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The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) was established in December 1993 at a White House Press Conference with President Bill Clinton, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and 10 medical association leaders. Elena Rios, MD, who was working at the White House as Coordinator of Outreach for the National Health Care Reform Task Force in 1993, was asked to be on that stage to represent NHMA.

NHMA founders were young physicians who attended the White House Health Care Reform Task Force meetings in 1993 through 1994 and advocated for Hispanic health issues: Elena Rios, Mark Diaz, Kathy Flores from California; Rafael Lantigua, Luis Estevez and Susan Morales from NYC; Conchita Paz from New Mexico; Robert Reyna and Ciro Sumaya from Texas. We soon gained champions from the federal government – Jo Ivey Boufford from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health, Clay Simpson and Guadalupe Pacheco from the Office of Minority Health, and Guadalupe’s wife, Linda Hanten.

In May 1994, the White House appointed Dr. Rios to be on the US Delegation to the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland. It is there that Dr. Rios and Dr. Sumaya met to discuss the plan for NHMA government relations for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – to provide recommendations for diversity in medicine in a one day meeting. That meeting was held with HRSA leaders and NHMA Physicians in March 2005 and the organization was formally launched with awards given to Ciro Sumaya, MD, MPHMTM, Administrator, for the HRSA and Jo Ivey Boufford, MD, Assistant Secretary of Health at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
Hispanic physicians Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, Fellow from UCLA and Ciro Sumaya, MD, MPHTM, faculty member of UTHSC, San Antonio were appointed to the White House Health Care Reform Task Force in early 1992. Dr. Sumaya was in the health workforce committee and Dr. Rios served on the Outreach Team and invited several health experts to respond to the draft documents prior to being introduced to Congress. Rios invited her networks of physicians from Stanford, UCLA and San Antonio, Chicago, New York, New Mexico and Texas. NHMA was established after being introduced in Dec. 1993 at a White House Health care reform event and soon after, the first Board of Directors was agreed to by a core group of physicians who had met in Washington, DC all that year.

The first Board of Directors included Robert Reyna, MD (San Antonio), Luis Estevez, MD, MPH, MBA (New York City) and Elena Rios, MD, MSPH (Sacramento); all of whom developed bylaws and a strategic plan to obtain resources for priority planning activities.

Financial support was obtained for a 1995 retreat with HRSA on pipeline development, the meeting of an Advisory Committee to the Board, five regional meetings with healthcare leaders in Los Angeles, Chicago, San Antonio, NYC and Miami to request support and buy-in, and the development of an initial strategic planning meeting to develop a national advocacy presence. The advocacy agenda of NHMA was set: expand access to healthcare, provide prevention services and education, and expanding Hispanic presence in the health workforce. Membership, communications and invitations to key members for Federal meetings were started in 1994. NHMA supported the work of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and met with policymakers on providing Hispanic health impact to national programs and policies.
THE EARLY YEARS PLANNING

1993-1994

First Board of Directors: Dr. Elena Rios & Dr. Luis Estevez (below) (pic on right) Dr. Robert Reyna (far right)

Dr. Sumaya & Dr. Rios meet in Geneva to develop NHMA.

Member of the US Delegation to World Health Assembly 1994.

1993 Latino health leaders invited to meet at the White House for a health care reform talk.

1993 Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, Coordinator of Outreach, White House Health Care Reform Task Force 1993 celebration.

1996 Minority health leaders at AMA Chicago

First Board of Directors: Dr. Elena Rios & Dr. Luis Estevez (below) (pic on right) Dr. Robert Reyna (far right)
In 1999 the first Cooperative Agreement from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health (OMH) was held with Director: Clay Simpson, PhD of the HRSA and Director Ciro Sumaya, MD, MPH/HTM to NHMA. They established the NHMA Leadership Fellowship, the NHMA Resident Leadership Program, and the NHMA Medical Student Mentoring and Leadership Program.

