

2021 E.R. Brown Symposium

# **OPENING DOORS FOR ALL: IMPROVING HEALTH IN HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS**

October 4–5, 2021

9:30 a.m.–1 p.m. PT | Zoom

California is home to more than a quarter of the country's homeless population. In early 2020, 161,548 people experienced homelessness in California on any given day — a 40% increase over the last five years. Join the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research as we bring together leaders in the fight to end homelessness to help identify past successes and lessons learned, so that California can invest effectively with evidence-based solutions to create a healthier, more prosperous California for all.

Register for the free symposium:  
<https://ucla.in/35UQAPT>

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9:30–9:45 a.m.\*

### OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME

**Ninez A. Ponce**, Director, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (CHPR), and Professor, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

### FEATURED SPEAKERS

9:45–10 a.m.

**Bill Purcell**, Former Mayor, Nashville and Davidson County

10–10:15 a.m.

**Libby Schaaf**, Mayor, City of Oakland, California

10:15–11:15 a.m.

### PANEL: SUCCESSES AND FAILURES: CASE STUDIES FROM U.S. CITIES

**Philip F. Mangano**  
President and CEO, The American Round Table to Abolish Homelessness

**Eva Thibaudeau-Graczyk**  
CEO, Temenos Community Development Corporation

**Bill Purcell**  
Former Mayor, Nashville

*Moderator:* **Andrea Evans**  
Director, Chronic Homelessness Initiative, Tipping Point Community

11:15–11:25 a.m.

### FEATURED SPEAKER

**Phil Ting**, California State Assemblymember, District 19

11:25–11:30 a.m.

### BREAK

11:30 a.m.–  
12:45 p.m.

### PANEL: IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS ON MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES

**Michelle Doty Cabrera**  
Executive Director, County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California

**Margot Kushel**  
Director, UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations

**Kathryn Monet**  
CEO, National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

**Dana White**  
Program Officer, True Colors United

*Moderator:* **Ninez Ponce**, Director, UCLA CHPR

12:45–1 p.m.

### CLOSING REMARKS

**Suzette Shaw**  
Poet and Skid Row Advocate

**Ninez Ponce**  
Director, UCLA CHPR

9:30–9:45 a.m.

### OPENING REMARKS AND DAY ONE RECAP

**Ninez Ponce**, Director, UCLA CHPR

9:45–10 a.m.

### FEATURED SPEAKER

**Donald H. Whitehead, Jr.**, Executive Director, National Coalition for the Homeless

10–11 a.m.

### PANEL: POLICY LEVERS FOR CALIFORNIA TO MITIGATE HOMELESSNESS

#### **Gary Painter**

Director, USC Sol Price Center for Social Innovation and Homelessness Policy Research Institute

#### **Leepi Shimkhada**

Director of Housing and Services, Housing for Health, LA County Department of Health Services

#### **Nadereh Pourat**

Director, Health Economics and Evaluation Program, and Associate Director, UCLA CHPR

*Moderator:*

#### **Randall Kuhn**

Associate Professor, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

11–11:20 a.m.

### FEATURED SPEAKER

**Isaac G. Bryan**, California State Assemblymember, District 54

11:20–11:40 a.m.

### REFLECTIONS

#### **Melissa Chinchilla**

Research Scientist, AltaMed Institute for Health Equity

#### **Mark Peterson**

Professor of Public Policy, Political Science, and Law, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

#### **Garen Corbett**

Director, California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP)

#### **Michael Rodríguez**

Professor, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

11:40 a.m.–

Noon

### CLOSING REMARKS

**Ninez Ponce**, Director, UCLA CHPR

Noon–1 p.m.

