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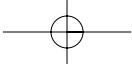
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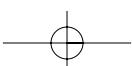
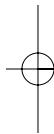
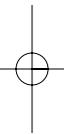
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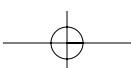
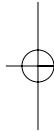
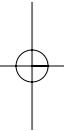
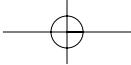


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# HEALTH ISSUES IN THE LATINO COMMUNITY

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# HEALTH ISSUES IN THE LATINO COMMUNITY

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Marilyn Aguirre-Molina, Carlos W. Molina,  
and Ruth Enid Zambrana, Editors

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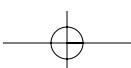
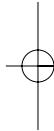
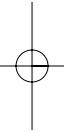
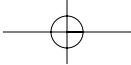
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## FOREWORD

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This book, *Health Issues in the Latino Community*, comes at a critical juncture, both in terms of our nation's health objectives for the twenty-first century and the growing body of research on the health status of Latinos in the United States.

It has now become clear “that the health of the individual is almost inseparable from the health of the larger community and that the health of every community in every State and territory determines the overall health status of the Nation.”<sup>1</sup> This is the underlying premise of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' nationwide health promotion and disease prevention agenda, accordingly entitled *Healthy People 2010: Healthy People in Healthy Communities*.

Consequently, the disparities in health among racial/ethnic population groups in the United States such as Latinos—soon to become the largest minority group in the United States—have a negative impact on the health of America as a whole. The United States, the richest country in the world, ranks only twentieth in quality and years of healthy life, lagging behind poorer countries such as Costa Rica, Greece, and Spain. Recent health gains for the U.S. population as a whole reflect achievements among the higher socioeconomic groups; lower socioeconomic groups continue to lag behind.

Thanks to the nationally recognized Latino researchers, scholars, educators, and activists—who through this publication have provided us with the most current health data, as well as in-depth and insightful analyses of the health issues

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2001). *Healthy people 2010: Understanding and improving health*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Government Printing Office.

and socioeconomic conditions affecting Latinos—we can see what is “critical” about this juncture.

Diabetes and other chronic conditions among Latinos, such as asthma, continue to present a serious obstacle in public health. Alcohol and other substance abuse, violence (homicide as well as suicide), and abusive behavior (such as domestic violence) continue to ravage Latino homes and communities across the country. Mental disorders among Latinos continue to go undiagnosed and untreated. Obesity among Latino children, adolescents, and adults has significantly increased over the past two decades. Smoking among Latino adolescents has increased in the past decade. And HIV/AIDS remains a serious health problem, now disproportionately affecting Latino women and youth. Furthermore, Latinos have the highest uninsured rates of all racial/ethnic groups in the United States, and have to navigate a health care system that is often unfamiliar with—and sometimes hostile to—their culture, language, and beliefs.

The contents of this publication also reintroduces us the “epidemiological paradox” (that is, high poverty but favorable infant mortality and low birth rates) among Mexican Americans as a way to remind us of two things: first, the importance of conducting intergenerational, longitudinal studies within groups; and second, how incomplete the picture of Latino health is, given the paucity of health data and research on the health status of the various Latino nationality groups—specifically, Central and South Americans, including Salvordoreans, Dominicans, Columbians, Guatemalans, and others.

Fortunately, unlike its earlier 1994 edition, *Latino Health in the U.S.: A Growing Challenge*, this publication is no longer the only book solely dedicated to the health of Latinos. It does, however, continue to be an important source of reference for students of public health and medicine, policymakers, academicians, health care professionals and advocates, as well as many other individuals and institutions concerned about the nation’s health, not just Latino health.

One truism of public health is that knowledge gained from studying one group usually benefits many others. Therefore, the increased knowledge gained from research about the health status of Latinos will without a doubt result in findings that will contribute to the improvement of the delivery of health care services to—and the health of—all Americans.

*Raul Yzaguirre*  
*President*  
*National Council of La Raza*  
*Washington, D.C.*

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## PREFACE

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This book represents a second effort to place between two covers a comprehensive and integrated review of the health and health status of Latinos living in the United States. Our earlier book, *Latino Health in the United States: A Growing Challenge* (1994), was and continues to be the first effort of its kind. Since that time, several developments have occurred. These developments provide the basis for a book that provides current analyses of events affecting the health of Latinos. Among recent developments are

- The increase in data sources that include ethnic identifiers and enable the inclusion of more and accurate data in this book.
- Changes in the health care market and the strong presence of managed care, which are affecting Latinos.
- Changes in federal immigration and welfare policies that have implication for the health and well-being of Latinos.
- Demographic changes that result in Latinos becoming the largest ethnic or racial group in the nation.