NHMA started with the priority to develop government affairs and bring Board Members and other key physicians to Washington, DC or to Federal conferences to provide a voice for our communities that have been faced by poverty, limited education, low-income households but with strong cultural traditions, social support and families. NHMA physicians are from similar communities and understand the strategies needed to eliminate health disparities. NHMA began supporting Federal public health programs and soon was called on to provide representatives to meetings and coalitions to add Hispanic health perspective. For example, NHMA was instrumental in providing input for the 2000 law that created the Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and cultural competence training at the Office of Minority Health and at HRSA programs.

The NHMA Leadership Fellowship was established to train outstanding Hispanic mid-career physicians in a year-long executive training program to build their portfolios, leadership skills, knowledge about health policy, and how to impact policies with stakeholders in our society. NHMA has continued to nominate the Fellows and other NHMA members to national leadership opportunities in public health and in healthcare organizations – boards, commissions, advisory committees. Further, the NHMA Resident Leadership Program identified future leaders from among outstanding Hispanic residents in primary care and they were instructed about leadership and health policy for academic or practice careers.

The second aspect of strategic planning was to serve as a resource for Congress. By 1999, NHMA was requested to convene a National Hispanic Health Policy Summit in the summer of 2000 with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) that brought 175 nominees from Congress members and national advocacy organizations – boards, commissions, advisory committees. Further, the NHMA Resident Leadership Program identified future leaders from among outstanding Hispanic residents in primary care and they were instructed about leadership and health policy for academic or practice careers.

The leadership of NHMA had to reflect on the roles and responsibilities and by the 2005 Conference, the Hispanic medical society presidents met for the first time and requested synergistic activities and continued meeting. The NHMA Board announced it would expand and work to create interest groups by geography or discipline to focus on mentoring, and create committees open to paid members. The RWJF provided the support to hire Changing Our World to conduct the first recommendations for organizational development.

Finally, during the first decade, NHMA had been at the forefront with the development of ethnic/ racial minority organizing and advocacy – the AMA requested NHMA to represent Hispanic physicians for the Minority Affairs Consortium (now Section) and to the Commission to End Health care disparities; OMH requested NHMA to be on the Out of Many One; and NHMA was appointed to the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda with the other national 40 Hispanic advocacy leading organizations. During this time, the Congressional Hispanic, Black and Asian Caucuses began working together as the Tricaucus, and their organizations with NHMA and others in Washington, DC, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and The California Endowment. They were able to publish a report of Hispanic health recommendations and facilitated network development among the participants. The meeting started with a Congressional Round table and the first public speech of President Bush new Surgeon General, Dr. Richard Carmona. By the end of the meeting, eight working groups developed recommendations for the CHC to use for health advocacy efforts.

The third aspect to the strategic planning for NHMA was using media relations to raise awareness of NHMA and public health. In 2001-2 NHMA was able to advance public health prevention working with the Department of Transportation to call attention to driving safety along with the Congress members at Hispanic Health Media Breakfasts in the large media markets meeting with the Vice Presidents and News Directors of ABC, CBS, NBC, Univision and the local English and Spanish newspapers. (Check on year with LuCille Roybal Allard photo)

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2000 NHMA leaders at the White House during our Conference, with Dr. Cesar Mauricio, Dr. Mark Diaz, Dr. Luis Salazar, Dr. Blase Bello, John Rios, MD, Dr. Teresa Ramos, Roy - Stanford Intern.

2001 NHMA Leadership Fellows meet Surgeon General David Satcher, MD.

2003 NHMA Conference DC with U.S. House of Representative Hillda Solis CA 3rd District.

2003 Presentation of Leadership Award to Senator Bill Frist, Dr. Elena Rios with Leadership Fellows at Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.
In 1993, a group of Hispanic physicians met at the White House National Health Care Reform Task Force meetings and decided to establish a professional association under the name National Hispanic Medical Association in order to fill a void of leadership for Hispanic/Latino physicians and advocate for Hispanic health with the federal government. They officially announced their formation at a White House press conference in December 1993.

