



## Taking Bold Action towards Health Equity

### Who We Are

The Health Equity Compact (the “Compact”) is a coalition of **over 80 leaders of color** who seek to dismantle systemic barriers to equitable health outcomes for all residents of the Commonwealth. Compact members are high-level executives and experts from a diverse set of **health, business, labor, and philanthropic organizations**, including hospitals, health centers, payers, academic institutions, and public health. Our members are committed to **eliminating health inequities** as the **next chapter of health reform**.

### Why Focus on Health Equity Now?

The fight for health equity is centuries old, and the dire effects of the **COVID-19 pandemic on communities of color** elevated this essential need for a focused effort on **health equity for all**. Massachusetts has an imperative to continue its **leadership on state health reform** - which began with the state’s landmark health reform law to expand coverage, Chapter 58 - and to apply the same level of innovation and commitment to advancing health equity. The Compact seeks to **build on the current momentum** on tackling health disparities by advocating for policies that are **transformational, urgent, and essential**.

### Our Policy Priorities

The Compact is working to advance state policy change in six different priority areas:

1. **Governance:** We want our state government to have the necessary positions, staffing and authority to ensure that health equity is a key function.
2. **Measurement and Accountability:** We support standardized measurement of health equity across healthcare organizations so we can track and make progress.
3. **Workforce:** We promote workforce programs that focus on recruiting, training, and supporting talent, particularly in communities of color.
4. **Healthcare Delivery and Payment Reform:** We advance policies that pay for reductions in health disparities, and support culturally and linguistically appropriate services.
5. **Coverage and Access:** We believe in reducing gaps in coverage and minimizing rising healthcare costs so that everyone can have affordable, quality healthcare.
6. **Social Determinants of Health:** We seek the best health for all Massachusetts residents, through policy changes and investments in public health and communities.

For the 2023-2024 legislation session, the Compact has filed “**An Act to Advance Health Equity,**” a bill which will advance health equity in the Commonwealth through the prioritization of health equity in state government, requiring standardized data and accountability, and improving access to and quality of care.

**For more information, please visit [healthequitycompact.org](https://healthequitycompact.org) or contact [hec@massleague.org](mailto:hec@massleague.org).**

## Compact Members

**Alejandro Esparza-Perez**, Chief Executive Officer, Holyoke Health Center

**Allison Bryant**, Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School; Senior Medical Director for Health Equity, Mass General Brigham

**Amie Shei**, President & CEO of The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts

**Angelina Ramirez**, Chief Executive Officer, Stavros Center For Independent Living

**Assaad Sayah**, President & CEO, Cambridge Health Alliance

**Bisola Ojikutu**, Executive Director, Boston Public Health Commission

**Cain Hayes**, CEO, Point32Health

**Carlos F. Cappas**, Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Lynn Community Health Center

**Charles Anderson**, President & CEO, The Dimock Center

**Cheryl Clark**, Executive Director and Senior Vice President, Institute for Health Equity Research

**Chris Reddick**, Vice President and Head of U.S. Health Equity, Takeda

**Christopher Lathan**, Chief Clinical Access and Equity Officer, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

**Claire Cooper**, VP of Business Development, The Partnership

**Claire-Cecile Pierre**, Associate Chief Medical Officer, Vice President of Community Health, Mass General Brigham

**Craig Andrade**, Associate Dean of Practice and Director of the Activist Lab at Boston University School of Public Health

**Damian Archer**, Chief Executive Officer, Outer Cape Health Services; Assistant Dean for Multicultural Affairs, Tufts University School of Medicine

**David Williams**, Prof. of Public Health, Chair of Dept. of Social & Beh. Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

**Deborah Enos**, Professional Advisor and Board Member & Senior Executive

**Denise De Las Nueces**, CMO, Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program

**Eduardo da Silva Haddad**, President of Medical Staff, Lawrence General Hospital

**Elsie Taveras**, Chief Community Health & Health Equity Officer, Mass General Brigham; Executive Director, Kraft Center for Community Health at