The purpose of the book is to

- Provide a profile—demographic and health status—of Latino populations in the United States by subgroup.
- Describe and analyze key issues affecting the health and health care of Latinos.
- Identify research needs, policy issues, and/or implications for programs and practice.
- Stimulate thinking on viable actions to address the needs of Latinos.

Very often books on Latino health focus on one aspect of their condition, such as mental health, women's health, drug abuse, and so on. While these efforts make important contributions to an understanding of the community's health needs, they often do not provide the reader with the "whole picture" or complete profile of Latinos. This book strives toward that end. It addresses key and critical health issues that affect Latinos' health so as to inform practice, program planning, research, and policy—good health policy and programs evolve from good information.

The book is divided into six parts. The first part, Latino Populations in the United States, defines Latinos and summarizes key health status indicators. Chapter One provides sociodemographic information and describes changes within the Latino community as it raises critical questions for the reader's consideration. It also provides an economic and demographic profile of Latinos by subgroups, with analyses of changing demographic patterns and their implications for the health and health care systems. The second chapter provides an overview of current available data sets as well as a discussion of the persistent lack of data on Latinos. The data on morbidity and mortality indicators (for children and adults) are summarized and the factors that influence their health status presented (including socioeconomic status, insurance coverage, and behavioral risk factors). Chapter Three looks at the changes in the health care market that are affecting consumers in numerous ways with regard to access to care and the quality of care rendered. This chapter describes and analyzes these changes as they affect Latinos. Special attention is given to issues such as the effects of managed care, devolution, insurance rates among Latinos, health care for immigrants, and so on.

Part Two, entitled Latino Life Stages and Health, reviews the special health needs of Latinos from birth through the golden years. In Chapter Four the authors review the available data on the health of Latino children and youth, ages zero to eighteen. They include an overview of access to care, preventive care (such as immunization), acute and chronic illnesses, intentional and unintentional injury, and infant health issues. Morbidity and mortality indicators for infants, children, and youth by subgroup and gender are also presented. The following chapters address the health status of Latinas with a focus on maternal and child health. Chapter Five examines behaviors during the prenatal period across groups and the influence of a number of socioeconomic variables, cultural factors, and the systems of care used by Latinas. The sixth chapter examines the health and social status of elderly Latinos with a particular emphasis on risk and protective factors, as well as the socioeconomic and sociocultural factors that affect their well-being. The last chapter in Part Two reviews and analyzes the empirical data on the mental health of Latinos. The authors review sociocultural factors, migration, and acculturation, among others, and their influence on diagnostic and treatment processes. They also present the limitations of existing research and identify areas in need of inquiry.

Part Three, *Patterns of Chronic Diseases Among Latinos*, reviews chronic conditions as they affect Latinos. The four chapters deal independently with cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS. Each chapter compares morbidity and mortality patterns across ethnic racial groups and describes their corresponding risk factors. The socioeconomic and sociocultural factors that play a role in each disease are also presented.

The two chapters in Part Four, *Occupational Health and the Latino Workforce*, examine data on the rates of occupational disease among urban and rural Latino workers who are employed in various industries and work settings. Chapter Thirteen on rural health goes beyond the health of workers in rural settings and examines the overall conditions of Latinos living in rural communities.

The fifth part, *Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use Among Latinos*, contains three chapters that provide a comprehensive review of empirical studies describing patterns of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among Latinos. Each chapter examines the social, cultural, and other risk factors that influence specific drug use among Latinos. Chapter Fourteen presents public policy and other programmatic interventions for addressing alcohol problems. Chapter Fifteen analyzes the recent tobacco settlements and how it might affect Latinos. Drug use and its effect on Latino adults and youth is the focus of Chapter Sixteen.

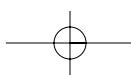
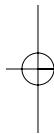
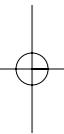
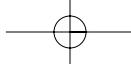
Part Six brings the book to a close with a discussion of policy and programmatic interventions that are needed to address the needs of the Latino community.