In 1994, they incorporated NHMA and its foundation, The National Hispanic Medical Foundation (later renamed the National Hispanic Health Foundation) and established the first Board of Directors. By the end of that year, Dr. Rios moved from Sacramento, CA to Washington, D.C., upon her appointment as Advisor on Regional and Minority Women’s Health at the Office on Women’s Health, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). She previously founded the National Network of Latin American Medical Students (now known as Latino Medical Student Association) in 1987. She has since been president for NHMA, and left public service at the end of 1998.

In 1995, the NHMA Board of Directors established a National Advisory Committee to provide input on programs and policy such as the “Minority Health Disadvantaged Act” which supported the health professions programs for the recruitment of minority/disadvantaged students (HCOP and COE) and the Office of Minority Health.

From 1995 until 1996, NHMA convened five regional meetings with doctors and others to discuss priorities. The NHMA policy agenda started then and has consistently aimed to increase access to health care, to expand diversity in medical education, and to enhance cultural competence for prevention, treatment and community-based research. The overarching focus has been on leadership development, health care disparities reduction, and communications through our website (started by Dr. Mark Diaz in 1996), list serves, e-newsletter, policy reports, publications, media and social media, and other information dissemination.
NHMA has served as a resource for Hispanic health policy at the national level. In March 2002, the Institute of Medicine, an advisory body to the U.S. Congress, issued a landmark report titled, "Unequal Treatment," and NHMA testified to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives on the need for cultural competence, the need to recruit more minority health professions students, and the need for Hispanic federal leadership.

We proudly convened the National Hispanic Health Leadership Summit in San Antonio, TX in August, 2002 with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, HHS, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and others. We had a Congressional Roundtable with several Congressional leaders and the 17th U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Richard Carmona. One hundred and seventy-five leaders nominated by Congress, HHS, and other partners participated in the roundtable and developed policy recommendations for the decade. The Summit Report is available at NHMA headquarters.

In 1997, NHMA convened its First National Conference in Washington, D.C. and started building membership, sponsors, and press coverage. With funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of HHS, NHMA developed the NHMA Leadership Fellowship, the NHMA Resident Leadership Program, and the NHMA Medical Student Mentorship Program. NHMA proceeded to hire staff and collaborated with the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University.

In 2002, NHMA opened its first office in Washington, D.C. NHMA has served as a resource for Hispanic health policy at the national level. In March 2002, the Institute of Medicine, an advisory body to the U.S. Congress, issued a landmark report titled, "Unequal Treatment," and NHMA testified to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives on the need for cultural competence, the need to recruit more minority health professions students, and the need for Hispanic federal leadership. We proudly convened the National Hispanic Health Leadership Summit in San Antonio, TX in August, 2002 with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, HHS, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and others. We had a Congressional Roundtable with several Congressional leaders and the 17th U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Richard Carmona. One hundred and seventy-five leaders nominated by Congress, HHS, and other partners participated in the roundtable and developed policy recommendations for the decade. The Summit Report is available at NHMA headquarters.

In 2003, NHMA was awarded its first Congressional Earmark with support from the entire Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Appropriations Committee Chairman Regula (R-OH) to develop the National Hispanic Health Professional Leadership Network to bring together the national Hispanic health professional associations at our Annual Conference and the NHHF research program.

In 2004, NHMA launched its peer reviewed journal in collaboration with the American Academy of Family Physicians, "Caring for the Hispanic Patient" with physician members serving as editors and writers. We started working with Redes En Accion on cancer training and research; on cultural competence curriculum; and other activities with partners.

In 2004, NHMA began to receive more foundation support. The Commonwealth Fund funded "Uninsured Hispanic Crisis Seminar Series" in Los Angeles, Atlanta and Washington, DC and the California Endowment for "Hispanic Health Congressional Briefings" which continue 1-2 times a year.

