a rich background, it isn't surprising that Fran became acquainted with June Simmons, founding CEO of *Partners*. The two met many years ago when June created an informal executive women's leadership group. She loved June's energy and vision and has been a devoted fan until this day. Fran was an active member of the Board of Directors of Partners in Care Foundation serving 20 years, including two years as Board Chair.

She has continued in an Emeritus mentoring role ever since.

We deeply appreciate her leadership in the field and her many, very important contributions to Partners in Care Foundation. As a member of our Council for the Future, Fran's generous gesture of naming *Partners* as a beneficiary of a major portion of her estate plan will help to ensure that the efforts of her life's work will be realized.

If you would like to create a legacy for yourself and your family, please speak with your legal and financial advisors about making a Planned Gift to Partners in Care Foundation today.

For more information about how you can support our work and create a lasting legacy, please contact Karen Schneider, Vice President Development, at kschneider@picf.org or (818) 837-3775 extension 121.

Partners in Care Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts of all sizes are welcome and appreciated. When making a charitable donation, please use the following information and pass it along to your advisors: Legal Name: Partners in Care Foundation, Inc. EIN: 95-3954057

22nd Annual Tribute Dinner

Monday, June 20, 2022 • The Beverly Hilton Hotel

Join us for *Partners'* 22nd Annual Tribute Dinner at the Beverly Hilton Hotel
or from your remote location!

Vision & Excellence in Healthcare Leadership Award



Arthur M. Southam, MD

Executive Vice President Health Plan
Operations Kaiser Permanente

Read Dr. Southam's interview here:
<https://bit.ly/3sfQJYU>

Champion For Health Award



Sachin H. Jain, MD

President & Chief Executive Officer,
SCAN Group and SCAN Health Plan

Read Dr. Jain's interview here:
<https://bit.ly/3BLyn5g>

2022 Honorary Tribute Co-Chairs

Tom Gordon, Chairman of the Board, DSL Construction

Linda Rosenstock, MD, MPH, Dean Emeritus, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

2022 Tribute Dinner Committee Chair

Jennifer Heenan, Partner, Spencer Stuart

Can we count on you to become a 2022 sponsor?

Sponsorship of this event enables us to help people live their best lives, teaching them to manage chronic diseases, stay out of medical facilities, avoid readmissions, and defeat the twin scourges of social isolation and loneliness. Your heroic support allows us to tend to the needs of vulnerable members throughout our communities. Heroes like you make a difference – become a sponsor now!

Tribute Journal Ad Deadline: May 2, 2022

Ticket Deadline: June 6, 2022

For more information, please visit our website:
picf.org/events/tribute-dinner/

To purchase sponsorships, tribute advertisements,
in-person tickets, and virtual tickets, register here:
<https://bit.ly/3t2i3sR>



Partners in Care
FOUNDATION™

Driving alignment between
social care & health care

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Introducing Partners' Urgent Needs Fund and Two New Ways to Donate!

Partners has established an Urgent Needs Fund to meet the critical needs of the very low-income people we serve. When funding is unavailable from any other public or private source, our Urgent Needs Fund can contribute to the health and safety of our participants by making one-time purchases such as emergency housing support, adaptive equipment, home ramps, and other modifications essential to continued safe community living. These one-time investments change the course of lives by addressing basic human needs of safety and comfort and are key to dramatic life changes.

One way to contribute to our Urgent Needs Fund is to make a donation "In Memory" or "In Honor" of someone in your life. It is a thoughtful way to pay tribute to people and events that are important to you while also giving back to others! Your generous donation will go towards our Urgent Needs Fund to pay for essential transformative solutions for people enrolled in our safety net programs.

Giving is safe and easy! Use this link to learn more:

<https://bit.ly/3Ht5lZw>