Please note that the term “Latino” is used throughout this book instead of “Hispanic.” Nevertheless, the reader should be aware of the fact that much epidemiological data have been collected using “Hispanic” as the operational label. For a discussion of these issues see Hayes-Bautista and Chapa (1987) and Treveno, 1987.

As we progress into the new millennium, our nation is on the cusp of a massive demographic transformation. Latinos are central to these changes. If our nation is to remain a productive leader of industrialized nations, then it cannot ignore the health and well-being of one of its largest and youngest population groups. If Latinos are not healthy, participating members of American society, then we all suffer as a nation. It is the humble desire of the editors of this publication that the materials contained herein serve to guide the formation of policies, programs, and research to ensure a healthy Latino citizenry.

*New York*  
*New York*  
*Chevy Chase, Maryland*  
*March, 2001*

*Marilyn Aguirre-Molina*  
*Carlos W. Molina*  
*Ruth Enid Zambrana*



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A project of this scale and scope can only be achieved by the goodwill and hard work of those who believe it is important. This proved to be the case in the preparation of this book. There are many that assisted in the production of this comprehensive volume on Latino health. The editors would like to acknowledge their contributions and express our appreciation.

I'd like to go back to the beginning of the project and thank those who not only supported the idea of a book on Latino health but also enabled it to become a reality. In some ways, they were the *padrinos* (godparents) of this project. In this instance, a special word of appreciation goes to Stephen Isaacs, a good friend and colleague from my days at The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Steve thought the book was important, and he facilitated discussions with Andy Paster-nack, Senior Editor, Health Series, at Jossey-Bass Publishers. That first meeting resulted in our publisher's interest in this project.

One of our other *padrinos* was the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health (OMH), under the direction of Nathan Stinson, Jr., Ph.D., M.D., MPH, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health. We'd like to thank the OMH for the support that enabled the preparation of the manuscript. They believed that this book was needed and that it would make an important contribution to the field. A very special word of thanks, *y un gran abrazo* (a big embrace), goes to Olivia Carter-Pokras, Ph.D., Director, Division of Policy and Data, OMH, who is the ultimate personification of the good *madrina* (godmother). She facilitated our process with the OMH and was a constant source of information, sharing existing and new data as they became available.

Thanks also to Jeannette Noltenius, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Latino Council on Alcohol and Tobacco, who was especially helpful in coordinating all of the administrative processes related to the OMH.

Of course this book would not exist if it were not for the contributions of the authors who wrote the chapters. We thank them for their hard work and for being such good colleagues. Their cooperation and response to our suggestions or requests for revisions made this process manageable and productive. Each and every one of them is respected for their contributions to the fields in which they work. We are especially proud that all are Latinos who are also contributing to a better understanding of Latinos in the United States. *Mil gracias* (many, many thanks) for your commitment to this project.

A special word of appreciation must be given to those who were of monumental help to the editors as we carried out the many activities—both editorial and administrative—that are required to produce a text of this magnitude. We'd like to thank Gina Arias, Maria Moreno, and Janna Stefanek, Graduate Research Assistants at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. Thanks also to Laura Logie, Research Project Coordinator in the Women's Studies Department at the University of Maryland.

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M.A.M.

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## THE EDITORS

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### **Marilyn Aguirre-Molina, Ed.D.**

Dr. Aguirre-Molina is currently a professor of public health at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University in New York City. Prior to joining the Columbia faculty she served as the executive vice president of the California Endowment, and as a senior program officer at The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Preceding her work within philanthropy she was an associate professor in the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Department of Environmental and Community Medicine. In this capacity she taught within the MD/MPH program and engaged in applied research.

The focus of Dr. Aguirre-Molina's work is on program development and applied research that address public health approaches to the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug problems among young people. She has published in this area of study. Dr. Aguirre-Molina is or has been a member of various national boards and committees, including the National Institutes of Health–National Advisory Council of the NIAAA, the NIAAA panel on College Drinking, and the National Council of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. She also serves on the National Board of the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning, and is on the editorial board of the *Journal for Public Health Policy*.

As a Kellogg Foundation Fellow, Dr. Aguirre-Molina traveled extensively in order to study the political economy of selected developing countries.