In 2002, NHMA opened its first office in Washington, D.C.
TIMELINE

At the NHMA Annual Conference in Los Angeles in 2005, a dozen presidents of state and regional Hispanic medical societies established the NHMA Council of Medical Societies with signed MOUs for NHMA to provide technical assistance and leadership training, and the societies to provide input to NHMA programs, policy issues, and membership. That year, the NHMA Board held strategic planning meeting that resulted in an expansion of the Board positions and opened up the committees of membership, communications, programs and development to NHMA members.

In January 2006, NHMA President Dr. Rios participated in the HHS Minority Health Leadership Summit to provide vision for future – and called for an interdepartmental wide agenda for community health from the White House. In February 2006, NHMA held joint press conferences with HHS and Hispanic medical societies in New Orleans, Houston and San Antonio to honor physicians who assisted Hispanic victims of Hurricane Katrina. NHMA worked with the Council of Medical Societies to develop the HispanicHealth.info portal to provide a joint resource for providers who care for Hispanics – that includes calendar, resources in English and Spanish, research, online community forums.

 NHMA has advocated for Hispanic leadership development at HHS as a means to improve programs for Hispanics and has supported the minority health bills. In addition, NHMA started the NHMA State Legislative Day in California and established the NHMA California Policy Committee. In California, NHMA supported the continuation of diversity in admissions to medical schools, CME legislation for cultural competence for all physicians, and immigrant health care at the county level.
SECOND DECADE OF NHMA PROGRAMS

NHMA decided to develop an Advocacy Agenda for the incoming president and in 2007 – 2008 held Summits in New York City and in Sacramento, California that resulted in a report on Access to Healthcare, Prevention of Obesity and Diversity in the Health Workforce. The recommendations were presented to Senator Kennedy’s staff, other Senate staff, and to President Obama Transition Team in summer 2008 and worked to support the coalitions in DC for the ACA. NHMA focused effort on its recommendations and on supporting the Offices of Minority Health for leadership for our communities.

During this second decade, NHMA focused on strengthening its governance, membership, and capacity building through mentoring and leadership. The NHMA Board was expanded to 17 members with 51% physicians and a seat for each of NHMA’s Six Regions, Council of Young Physicians, Council of Residents, LMSA and the new Advisory Committee of senior leaders. NHMA had established its Foundation which started a Scholarship Program in 2004 and a Corporate Advisory Board to provide relationships to private sector. NHMA strengthened its government affairs with the support of the California Endowment and started a Hispanic Health Coalition meeting with Congress on policy priorities, writing letters of support, and developing the first ever Congressional Hispanic Health Briefings – with meetings to educate legislators and their staff on the Hispanic health perspective. NHMA has continued its Congressional Briefings twice a year.

In 2010 and 2011, NHMA Board had retreats and developed its plan for national health communications campaigns through a new Logo and Image, list serves, social media, blast emails and Six Region Policy Forums during the Fall that started in 2013. The Regions are led by steering committees with Chairpersons linked to the Board of Directors.

In terms of programs, in 2002 with an earmark from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, NHMA started a Portal (HispanicHealth.info) in collaboration with the state Hispanic medical societies and Hispanic health professional associations with a campaign effort to develop diabetes and obesity education. In addition, the portal included a Calendar, Resources, Research and Online Community modules. NHMA together with the OMH convened experts on the evaluation of cultural competence with AAMC, HRSA, Kaiser Permanente, RWJF Medical School, UTHSC San Antonio Hispanic Center of Excellence, and researchers in the area. NHMA also focused on child obesity and was funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation from 2012 – 2016 and started a Physician Advisory Team to learn about federal policies and trends, plan State Action Plan Summits in NY and CA in 2013, and develop a Report of Policy Recommendations shared with policymakers and the media to reach Hispanic families and their young children. NHMA also partnered with the First Lady Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move program on the Hispanic outreach, with the Surgeon General Regina Benjamin on the first Obesity Report education, and with the Congressional Briefings on nutrition and physical activity policies with the Tricaucus leaders.

