



UC Center Sacramento

COVID-19 in California: Addressing Health and Economic Impacts in Disadvantaged Communities

Wednesday, October 14th
12:00 - 1:00pm

In light of the community concerns regarding COVID-19, this talk will be given as a webinar. The link will be provided on October, 13th to those that have registered by 5:00 pm on Monday, October 12th at uccs.ucdavis.edu.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had devastating health and economic impacts throughout much of the United States. In California, as of late August, there were almost 700,000 reported cases and 13,000 deaths. In addition, California's [unemployment rate](#), which hovered near 4% in late 2019, is now well north of 15%. Equally problematic, [state budget revenue projections](#) are down 22% for 2020-21. These health and economic impacts are not distributed equally. Older adults, especially nursing home residents, have borne a disproportionate mortality burden, and other groups – Latinos, African-Americans, and workers in “essential” jobs such as health care, home care, food production, and transportation – have suffered higher-than-average infection rates, mortality rates, and economic displacement. In this UCCS Speakers Series webinar, an academic physician and policy analyst and the CEO of a major regional foundation provide an update on how COVID-19 has exacerbated health and economic disparities and what we can do about it as students, policymakers, and advocates.



Alicia Fernandez, M.D., is a Professor of Medicine at UCSF and a general internist at Zuckerberg San Francisco General where she practices primary care medicine and attends on the medical wards. Her expertise is in health and health care disparities, with a strong focus on diabetes, Latino health, immigrant health, and language barriers. Dr. Fernandez is an active mentor of students, residents, fellows, and faculty. A member of the UCSF Academy of Medical Educators, she received the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Professorship for Humanism in Medicine (2009-2013). She directs UCSF PROF-PATH, an academic career and research training program for URM students and students focused on health disparities research; is co-PI of RISE, a national training program in implementation science for URM faculty; and core-PI of SF BUILD a joint capacity building program between UCSF and San Francisco State University. Dr. Fernandez has served as an advisor to many organizations on health disparities related projects, including the Robert

Wood Johnson Foundation, the California Endowment, the National Quality Forum, the Commonwealth Fund, the American Medical Association, and the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Fernandez has also been appointed to the Board of Governors of the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and the National Academy of Science Roundtable on Health Literacy, and she has served on both since 2014. At UCSF, Dr. Fernandez has also served as leader in the Differences Matter initiative for health equity since 2015.



Chet P. Hewitt is President and CEO of Sierra Health Foundation and its nonprofit intermediary partner, The Center at Sierra Health Foundation. Over the past decade, Chet has led a bold collective impact strategy focused on promoting health, equity and social justice in underserved communities to improve the well-being of children, youth and families. Recognized for his strategic thinking and willingness to take thoughtful risk, Chet has received national attention for his emphasis on making the Foundation's and The Center's partnerships with local communities and public and private funders the centerpiece of both organizations' strategy for change. Efforts launched by the Foundation and The Center include California Funders for Boys and Men of Color, Positive Youth Justice Initiative, Black Child Legacy Campaign, Build.Black. Coalition and San Joaquin Valley Health Fund. Prior to joining Sierra Health Foundation, Chet served as Director of Alameda County's Social Services Agency, Associate Director for the

Rockefeller Foundation in New York, and Director of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice in San Francisco. He has received numerous awards for his service to children and families,

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu

The views and opinions expressed during this lecture are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the views of UCCS.