She currently serves as a consultant to The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's substance abuse agenda. She also serves on the selection panel of the Johnson & Johnson Community Health Care Program (corporate giving).

In addition to her interest in substance abuse, Dr. Aguirre-Molina has worked extensively on and written about Latino health policy issues. This is her second edited book on the health of Latino populations in the United States. The first book, *Latino Health in the U.S.: A Growing Challenge*, was published in 1994.

Dr. Aguirre-Molina received a bachelor of science degree (*cum laude*) in health sciences from Hunter College–City University of New York. In addition, she attended Columbia University where she received a master of science degree in community health and a doctorate in health education and administration.

### **Carlos W. Molina, Ed.D.**

Dr. Molina is currently professor of community health education at York College of the City University of New York, where he has also served as the provost. The focus of his teaching and writings is on health administration, as well as behavioral health. From 1990 to 1992, he served as the CEO of Lincoln Hospital of the Health and Hospitals Corporation of New York City, the country's largest public hospital system. Dr. Molina is currently the president of the board of the Latino Council on Alcohol and Tobacco. He has served on the boards of directors of the national Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Alan Guttmacher Institute, SIECUS, as well as numerous other national and local boards and committees. In 1993, he was elected to a four-year term on the Executive Board of the American Public Health Association. Dr. Molina is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Public Health Policy*. He has written extensively on Latino health. His most prominent work on the subject is a book he co-edited in 1994, *Latino Health in the U.S.: A Growing Challenge*.

### **Ruth Enid Zambrana, M.S.W., Ph.D.**

Dr. Zambrana is currently a professor in the women's studies department at the University of Maryland. She was formerly the Elisabeth Shirley Enochs Professor of Child Welfare in the Social Work Program at George Mason University (1993–1999), a visiting senior research scientist at the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (1992–1993), and a faculty member at the UCLA School of Social Welfare for ten years. Her work has focused on the multiple factors (poverty, psychosocial factors, and health behaviors) that contribute to the health status of low-income groups, with emphasis on maternal and child health, as well as on Latino children and families. Her book *Understanding Latino Families: Scholarship, Policy and Practice* (1996) is an edited volume that encourages a new discourse on the Latino population in the United States. She serves on several editorial boards and is a member of the board of directors of Family Support America. She completed a fellowship with the National Hispana Leadership Institute (1998–1999).

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## THE CONTRIBUTORS

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### **Margarita Alegría, Ph.D.**

Dr. Alegría is professor of health services research and director of the Center for Sociomedical Research and Evaluation at the School of Public Health, University of Puerto Rico. Dr. Alegría is currently the principal investigator of the National Institute of Mental Health-funded Latino Research Program Project (LRPP), which focuses on research to improve the mental health care for Latino populations. She is part of a multisite collaborative on disparities in mental health care. Dr. Alegría has served as a consultant for the Secretary of Mental Health of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in the development of a strategic plan for AIDS prevention and in the design of mental health services. She serves on the board of directors for the Children's Foundation and the Felisa Rincón De Gautier Foundation. Her published works focus on the areas of mental health services research, conceptual and methodological issues with minority populations, and HIV risk behaviors.

### **Hortensia Amaro, Ph.D.**

Dr. Amaro is professor of social and behavioral sciences at Boston University School of Public Health. For the last twenty years, Dr. Amaro has conducted research on social and behavioral factors related to HIV, mental health, and alcohol and drug abuse. She has developed and evaluated prevention programs targeted at adolescent and adult female populations. She has written on the central roles of gender, race, ethnicity, and culture in HIV risk among women and has

articulated frameworks for understanding the context of women's risk. Her work includes "Love, Sex and Power: Considering Women's Realities in HIV Prevention," published in the *American Psychologist* in 1995 and "On the Margin: Power and Women's HIV Risk Reduction Strategies" (2000). Dr. Amaro has received awards from local, state, and national organizations for her work as a public health advocate and researcher.

### **Kathryn Azevedo, Ph.D., ATRIC**

Dr. Azevedo coordinates clinical trials as a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University Medical Center and is a senior research associate at the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute in Claremont, California. Dr. Azevedo examined the issue of Latino underenrollment in California public insurance programs and ways to increase enrollment of eligible nonparticipating Latinos.