In 2010, NHMA was awarded a Cooperative Agreement from OMH on Physician Leadership to build its health communications infrastructure to be able to respond to national campaigns and promote education of a growing network of followers. Currently we are running campaigns on AIDS, Flu Vaccines, Transformation Clinical Practice through social media, list serves, e-newsletters, blast emails, webinars, and twitter chats with metrics and evaluation tools that show impact.

In 2012, NHMA was awarded a Cooperative Agreement from OMH on Recruitment of Premed College and High School Students in California, Texas and Washington, DC NHMA also assisted 2 dozen Hispanics to matriculate to medical school in addition to identifying students interested in reapplying to medical schools. That same year, NHMA was awarded a grant from the GE Foundation to develop a national mentoring in 5 regions for the country for medical and public health students committed to primary care in community settings with community physicians. Currently, NHMA continues mentoring for medical students and residents with the network of mentors it has across the nation.

In 2013, NHMA started its Flu Campaign, updated its website in 2015, started its HIV campaign and began its Transformation of Clinical Practice Campaign.

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During this second decade, the NHMA has continued to develop Policy Summits and Reports that were shared with Congress:

- 2008 Health Reform Policies for Hispanics: Access, Prevention, Health Workforce with the OMH
- 2010 Improving Diversity in Title VII of the PHS Act
- 2013 President’s STEM Initiative and Health Workforce Diversity – both funded by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation
- 2015 Increasing Diversity in Medicine and Research with NIMHD and Kaiser Permanente
- 2015-16 Summit Series on HepC Leadership and Hispanics with Abbvie

We also were introduced to the AAMC along with the other minority medical associations -NMA, AAIP, NCAPIP to partner on medical education activities.
NHMA SECOND DECADE

2007 NHMA Reception
San Antonio TX

2008 Women in Medicine Award

2010 Health Professional
Association Presidents

2007 NHMA Conference
San Antonio TX

2008 Health Care Reform Presidential Forum

2007 • 2016

2010 Helen Rodríguez-Trias, MD MPH
Women in Medicine Awards Reception
In 2007, NHMA provided specific recommendations for health reform in California and New York. NHMA testified in support of the first ban on trans fat in US for the NYC Health Board and for the NYC Council Health Committee. NHMA provided speakers for Congresswoman Hilda Solis’ press conference on Medicare Part D, her Health Meeting in Los Angeles, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) policy summits. Furthermore, NHMA worked with Assemblyman Peter Rivera to coordinate his Asthma workshop at the fall Puerto Rican Task Force meeting. Throughout that year, NHMA continued to support the minority health bills introduced by Senator Kennedy and Congressman Jackson and Congresswoman Solis with Congressional briefings and letter writing campaigns. These bills provided support for much needed programs such as the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP), Center of Excellence programs, and the Office of Minority Health.

In 2008, NHMA and HHS convened the “Hispanics & Health Disparities Leadership Summit Series” in New York, Sacramento and Austin with 300 invited leaders who developed consensus federal policy recommendations on access to care, prevention of obesity and diabetes and increasing Hispanics in health professions. NHMA presented the conference recommendations to the Presidential campaigns of Obama, McCain, and Clinton at the NHMA Annual Conference. In July, NHMA and the New York Academy of Medicine convened a briefing with the Obama and McCain Presidential campaigns on health reform priorities to reduce health disparities.

In 2008, NHMA received its second appropriation from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to develop its portal, www.HispanicHealth.info, to bring education materials to patients in English and Spanish started with three of the most specific chronic diseases plaguing Hispanics: obesity, diabetes, and cancer. Additionally, the portal aimed to develop communities of practice for physicians.