### STUDENT SESSION: DISCUSSION AND NETWORKING

*For current students and recent graduates only. [Register now.](#)*

## SPEAKER AND PANELIST BIOS



### **Ninez A. Ponce**

Director  
UCLA Center for Health Policy  
Research

**Ninez A. Ponce, PhD, MPP**, is the Director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

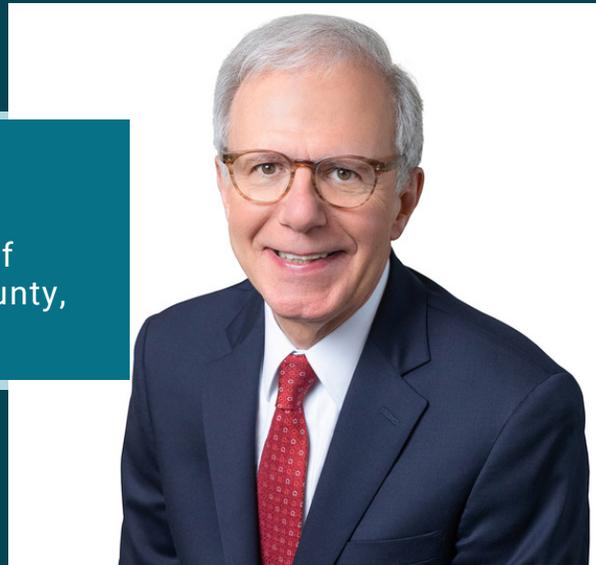
Ponce is the Principal Investigator of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), the nation's largest state health survey, recognized as a national model for data collection on race/ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI), and immigrant health.

Ponce led pioneering efforts in multicultural survey research, including measures of racial/ethnic identity, acculturation, generational status, and discrimination. She also devised the rationale and implementation of Asian ethnic oversamples and the cultural and linguistic adaptation of the CHIS in Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), Korean, Vietnamese, and Tagalog, the only large-scale population survey to do. Ponce champions better data, especially on social determinants of health, better inferences on communities of color, better population representation of data, especially for those that are typically invisible in administrative and surveillance data, and better care for overlooked groups.

Ponce currently serves on the board of directors for AcademyHealth; the AcademyHealth Advisory Group on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Health Services Research; and the editorial advisory board of the journal *Milbank Quarterly*. She was also elected as a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and received the 2020 Inaugural Data Equity Award from the Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL).

### Bill Purcell

Former Mayor  
Metropolitan Government of  
Nashville and Davidson County,  
Tennessee



**Bill Purcell, JD**, has spent more than 30 years in law, public service, and higher education. During his eight-year tenure as Mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee (1999–2007), the city saw unprecedented economic expansion, an increase in Metro school funding of more than 50 percent, and the development and preservation of more than 26,000 affordable housing units. He was elected to his second term as mayor by a record-setting 84.8 percent of the vote.

Purcell was elected to five terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives (1986–1996), serving as Majority Leader from 1990–1996. During his decade in the General Assembly, he sponsored and passed legislation undertaking major reforms in Tennessee’s schools, courtrooms, industrial plants and boardrooms, criminal and juvenile justice, hospitals, and voting booths. During his service, Tennessee was twice ranked the best managed state in America.

Having represented clients in all of the trial courts of Nashville as well as the federal and state appellate courts, he has been focused on advising clients with administrative and policy concerns at the local level across Tennessee. An active participant in the work of the profession, Purcell has been honored by the Nashville Bar Association with the John C. Tune award for outstanding contributions to his community and faithful service to the bar. Currently, he serves as Counsel at Frost Brown Todd.



### **Libby Schaaf**

Mayor  
Oakland, California

**Mayor Libby Schaaf, JD**, was born and raised in Oakland, California, which she proudly describes as, “The most unapologetic Sanctuary City in America.” During her tenure, Oakland has undergone an economic revitalization and building boom, as well as cut gun violence in half.

Mayor Schaaf’s “17K/17K Housing Plan” has helped increase Oakland’s affordable housing production, stabilize rents, and decrease evictions. Her innovative public-private partnerships Keep Oakland Housed and Cabin Communities are credited with preventing 1,800 families a year from losing their housing, while resolving some of Oakland’s most unsafe street encampments. In 2019, California Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Mayor Schaaf to California’s first Council of Regional Homeless Advisors.

She created Oakland’s first Department of Transportation, whose equity-based paving plan is the first of its kind in the nation and will make previously underserved neighborhoods safer, while addressing the city’s decades-old infrastructure backlog.

Mayor Schaaf is most proud of launching the Oakland Promise, a bold cradle-to-career initiative to send more low-income Oakland kids to college. The Oakland Promise has sent more than 1,400 Oakland students (and counting) to college with scholarships and mentors, and will give every baby born into poverty a \$500 college savings account at birth.