Her research focuses on community-based rehabilitation, disability issues, farm worker health, chronic pain, and access to medical services among California's rural poor. She has worked for the California Institute for Rural Studies, Centers for Disease Control, UCSF-Mt. Zion Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine, and other research centers.

### **Joseph R. Betancourt, M.D., M.P.H.**

Dr. Betancourt is an assistant professor of medicine and public health at New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Medical College of Cornell University. As associate director of Cornell's Center for Multicultural and Minority Health, Dr. Betancourt's research has focused on crosscultural medicine, minority recruitment into the health professions, and minority health and health policy. He currently is a principal investigator of several large-scale grants, including "Understanding Racial Differences in Lung Cancer Treatment." Dr. Betancourt serves on the New York Academy of Medicine's Racial/Ethnic Disparities Working Group, the Greater New York Hospital Association's Steering Committee on Racial/Ethnic Disparities, the New York Hospital Community Health Plan's Medical Management Committee, and the CDC's National Expert Council for the Diabetes Today Program. He is a reviewer for several medical journals and has published in the areas of crosscultural primary care and ethnic and racial disparities.

### **Raul Caetano, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D.**

Dr. Caetano is a psychiatrist and epidemiologist who has been working in public health for twenty-two years. Presently, he is a professor of epidemiology and assistant dean, Dallas Master of Public Health Program, Houston School of Public Health, University of Texas.

From 1983 to 1998 he was at the Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, California, where he was the director and principal investigator of a National Alcohol Research Center grant.

Dr. Caetano has written extensively about alcohol problems among U.S. ethnic minorities, especially among Latinos; his is the seminal research on Latinos and tobacco use. He currently is the principal investigator on a NIAAA/NIH MERIT Award to examine the relationship between alcohol and intimate partner violence across ethnic groups in the United States.

Dr. Caetano has served as a committee member for the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and he has been a consultant for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the World Health Organization, and numerous other agencies. He is a member of various editorial boards, and he is also associate editor for *Addiction*.

### **J. Emilio Carrillo, M.D., M.P.H.**

Dr. Carrillo served in the faculties of Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health for ten years. He is now assistant professor of medicine at Weill Medical College of Cornell University.

In 1990, Dr. Carrillo was recruited through a national search to head the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. As the twelfth President of the nation's largest municipal hospital system, he implemented a multitude of health promotion efforts directed at minority communities.

In 1993, Dr. Carrillo joined the New York Hospital Network where he directs several research initiatives to promote primary care development and health promotion. He also helped develop a Medicaid Managed Care program for what is now the New York Presbyterian Hospital Network, where he serves as medical director.

### **Olivia Carter-Pokras, Ph.D.**

Dr. Carter-Pokras is the director of the Division of Policy and Data at the Office of Minority Health in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Dr. Carter-Pokras has more than nineteen years of experience in the collection, analysis, and presentation of health data; development of national health goals and objectives; and development of health policy. Dr. Carter-Pokras co-chairs the Working Group on Racial and Ethnic Data of the DHHS Data Council, and chaired the Hispanic work group of the federal Interagency Committee for the Review of the Racial and Ethnic Standards and the Healthy People 2000 Working Group for Hispanic Americans.

### **Alberto Coustasse, M.D., M.B.A., M.P.H.**

Dr. Coustasse is a research associate at the School of Public Health at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. He also serves as Institutional Researcher at the Osteopathic Health System of Texas.

Dr. Coustasse served as the medical director of the Health and Rehabilitation Centers of the National Defense Pension Fund [CAPREDENA], the Chilean equivalent of the Veteran Affairs, from 1995 to 1999. From 1994 to 1995, he served as the national director of the same institution.

His research has focused on community interventions in cardiovascular disease and health administration issues.

### **Angelo Falcón, M.A.**

Falcón is the senior policy executive at the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund (PRLDEF) in New York City, where he also directs the Institute for Puerto Rican Policy. As a political scientist, Falcón has written extensively on Puerto Rican and Latino policy issues and politics. He is the co-author of *Latino Voices: Mexican, Puerto Rican, and Cuban Perspectives on American Politics* (1992) and of *Latino Politics: A Select Research Bibliography* (1991). His research has been published in the *Journal of American Politics*, the *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Science*, *New Community*, and other journals and books. He is a graduate of Columbia College and he completed his graduate work at the State University of New York at Albany, which awarded him the 1991 Distinguished Alumni Medal.