NHMA advocated for minority health legislation by coordinating the National Coalition on Hispanic Health and working with minority health coalitions. In June, NHMA along with 40 national organizations held a Capitol Hill Briefing to advocate for minority health legislation in Congress and showcase the health disparities efforts of major national groups. Presidents of our sister organizations – NMA, AMA, AAFP, AAFPIF and REDHIC – spoke at the briefing. In addition, NHMA supported two different bills on minority health legislation introduced by the TriCaucus and Congressman Jackson and Senator Kennedy with letter writing campaigns and educational meetings with Congress.

In August and September, Dr. Rios was invited to address audiences at the Democratic and Republican Conventions regarding health disparities recommendations from the NHMA Summit. Also in August, Dr. Rios was invited to present to Senator Kennedy’s initial health care reform meetings and presented the Summit report with the AMA, AAFP, AAP, SGIM and NMA. The conclusions from these meetings became the basis for the NHMA Board of Directors recommendations for health care reform policies for our communities – access to affordable quality health care, prevention of obesity and diabetes, diversity in the health workforce, and Hispanic leadership in the federal government.

After the election of President Barack Obama, NHMA and our sister organizations assisted the new administration’s leadership with input on the priorities for minority health and Hispanic health and nominations to leadership positions.
In January of 2009, NHMA cooperated with the White House by organizing the NHMA Obama-Biden Health Care Community Discussions to help guide health care policy by giving voice to fifty physicians from across the nation. NHMA also advocated for and participated with the White House Children’s Health Insurance Program Signing Event and provided qualified Hispanic physician and nurse nominees for HHS leadership positions.

In 2010, NHMA was one of two Latino organizations invited to speak at the White House Health Care Reform Summit with President Obama, senators, congressmen, and other leaders of major stakeholder organizations. That May, NHMA facilitated a healthcare reform meeting for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to identify priorities for health care reform, including access, health disparities and workforce issues. That same month, NHMA attended Senate stakeholder meetings and spearheaded the call for inclusion of the Office of Minority Health (OMH) in the proposed Senate bill. Initially the inclusion of OMH was met with strong resistance, but with a concerted effort from the minority community, NHMA and partners were successful and by the end of the year, both of the proposed Congress and Senate bills included the OMH.

In June 2010, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal Allard opened the NHMA Hispanic Health Congressional Briefing on Comparative Effectiveness Research to Reduce Health Disparities. In October, the bicaucus leaders, Congresswoman Cristensen, Congressman Honda and Congressman Grijalva opened the NHMA Congressional Briefing on Health Care Reform and Health Disparities. All these briefings focused on the current legislative efforts in Congress and urged our support for the key issues for which we have continued to advocate: access to quality care, universal coverage, public option, immigrant and territories’ access to care, decreased disparities, cultural competence and language services, quality performance and DSH funds for safety net facilities, tort reform, increased primary care integrated care, prevention and community based care, diversity in the health care workforce, and diversity in the training and leadership of HHS.

In February 2010, NHMA Board of Directors held a retreat to develop a strategic action plan to build membership at the individual and institutional levels, to advocate for federal policies beyond HHS, to build stronger partnerships in the private sector and media, and to convene national and regional summits with the health professional community. The NHMA president participated with the First Lady Michelle Obama and Surgeon General Regina Benjamin at the White House launch of the new “Let’s Move” campaign to end child obesity and pledged the participation of NHMA and our partners – the Council of Medical Societies and Hispanic Health Professional Leadership Network - through patient and community education, our portal resource, and advocacy for policy-makers to advance State and Federal policies to increase nutrition and physical education in schools and communities and to change behavior. The obesity prevention recommendations from the NHMA 2008 Summit continued to be the focus of our advocacy as Congress began discussing food policy for the U.S. In March 2010, NHMA participated in the Latino leadership meeting to educate officials of the Department of Agriculture.
In March 2010, NHMA engaged with national health leaders by participating in the White House’s health reform meeting and speaking at Speaker Pelosi’s meeting with stakeholders to educate Congress on the importance of health reform for all our communities. Through these meetings NHMA worked with other national Hispanic organizations to educate Congress on Hispanic health issues. NHMA supported the process of adding key changes to the proposed senate and reconciliation bills to ensure comprehensive health reform, but we were concerned that not all of our recommendations were included. However, we acknowledge that without health reform, there will continue to be an increase in: Hispanics that are uninsured, health care costs, and premature death among Hispanics. NHMA hoped that the passage of health reform would cause a paradigm shift in our communities - to increase insured, to increase affordable access to care, to decrease health disparities, to increase prevention in schools and communities, to increase health workers and clinics, to develop primary care training with cultural competence and language services, to collect data with race/ethnicity and language, to have DSH help fund safety net hospitals, to build research and public health infrastructure at state and local levels, and much more. In short, NHMA supported the bill because we acknowledged that health reform is vital for our communities.