### PANEL: SUCCESSES AND FAILURES: CASE STUDIES FROM U.S. CITIES

#### PANELISTS



**Philip F. Mangano** is President and CEO of the American Round Table to Abolish Homelessness, partnering with public and private sector leaders across the nation to upgrade the strategic response to homelessness and accelerate the scaling of needed units. Prior to that, Mangano was appointed by President George W. Bush as Executive Director of the White House United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, where he shaped and led the national strategy to end homelessness from 2002–2009, including in the early Obama Administration. He was also part of California Governor Newsom's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors, focused on strategic solutions to homelessness, and currently serves as the Vice Chair of the VA Secretary's Advisory Board on homeless veterans in Los Angeles.



**Bill Purcell, JD**, has spent more than 30 years in law, public service, and higher education. During his eight-year tenure as mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee (1999–2007), the city saw unprecedented economic expansion, an increase in Metro school funding of more than 50 percent, and the development and preservation of more than 26,000 affordable housing units. He was elected to his second term as mayor by a record-setting 84.8 percent of the vote. Purcell was elected to five terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives, serving as Majority Leader from 1990–1996.



**Eva Thibaudeau-Graczyk** is the CEO for Temenos Community Development Corporation and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has been working to end homelessness in the Greater Houston Area since 1997. She worked to transform the Houston Area homeless response system from one of siloed and fragmented responses that largely neglected to serve the most vulnerable and at-risk, to a coordinated and collaborative group of partners that specifically focuses on housing those least able to “make it to the front of the line” on their own. She has served as a national trainer, speaker, and subject-matter expert who presented at domestic policy reviews at the White House.

#### MODERATOR



**Andrea Evans, JD**, is a lawyer who has worked extensively at the intersection of law and policy in the private, nonprofit, and government sectors for over 25 years. In particular, she has led efforts to promote human rights, immigrant rights, and women's rights domestically and abroad. Currently, Evans is the Director of Tipping Point Community's Chronic Homeless Initiative, a five-year, \$100 million effort to reduce chronic homelessness in San Francisco. She currently serves as a member of San Francisco's Local Homeless Coordinating Board.



### Phil Ting

California State  
Assemblymember, District 19

**Phil Ting** was elected to the California State Assembly in 2012, representing the 19th Assembly District, which spans the Westside of San Francisco, as well as the communities of Broadmoor, Colma, Daly City, and South San Francisco.

As California navigates new challenges from the federal government, Ting is focused on protecting our values and persisting onward with progressive policies that expand opportunity for all, ensure equal rights, and protect our environment. Informed by past roles in the financial sector and as San Francisco's Assessor-Recorder, Ting has become a leading voice on California's finances. He now serves as Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee and previously served as Chair of the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee and Chair of the Assembly Democratic Caucus.

In the Assembly, Ting has authored legislation that combats homelessness by helping struggling renters stay in their homes, increases healthy food access through expanding urban agriculture and food stamp use at farmers' markets, helps thousands more students obtain Cal Grants to attend college, requires law enforcement agencies to release body camera footage 45 days after a critical incident, allows more people to file a Gun Violence Restraining Order to keep their communities safe, among others.

Ting is a graduate of UC Berkeley and Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

### PANEL: IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS ON MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES

#### PANELISTS



**Michelle Doty Cabrera** is the Executive Director of the County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California (CBHDA), a statewide association representing the behavioral health directors from California's 58 counties, as well as two cities (Tri-City and Berkeley). Prior to CBHDA, she was the Healthcare Director for the California State Council of the Services Employees International Union (SEIU California), Senior Consultant for the Assembly Human Services Committee, and a Program Officer for the California Health Care Foundation. Cabrera served as an appointed member of Governor Newsom's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors.



**Margot Kushel, MD**, is a Professor of Medicine at UCSF in the Division of General Internal Medicine at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center and the Director of the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations and its Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative. Dr. Kushel's research focuses on reducing the burden of homelessness on health through examining efforts to prevent and end homelessness and mitigating the effects of housing instability on health care outcomes.