Mass General Hospital; Conrad Taff Professor, Harvard Medical School

**Filaine Deronnette**, VP-at-Large, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East; Executive VP, MA AFL-CIO

**Frank Robinson**, VP of Public Health and Community Relations, Baystate Health

**Frederica Williams**, President & CEO, Whittier Street Health Center

**Greg Wilmot**, President & CEO, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center

**Guale Valdez**, CEO, Mattapan Community Health Center

**Guy Fish**, CEO & President, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center

**Helen Caulton-Harris**, Springfield HHS Commissioner

**Izzy Lopes**, Vice President of Health Equity, Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association

**Javier A. Juarez**, Director of the Latino Equity Fund

**Jeffrey Sánchez**, Principal, Sánchez Strategies LLC

**Joan Y. Reede**, President at Biomedical Science Careers Program; Professor of Medicine, Dean of Diversity & Community Partnership, Dir. of Minority Faculty Development Program, Dir. of Commonwealth Fund Mongan Fellowship in Minority Health Policy, Harvard Medical School

**Jose de la Rosa**, Co-founder & CEO, Guardian Healthcare

**Joseph R. Betancourt**, President, The Commonwealth Fund

**Juan Fernando Lopera**, Chief Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Officer, Beth Israel Lahey Health

**Kedar Mate**, President and CEO at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement

**Kenn Turner**, President & CEO, Massachusetts Life Sciences Center

**Kevin Churchwell**, President & CEO, Boston Children's Hospital

**Kizzmekia S. Corbett**, Asst. Prof., Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

**Lauren Powell**, President & CEO, The Equitist

**Lee Pelton**, CEO & President, The Boston Foundation

**Lisette Blondet**, Director, Massachusetts Association of Community Health Workers

**Lou Brady**, CEO, Family Health Center of Worcester

**Lumas Joseph Helaire**, Assistant Dean for Population Health Management & Health Equity Education, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

**Magnolia Contreras**, VP of Community Health, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

**Makeeba McCreary**, President, New Commonwealth Racial Equity and Social Justice Fund

**Mala Rafik**, Partner at Rosenfeld & Rafik, P.C.

**Manny Lopes**, Healthcare Executive Strategist

**Marcelo Suárez-Orozco**, Chancellor, UMass Boston

**Marty Martinez**, CEO, Reach Out and Read

**Mary T. Bassett**, Director of the François Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University

**Mattie Castiel**, Commissioner for Health and Human Services, City of Worcester

**Michael Curry**, President & CEO, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

**Michelle A. Williams**, Dean of the Faculty, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

**Monica Bharel**, Senior Public Health Advisor

**Monica Vohra**, Chief Medical Officer, DotHouse Health Center

**Myechia Minter-Jordan**, President & CEO, CareQuest Institute for Oral Health

**Nancy E. Norman**, Medical Director of Integration, Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership

**Nate Horwitz-Willis**, Executive Director of Advocacy Fund and Executive Vice President of External Affairs, Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts

**Neel Shah**, Chief Medical Officer of Maven Clinic

**Oz Mondejar**, Senior Business Executive

**Pablo Hernandez**, CMO, Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center

**Paul Watanabe**, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute for Asian American Studies, UMass Boston

**Paulo Pinto**, Chief Executive Officer, Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers

**Renée Landers**, Professor of Law, Suffolk Law University

**Robert Higgins**, Pres. of Brigham and Women's Hospital; Executive VP, Mass General Brigham

**Ronald E. Coursey II**, Executive Vice President, eMed

**Rosa Colon-Kolacko**, President and Founder, Global Learning & Diversity Partners

**Sandra Cotterell**, CEO, Codman Square Health Center

**Sandro Galea**, Dean of the Boston University School of Public Health

**Sandhya Rao**, Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts

**Shana Sullivan**, Strategic Planning & Performance Director, UniCare

**Shari Nethersole**, VP of Community Health, Boston Children's Hospital

**Sheila Och**, Chief Engagement and Equity Officer, Lowell Community Health Center

**Stan McLaren**, President, Carney Hospital

**Tania Barber**, President & CEO, Caring Health Center

**Thea James**, VP of Mission & Associate Chief Medical Officer, Boston Medical Center

**Tuyet Tran**, Executive Director, Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts

**Vasundhra Sangar**, VP of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts

**Valerie Stone**, Vice Chair for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital; Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School