### **Glenn Flores, M.D.**

Dr. Flores is an assistant professor of pediatrics and public health at the Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health. He founded and is the director of the Pediatric Latino Clinic at Boston Medical Center. He is a Robert Wood Johnson Minority Medical Faculty Scholar, for which he received a four-year grant to examine avoidable hospitalizations in children. He has published more than thirty articles and book chapters on access barriers to health care for Latino children, the impact of ethnicity, family income, and parental education on children's health and use of health services, and cultural competency in health care.

Dr. Flores currently serves on the Health Care Research and Training study section of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). He co-chairs the Latino Health Consortium of the American Academy of Pediatrics Center for Child Health Research. He was recently nominated to be a member of the Advisory Committee on Minority Health for the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

### **George Friedman-Jiménez, M.D., Dr.P.H.**

Dr. Friedman-Jiménez is currently an assistant professor with the New York University School of Medicine, Bellevue Hospital. Dr. Friedman-Jiménez currently directs the Bellevue Occupational Medical Clinic. He received his board

certifications in internal medicine (1985) and preventive medicine (1990). Dr. Friedman-Jiménez's research interests lie in the field of occupational epidemiology.

**Frank Hector Galvan, M.S.W., Ph.D.**

Dr. Galvan is currently a postdoctoral fellow (NIMH) with the Drew Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services at the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. He has written numerous publications on HIV/AIDS in Mexican and Mexican American men. He has worked extensively as a clinical social worker in the Los Angeles area.

**Aida L. Giachello, M.S.W., Ph.D.**

Dr. Giachello is currently an associate professor at Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago, and founder and director of the Midwest Latino Health Research Training and Policy Center.

She has worked with federal agencies such as the National Center for Health Statistics, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, DHHS Office of Minority Health, and U.S. Office of the Surgeon General. Dr. Giachello has published extensively on maternal and child health and chronic conditions, such as asthma and diabetes, among Latinos.

**Andres G. Gil, M.S.W., Ph.D.**

In 1994, Dr. Gil joined the faculty at the School of Family Studies at the University of Connecticut as an assistant professor. Currently he is an associate professor at the College of Health and Urban Affairs, and associate director for research in the School of Social Work, at Florida International University, Miami, Florida. His current research and publications continue to concentrate on adolescent substance use, including the study of risk, protective, and cultural factors associated with substance use and the treatment and prevention of substance use among Latino youth. He is also the co-author of *Drug Use and Ethnicity During Early Adolescence* (1999).

**Teresa Juarbe, R.N., Ph.D.**

Dr. Juarbe is an assistant professor at the School of Nursing at the University of California, San Francisco. During the last twelve years, she has been involved in cardiovascular health research with Latinos. Her current research focuses on the promotion of heart health for aging Latina women, in particular the assessment of cardiovascular disease-related physical activity and dietary behaviors. She is

also conducting research on breast cancer screening for underserved ethnic women. She is currently the principal investigator of the Latinas Heart Health Project.

### **José Alejandro Luchsinger, M.D., M.P.H.**

Dr. Luchsinger is currently an assistant professor of clinical medicine with Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City. He has received awards and honors including The Anne C. Gelman Award for Excellence in Epidemiology from Columbia University School of Public Health (1999); and The Best Scientific Abstract by a fellow with a paper on the use of antibiotics and risk of myocardial infarction at the Mid-Atlantic Regional meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine, Washington, D.C. (1999). Dr. Luchsinger's current research interests are in the association between diabetes and insulin resistance and dementia and its mechanisms.

### **Gerardo Marín, Ph.D.**

Dr. Marín is currently a professor of psychology and senior associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of San Francisco, where he has been since 1982.

He was the senior scientific editor of the 1998 Surgeon General's Report on Tobacco Use.

He has received numerous awards including Distinguished Research Award from the University of San Francisco (1995), Interamerican Psychology Award for Contributions to the Development of Psychology as a Science and a Profession in the Americas from the Interamerican Society of Psychology (1995), and Distinguished Lifetime Service Award from the University of San Francisco (1996).