In 2010, NHMA focused its advocacy on Congressional Briefings on health care reform and on child obesity, partnering with Congresswoman Lucille Roybal Allard and other partners to educate Congress staff and advocates to improve health of Hispanics. Our president, Dr. Elena Rios, was invited to sit with Pelosi guests at the bicameral Congressional Speech of President of Mexico. Of note, during 2010, the HRSA, US DHHS supported the NHMA Leadership Fellowship and the NHMA Resident Leadership Program once again for the next 4 years.

In the winter of 2011, we convened regional forums for HHS on flu prevention in Houston, New York, Kansas City, and Atlanta with Congressional and HHS leaders to education physicians and their communities on the importance of CDC prevention tools. In the spring and summer, we convened five very successful regional meetings on “Health Care Reform Update” with speakers from the US Department of Health and Human Services discussing concerns with over 500 participants in Los Angeles, New York, El Paso, Miami and Washington, DC. The Boards of both NHMA and NHHF held a retreat in the summer with the support of one of our partners, United Health Care, and agreed to move forward on a Regional Structure to develop annual activities in the new NHMA West, Midwest, Southwest, Northeast, Southeast and Washington, DC-Metro Regions to include all our partners. The October 2011 NHMA Congressional Briefing with Congresswoman Lucille Roybal Allard focused on Prevention Challenges and Opportunities with speakers from the Surgeon General’s Office, University of Southern California Obesity Center of Excellence, BlueCross Blue Shield of Texas, and Pfizer Helpful Answers and discussed principles for legislation on obesity reduction for Latinos.
In 2014, Dr. Rios met with attorney Linda Hanten and organizational development consultant Emilio Morante to develop priority activities and timelines for NHMA. NHMA increased efforts to educate our leaders in health policy by convening 2 Congressional Briefings on nutrition and workforce and 6 Region Meetings with HHS on the ACA.

In 2013, NHMA reinvented itself with a new image, new Logo, new Website and Six Regions with Chairpersons, Steering Committees and ACA Fall Forums with the White House, the first NHMA Media Advisory Committee, a Mentoring Program for students supported by the GE Foundation, and its own CoveredHispanics campaign to inform our communities about ACA enrollment. NHMA continued to advocate for the continuation of diversity in health professional programs at HRSA, NIH and in the STEM programs at the Department of Education, CHIP and Medicare Advantage, diabetes, obesity, cancer, AIDS, HepC and heart disease programs. We also submitted Amicus Curiae briefs to the US Supreme Court to support health care reform ACA, affirmative action and higher education.

In 2012, NHMA recognized the importance of expanding membership and developed targeted services to different levels of members, this included: 1) Job Board for physicians and other health care workers seeking employment and for employers seeking Hispanic physicians and others from our networks; 2) NHMA Annual Conference lectures by video, power point and transcript; 3) Mentorship Program for health professional students and residents; 4) Interest groups for academic and clinical practice physicians; and 5) Global Health efforts with leaders from Mexico and other countries.
President Bill Clinton signs the Health Disparities and Cultural Competence Law of 2000.
Congresswoman Hilda Solis meets with NHMA Board of Directors.