**Kathryn Monet, MPA**, is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. She has spent over a decade in the public and nonprofit sectors working to address housing instability and homelessness among veterans, including at the National Alliance to End Homelessness, focusing on the promotion of data-driven, evidence-based interventions to end homelessness, particularly among veterans. Monet also worked in a legislative capacity during her time at the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs and currently serves on the VA Advisory Committee for Homeless Veterans and the U.S. Vets DC Advisory Council.



**Dana White** is a Program Officer in technical assistance with True Colors United, a national LGBTQ+ organization implementing innovative solutions to end youth homelessness. White has a background in youth development and direct services to LGBTQ+ and HIV-positive young people, and they were among the 2019 cohort of the Executive Program in Social Impact Strategy at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Social Impact Strategy. White identifies as Black, Puerto Rican, and non-binary.



#### MODERATOR

**Ninez A. Ponce, PhD, MPP**, is the Director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a Professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. She is the Principal Investigator of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), the nation's largest state health survey, recognized as a national model for data collection on race/ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI), and immigrant health.

## Suzette Shaw

Poet and Advocate  
Skid Row From a Women's  
Perspective



“We can no longer talk about equality and empowerment while enforcing inequities.”

**Suzette Shaw** is a poet and advocate for Skid Row From a Woman's Perspective. A Skid Row resident who fell into homelessness nine years ago, Shaw is now housed in permanent supportive housing in Skid Row and uses her voice to advocate for others still experiencing homelessness.

As the National Alliance to End Homelessness representative for Los Angeles, she uses her platform to address the intersectionality of poverty, displacement, gender, race, age, and the need for complex care to address co-morbidity health disparities, systemic inequality, and the prevailing sub-populations displaced into poverty and homelessness.

Shaw is a three-term United State of Women Ambassador (USOW) for LA. In 2020, she was named former California State Senator Holly J. Mitchell's Woman of the Year. "If you don't know, Suzette is a tremendous advocate for Skid Row and is a Los Angeles Ambassador," said Mitchell. She has appeared in *Forbes*, *NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Newsweek*, among others, and provided tours of Skid Row to 2020 presidential candidates Beto O'Rourke and Julian Castro.

Shaw is a poet, who paints beautiful portraits through her words, where she stands naked in her truth. Through a broad stroke of hues, enlightenment of words, she exudes passion, pain, and persistency. Suzette Shaw has had to make a way out of no way. Thus, reminding us that "my trials became my testimony, my testimony fueled my advocacy, and my advocacy is the reason for my purpose today."



### **Donald H. Whitehead, Jr.**

Executive Director  
National Coalition for the  
Homeless

**Donald Hugh Whitehead, Jr.** is the Executive Director of the National Coalition for the Homeless and a Co-Founder of Racial Equity Partners. He has been working on homelessness, recovery, and racial equity for more than 25 years, ranging from outreach worker to executive director. Whitehead currently trains, teaches, and coaches racial equity work across the country in collaboration with the REP's dynamic team.

Recognized as a leading expert on homelessness, Whitehead has served two terms on the State Coalition on Housing and Homelessness in Ohio, the State of Maryland Drug and Alcohol Policy Council, the Baltimore Ten Year Planning Committee to End Homelessness, the Cincinnati Continuum of Care, and directed a program to house the 100 hardest-to-serve chronically homeless individuals in Orlando, Florida. He has testified before committees in the 107th and 108th Congress and served on advisory committees for Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama.

Whitehead, along with members of the staff of the offices of Representatives John Conyers, Julie Carson, Barbara Lee, John Lewis, and the team of the National Coalition, directed the creation and introduction of the Bringing America Home Act, the most comprehensive legislation to date to address homelessness in America.

Whitehead has been featured on CBS News, ABC News, FOX TV, CNN, MSNBC, NPR, and many others.

### PANEL: POLICY LEVERS FOR CALIFORNIA TO MITIGATE HOMELESSNESS

#### PANELISTS



**Gary Painter, PhD**, is a Professor in the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California and the Director of the Sol Price Center for Social Innovation and the Homelessness Policy Research Institute. A leading figure in the field of social innovation, Painter works extensively with social innovation organizations and collective impact networks to address some of the grand challenges society faces. His research focuses on how to activate the social innovation process. He also has extensive expertise in housing, urban economics, and education policy, which shapes his research on how the social innovation process can identify new models of social change within these complex policy areas.