Dr. Marín is involved in the Interamerican Society of Psychology, International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, National Hispanic Psychological Association, American Psychological Association, and International Association of Applied Psychology. His current research interests include identifying the predictors of tobacco use among Latino children and the study of acculturation.

### **Gina Moreno-John, M.D.**

Dr. Moreno-John is currently an assistant clinical professor of medicine at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), in the division of General Internal Medicine. She is also a co-investigator at the UCSF Resource Center for Aging Research in Diverse Populations, National Institute of Aging Grant. Other research includes improving strategies for the recruitment and retention of minorities into clinical research studies. In addition, she has been awarded a Junior Faculty Development Award with the UCSF National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, Community Outreach Project. Dr. Moreno-John's other academic interests include adolescent health care, smoking cessation and tobacco policy, and obesity and eating disorders.

**Rafael Moure-Eraso, Ph.D., C.I.H.**

Dr. Moure-Eraso is a professor at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, College of Engineering, Department of Work Environment. He has conducted research in work environment policy, cleaner production, and industrial hygiene since 1988. Dr. Moure-Eraso gained extensive experience in worker health issues during his fourteen years as an industrial hygienist of the Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union and the United Automobile Workers.

Dr. Moure-Eraso has been a member of the National Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health of the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA. He serves on the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the Board of Advisors of the National Toxicology Program of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

**Hilda Ochoa Bogue, R.N., C.H.E.S., M.S.**

Ochoa Bogue worked for ten years as a nurse in the Mexican Social Security System, and for two years at McDonough County Hospital in Illinois.

Her professional work has focused on increasing understanding of cultural differences in health care; improving the health status of the medically indigent; and assisting migrant farmworkers, refugees, and other Latino populations receive access to health services.

She received a one-year MATCH clinical fellowship from the National Association of Community Health Centers to learn clinical administration. She received didactic training at Johns Hopkins University and was placed at the Colorado Migrant Health Program. For the past seven years, she has served as coordinator of migrant health services for Community Health of South Dade, Inc., (CHI) operating two migrant health clinics near Homestead, Florida, and additional programs that provided primary health care and dental services to Haitian and Cuban refugees. She then worked as the coordinator of grants management and presently she is the director of planning and development for CHI.

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Dr. Pérez-Stable is a professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine, and chief, Division of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine, UCSF. He completed a Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation fellowship in general internal medicine. Dr. Pérez-Stable's research has focused on risk factor reduction interventions for Latino populations and health care issues of minorities.

Dr. Pérez-Stable has studied social and cultural factors in communication between Latino patients and their Anglo physicians by evaluating the effect of

language ability on medical outcomes and culture-specific barriers to communication. Dr. Pérez-Stable is co-director of the University of California at San Francisco Medical Effectiveness Research Center for Diverse Populations (MERC) and director of the Center for Aging in Diverse Communities (CADC).

### **Amelie G. Ramirez, Dr.P.H.**

Dr. Ramirez is associate professor of medicine and deputy director, Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. She also serves as associate director for Community Research and Program Leader for the Cancer Prevention and Health Promotion Program of the San Antonio Cancer Institute. Dr. Ramirez is a principal investigator for several grants of *Redes En Acción: Cancer Awareness, Research and Training*; program director of the replication of the *A Su Salud En Acción* Program; *Prevention*; and of a smoking prevention program funded by the Texas Department of Health and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. From 1992 to 2000, she was principal investigator of the National Cancer Institute–funded National Hispanic Leadership Initiative on Cancer: *En Acción*.

Dr. Ramirez received a White House appointment to the National Cancer Advisory Board. She has served on the National Cancer Policy Board of the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine and Commission of Life Sciences.

Dr. Ramirez has received awards including the Dr. LaSalle D. Leffall, Jr., Cancer Prevention Award from the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

### **Lucina Suarez, M.S., Ph.D.**

Dr. Suarez, a senior scientist at the Texas Department of Health, has worked in the field of epidemiology for twenty-five years. At the Texas Department of Health, she directs the Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Evaluation Research Section of the Office of the Associate Commissioner for Disease Control and Prevention. She has published extensively on cancer-related issues in Hispanic populations, including evaluations of community interventions, survey research, and cancer epidemiology. She has served on numerous special review committees for the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and is consultant to and co-chair of the Clinical and Research Committee for *Redes En Acción: Cancer Awareness, Research and Training*.