Fernando Mendez, MD, Stanford testifying on healthcare workforce.

NHMA Fellows Meet with Congress staff.

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius meets with NHMA/NHF Board.
Chef LaLa, a classically trained chef, certified nutritionist, spokeswoman and owner of a catering business, SAVOR!, demos fresh healthy meals at the NHMA Conference.

NHMA Conference Speaker John Quiñones
HISPANIC LEADERSHIP AWARDEES

2009
• Antonia Novello, MD, former US Surgeon General
• Martha Rosas, M.D. Director, Pan American Health Policy, University of Texas School of Public Health
• Ivelisse Estrada, Senior Vice President, Corporate & Community MPH, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health, HHS
• Eduardo Sanchez, MD, MPH, Director, Institute for Health Texas School of Public Health, Ft. Worth, TX
• Maria Soto-Green, MD, Vice-Dean, University of Medicine and Dentistry at
Advisor for Special Initiatives, Health Resources & Services Administration, DHHS
• Fernando Treviño, PhD, Dean, North Pfizer, Inc
• The Honorable Ciro Rodriguez
• The Honorable Charlie Gonzalez
• Henry Montes, MPH (ret), Senor Cigarroa, MD, President, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
• Jordan J. Cohen, MD, President, NIH/DHHS
• Rep. Joe Coto, CA State Assemblyman, Sponsor of Cultural Competence CME Legislation
• Francisco MD, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA

2005
• Rep. Donna Christian-Christensen
• Richard Gottfried, Chair, State Of NY Assembly Health Committee
• VADM Richard H. Carmona, MD, MPH, Surgeon General, USDHHS
• Ruben Barrales, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, The White House
• Josh Valdez, Regional Director, Region IX, DHHS
• Christina Beato, MPH, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, DHHS
• Allenlea Howard, PhD, Principal Field Officer, HHS
• Ben Shiner, Clowery & Co. Angies, Inc. Maritza Arias, Hem, Pediatrician
• Rep. Dana Christ-Christensen
• Richard Gottfried, Chair, State Of NY Assembly Health Committee
• Guadalupe Pacheco, Office Of Minority Health
• Juan Ramos (Ret) NIMH/NIH
• John Johnson, President, Johnson &

2004
• John Boyer, PhD - Chairman, MAXIMUS Federal Managers
• Jose Martinez, Secretary, US Department of Labor
• France A. Córdova, PhD, Director, National Science Foundation
• George Paz, President & CEO, Express Scripts
• Chet Burrell, President and Chief Executive Officer of CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield
• Donald Bohn, VP of US Government Affairs, Johnson and Johnson
• Robert K. Ross, MD, CEO, California Endowment
• Fernando Mendoza, MD, President; Hispanic-serving Health Professions Schools, Inc
• Guadalupe Pacheco, Office Of Minority Health
• Roberta Young, Director, White House Office of Public Liaison
• Adolfo Carrión, Jr., Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, The White House
• John F. Boyer, PhD - Chairman, MAXIMUS Federal Managers
• The Honorable Ciro Rodriguez
• The Honorable Charlie Gonzalez
• Henry Montes, MPH (ret), Senor Cigarroa, MD, President, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
• Jordan J. Cohen, MD, President, NIH/DHHS
• Rep. Joe Coto, CA State Assemblyman, Sponsor of Cultural Competence CME Legislation
• Francisco MD, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA

2001
• Jennings Deputy Assistant To The President For Health Policy Development
• Barbara Woolley, Deputy Director, Office of Administration
• Nelba Chavez PhD. Administrator Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Chris Delgado, PhD, President and CEO Cossmho
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Hispanic Health Professionals Organization Leaders

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Hispanic Health Professional Organization Leaders

Nhma Gala Keynote Speaker Edward James Olmos

Nhma Gala Keynote Speaker and recipient Moctesuma Esparza

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