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**Nadereh Pourat, PhD**, is the Associate Center Director and Director of the Health Economics and Evaluation Research Program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. She is also a Professor of Health Policy and Management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. Her research focuses on assessing disparities in access to care of underserved populations, including the role of the health care delivery system in disparities and health care outcomes. Pourat is the lead evaluator of the Whole Person Care and Health Homes Program Medi-Cal demonstrations in California that enroll large numbers of Medi-Cal beneficiaries experiencing homelessness.

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**Leepi Shimkhada, MPP**, is the Director of Housing and Services at the LA County Department of Health Services' Housing for Health Program. Over the last 20+ years, she has held various roles in the homeless services community, such as community organizer and case manager in the San Gabriel Valley and Skid Row. Her work has impacted systems change, she has co-authored public policy, and she has extensive experience in funding and creating permanent affordable housing with supportive services. Shimkhada's work providing technical assistance to the homeless services community to use housing subsidies and create supportive service programs has helped launch other permanent supportive housing programs in other jurisdictions.

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#### MODERATOR



**Randall Kuhn, PhD**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. A demographer and sociologist focused on the social determinants of health among vulnerable populations, Kuhn conducted some of the earliest quantitative research on health and substance use risks among chronically homeless adults. He co-authored recent reports on homelessness and COVID-19 for the National Alliance to End Homelessness and on health and homelessness in Los Angeles. He currently leads or co-leads new studies that use mobile phones to measure the well-being of unhoused and recently-housed populations.



### Isaac G. Bryan

California State  
Assemblymember, District 54

Democrat **Isaac G. Bryan, MPP**, represents Los Angeles and Culver City, including the communities of Baldwin Hills, Cheviot Hills, Crenshaw, Century City, Ladera Heights, Mar Vista, Palms, Rancho Park, Westwood, and parts of South Central and Inglewood. He was elected to the California State Assembly in May of 2021.

Assemblymember Bryan is a community organizer, educator, and activist. He founded and directed the UCLA Black Policy Project — a think tank dedicated to advancing racial equity through rigorous policy analysis — served as the first Director of Public Policy at the UCLA Ralph J. Bunche Center, as well as Director of Organizing for the nationally recognized Million Dollar Hoods project, a community-based participatory research project.

Assemblymember Bryan co-chaired the successful Measure J campaign in Los Angeles County, which allocated hundreds of millions of dollars a year to address racial injustice and strengthen communities. He authored the first holistic report for the City of Los Angeles on the needs of formerly incarcerated Angelenos, and exposed a gap in youth justice policy — research that was used by then Senator Holly J. Mitchell to advance SB439. His academic and organizing work has been at the intersection of environmental, economic, education, and housing justice.

Assemblymember Bryan received his Master's in Public Policy from UCLA and bachelor's degrees in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Arizona. He, his partner, and his Great Dane Darius live in Jefferson Park.

### REFLECTIONS



**Melissa Chinchilla, PhD, MPP**, is a Research Scientist at AltaMed Institute for Health Equity and an Associate Investigator at the Veterans Affairs Rehabilitation Research and Development Center on Enhancement of Community Integration for Homeless Veterans. Her research has examined the community integration outcomes of formerly homeless individuals assisted through the VA's largest homeless program, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (VASH), as well as Latino homelessness in LA County, including what is driving the increase, gaps in housing and service provision, and best practices for serving this community.

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**Garen Corbett, MS**, is the Director of the California Health Benefits Review Program at UC Berkeley, which provides the State Legislature analysis of the medical, financial, and public health impacts of proposed health insurance benefit mandates and repeals. Prior to that, he was Deputy Director of The Health Industry Forum and Assistant Director for Legislation and Policy at the Massachusetts Group Insurance Commission (GIC), where he managed large health benefits programs, policy and legislative activities, and research. His ongoing consulting work has focused on federal and state health policy efforts and health care innovation.

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**Mark A. Peterson, PhD**, is a Professor of Public Policy, Political Science, and Law at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. A specialist on American national institutions, much of Peterson's scholarship focuses on the Presidency, Congress, interest groups, and public opinion, evaluating interactions among them, and their implications for policymaking, both within domestic policy and with special attention to national health care policy, Medicare reform, and HIV/AIDS politics and policy. He was a founding member of the UCLA-based Blue Sky Health Initiative, which helped advise Congress on the inclusion of disease prevention and health promotion strategies in the Affordable Care Act.