### **Fernando M. Torres-Gil, Ph.D.**

Dr. Torres-Gil is the associate dean for academic affairs and professor of social welfare and policy studies at the School of Public Policy and Social Research, University of California, Los Angeles, as well as director of the school's Center for Policy Research on Aging. Previously, he was a professor of gerontology and public administration at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Torres-Gil is an expert in the fields of health and long-term care, the politics of aging, social policy, ethnicity, and disability. He is the author of four books and more than seventy articles and book chapters, including *The New Aging: Politics and Change in America* (1992). He was elected a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (1985) and the National Academy of Public Administration (1995). He served as president of the American Society on Aging (1989–1992) and is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance. Dr. Torres-Gil is a winner of the National Council on Aging's Ollie A. Randall Award bestowed for leadership on behalf of older persons.

He served as the first-ever Assistant Secretary for Aging in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and as a member of the president's Welfare Reform Working Group. He sits on the board of directors of the Families USA Foundation, the Older Women's League, and the AARP Andrus Foundation.

#### **Fernando M. Treviño, Ph.D., M.P.H.**

Dr. Treviño is professor and founding dean of the School of Public Health at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. He also serves as a past president of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, and was the executive director of the American Public Health Association in Washington, D.C., from 1993 to 1996, and executive editor of the *American Journal of Public Health*.

Dr. Treviño was one of the founders of the national Medicine and Public Health Initiative and served as co-chair from 1994 to 1996. He served as the co-chair of the National Congress on Medicine and Public Health held in March 1996; as a senior scientist at the American Medical Association from 1984 to 1986; and as a social science analyst at the National Center for Health Statistics from 1980 to 1984. At the National Center for Health Statistics, Dr. Treviño served as the principal consultant to the design, implementation, and analysis of the Hispanic Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Dr. Treviño has served on the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (was the founding chair of its Subcommittee on Minority Health Statistics); the Institute of Medicine's Access to Health Care Monitoring Panel; and the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Cancer Research Among Minorities and the Underserved, among others.

#### **Dellanira Valencia, M.A.**

Valencia's research focuses on HIV/AIDS prevention, at Boston University and at the University of California San Francisco, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (UCSF/CAPS). Currently, she is the project manager for a collaborative research study with UCSF/CAPS and the San Francisco Department of Public Health. This study examines the policy influence of California's HIV prevention planning groups on HIV/AIDS prevention policy. Her research includes examination of domestic and familial violence with a concentration on Latina

women, juvenile susceptibility to interrogation pressures and their understanding of the Miranda warning, and others.

**Rodolfo R. Vega, Ph.D.**

Dr. Vega is a senior consultant at JSI Research and Training, Inc. He also serves as an adjunct professor in the School of Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and at Simmons College. His research focuses in the areas of migration, acculturation, mental health, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse prevention, and healthy communities.

**William A. Vega, Ph.D.**

Dr. Vega is a professor of psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. His also holds the position of associate director, Institute for Quality, Research, and Training, University of Behavioral Health Care. He was formerly a professor of public health at the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Vega has conducted field research projects about health, mental health, and substance abuse in various regions of the United States (East and West coasts) and Mexico. His specialty is comparative health research, and immigrant social adaptation and mental health adjustments that occur with adolescents and adults. He has published more than 100 articles, chapters, and books on these topics.

Most recently he was a member of the Institute of Medicine advisory group on youth risk behaviors. Dr. Vega has served on numerous National Institutes of Health technical committees and as a consultant to the World Health Organization for assessment of mental health problems.

**Valentine M. Villa, Ph.D.**

Dr. Villa is an adjunct assistant professor with the University of California at Los Angeles School of Public Health, Department of Community Health Sciences, and senior research associate with the University of California at Los Angeles Center for Health Policy Research. Her primary areas of research are aging, social policy and minority aging. The focus of her research is predictors of health and economic differences between these population groups with an emphasis on the role that socioeconomic status, such as poverty, income, wealth, as well as minority group membership, have on health and functioning.

Dr. Villa is a founding member and executive committee member of the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging Organization (LAC/CAO), a research advisor and consultant to the Los Angeles Area Agency on Aging, Los Angeles Veterans Administration, and the Los Angeles Alzheimer's Association.