

Interdisciplinary Panel

Dr. Elizabeth Baca is passionate about innovations to foster total health and well-being. She currently serves as the Senior Health Advisor in the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). She is engaged in innovation in the public sector to foster health through multiple projects including healthy planning, big data, and public-private partnerships. For healthy planning she works across sectors to foster collaboration, elevate the connection between health and the built environment, and leads the effort to incorporate health considerations into the planning process to build healthy, resilient communities. A significant part of her work is aligning win-wins for projects that offer co-benefits, particularly with respect to climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. For big data, she is working on projects to link data sets to the planning process. Additionally, she serves as a lead for the Governor's Initiative to Advance Precision Medicine. Through her role in OPR, she is an advisor for the USGBC Building Health Initiative and FS6, a new Food System Accelerator.

Previously, she served on the General Pediatric Faculty at Stanford Medical School and directed the Community Pediatric and Child Advocacy Rotation. In addition to teaching medical students and residents about the social, economic, and environmental factors that affect health, Dr. Baca was the lead faculty mentor on several projects to increase access to healthy foods, reduce environmental triggers of asthma, increase physical activity opportunities, and improve the built environment.

Dr. Baca studied health policy at Universidad Simon Bolivar in Venezuela. She completed her Masters in Public Administration at Harvard Kennedy School of Government and her Doctorate of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Baca completed her pediatric residency in the Pediatric Leadership for the Underserved (PLUS) program at University of California, San Francisco.

Lisa Bates has 24 years of community development, affordable housing, and public policy experience at the local and state level. Since September 2012 she has served as deputy director of housing policy development at the California Department of Housing and Community Development. Previously Lisa served as deputy executive director at the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency.

Dr. Patricia Lee has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Rhode Island. Currently, Dr. Lee is the Research Scientist for the Office of Medical Director (OMD). She writes and edits reports and fact sheets analyzing data from population based surveys and the Department of Health Care Service's (DHCS) Medi-Cal claims and eligibility data warehouse focused on health disparities and inequities in the Medi-Cal population. Dr. Lee determines potential key areas of research in health disparities and inequities, to be undertaken by OMD, and disseminate findings of scientific research in written reports. Using scientific analysis of survey data, she identifies and assesses the distribution of key indicators of health status and risk factors among the Medi-Cal population particularly concerning quality health care. Prior to joining the OMD, Dr. Lee worked for the Office of Women's Health (OWH). At OWH, she co-chaired the multi-disciplinary interdepartmental California Women's Health Survey group. She was the principal editor of scientific facts for all data reports and scientific articles produced by the OWH. Prior to working for the state of California, Dr. Lee was an assistant professor in the department of Health Behavior at the University of Alabama, Birmingham's (UAB) School of Public Health and held an associate scientist position in the UAB Minority Health Research Center. While at UAB, she taught a course on African American Health Issues, guest lectured on disparities in various classes, and worked on grants focused on health equity.