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**Michael A. Rodríguez, MD, MPH**, is a Professor and Vice Chair in the Department of Family Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, Founding Director of the Health Equity Network of the Americas, Co-Director of the UCLA Firearm Violence Prevention Center, and Founding Director of the UCLA Blum Center on Poverty and Health in Latin America. Rodríguez is published widely in research areas that include ethnic/racial and immigrant health equity, gun and domestic violence prevention, and primary care for immigrant populations.

## REMEMBERING RICK BROWN



The E.R. Brown Symposium, named after UCLA Center for Health Policy Research Founder E. Richard "Rick" Brown, is an annual event that honors the life of Rick Brown, who spent his life advocating strongly for a health-care-for-all system that would ensure health services for every Californian.

We thank his wife, Marianne Brown, for her unwavering support of the Center, this symposium series, and continuing Rick Brown's legacy. You will always be part of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research family.

To support the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and honor Rick Brown, please consider making a gift to the **E. Richard Brown Health Policy Impact Fund**.

<http://giving.ucla.edu/ERB2021>

## ABOUT THE UCLA CENTER FOR HEALTH POLICY RESEARCH

*Building Knowledge. Informing Policy.  
Improving Health.*

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (CHPR) is one of the nation's leading health policy research centers and the premier source of health policy information for California.

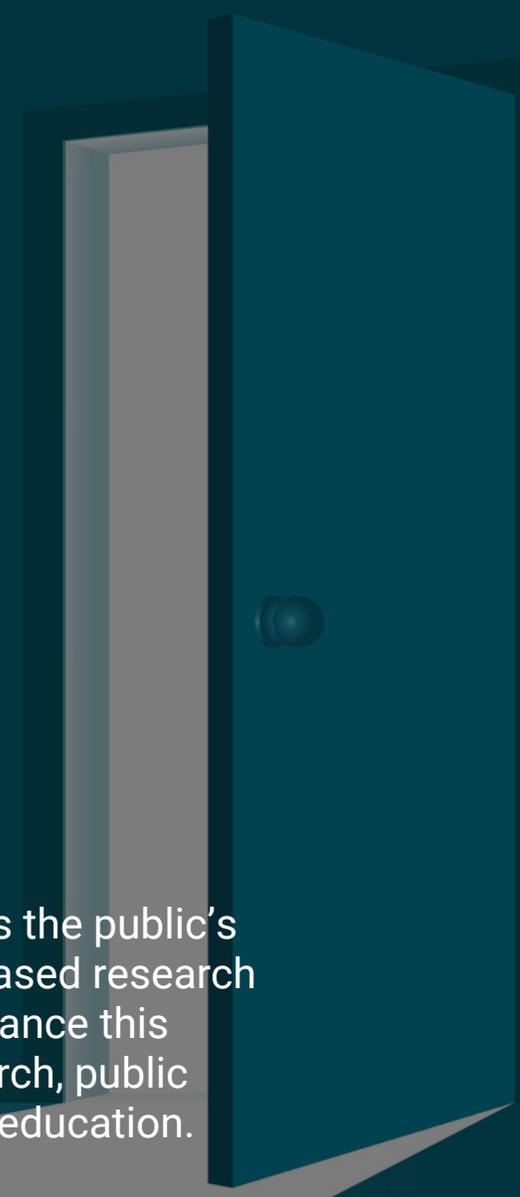
UCLA CHPR is the home of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), the nation's largest state health survey, and is affiliated with the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

### MISSION

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research improves the public's health through high-quality, objective, and evidence-based research and data that informs effective policymaking. We advance this mission through policy analysis, policy-relevant research, public service, community partnership, media relations, and education.

### VISION

Our vision is a health policy process driven by credible and comprehensive evidence, leading to equitable, impactful, and cost-effective laws, policies, and programs. We also believe data should be democratized and put into the hands of the public in ways that inform, educate, and result in grassroots-driven policy change. Ultimately, we aim to develop crucial evidence to support the elimination of persistent disparities in health and health coverage.



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