

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

CLAUDE A. ALLEN, Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services

Mr. Allen was confirmed by the Senate as the Deputy Secretary for the Department of Health and Human Services on May 26, 2001.

HHS is the federal government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. The department includes some 300 programs, covering a wide spectrum of activities, including medical and social science research, preventing outbreak of infectious disease, assuring food and drug safety, Medicare and Medicaid, financial assistance for low-income families, Head Start, substance abuse treatment and prevention and services for older Americans. The department's budget in fiscal year 2001 is \$429 billion.

As Deputy Secretary, Allen works closely with HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson on all major policy and management issues, and he serves as the department's chief operating officer.

Prior to joining HHS, Allen was Secretary of Health and Human Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia, leading 13 agencies and 15,000 employees. Allen led Governor Gilmore's initiative for Virginia's new Patients Bill of Rights passed in 1999, allowing patient appeals for adverse coverage decisions made by health plans, and direct access to physician specialists. Allen also spearheaded Virginia's welfare reform initiative and provided leadership to overhaul the state's mental health institutions and community services. Additionally, Allen was responsible for implementing the Governor's private health insurance program for children and families, offering lower-cost coverage options to thousands of uninsured Virginians.

Before joining the Gilmore administration, Allen was Counsel to the Attorney General, and later, Deputy Attorney General for the Civil Litigation Division in the Office of the Attorney General, Virginia. He reported directly to then-Attorney General Gilmore on legal, legislative, and policy matters, including all health, education and welfare issues. Before joining the Office of the Attorney General, Allen practiced law in Washington, D.C., specializing in government contracts, litigation, and legislative affairs. Allen holds both a Juris Doctorate and a Masters of Law in International and Comparative Law from Duke University Law School. He completed his undergraduate education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, earning degrees in Political Science and Linguistics. Allen is married to the former Jannese Mitchell and is father of Claude Alexander III, Lila-Cjoan, and Christian Isaiah.

CHARLENE DORIA-ORTIZ, Executive Director, Center for Health Policy Development, Inc.

(CHPD). CHPD is a private, non-profit health advocacy agency serving Hispanics, primarily Mexican Americans. She has over 30 years experience in health and human services programs, including designing a systematic and comprehensive approach to training and technical assistance. She has particular expertise in substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, cultural concepts in curriculum development, resource sharing, and organizational development with a primary emphasis on services to Hispanics. She has also provided consultation to state and federal agencies including the design of culturally-based health prevention models and training designs, network and coalition building, and group facilitation, to name a few.

As Executive Director she is responsible for the administrative oversight of two federal and other privately funded health professions development and prevention projects. In 1990, Ms. Doria-Ortiz provided testimony to the Congress of the United States, Subcommittee on Legislation and National Security of the House of Representatives on “Hispanics in the Southwest and Substance Abuse Prevention”, in Washington, D.C. In 1993, she also provided written and oral testimony to the National Task Force on Health Care Reform entitled “Mexican American and Other Latinos in the United States: Unique Families in Need of a Quality Health Care Delivery System”.

Her publications include “Implementing a Service Delivery System for Hispanic Women, Meeting the Alcohol Service Needs of Hispanic Women, which she co-authored with Dr. Sally J. Andrade and Dr. Carmel Carrillo.

In honor of her achievements on work performed, she has received awards such as the “Shooting Star Award” – presented at the Latinas Leading In Prevention Conference, by LARASA, Denver Co., for providing leadership within the field of substance abuse, July 1995, and the H. Bryce Brooks Award – Prevention Person of the Year, National Association of Prevention Professions, 1979.

INGRID M. DURÁN, President and CEO Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI).

CHCI is a premier national non-profit and non-partisan organization whose mission is to develop the next generation of Latino leaders. It is the only organization whose Board of Directors includes; Hispanic Members of Congress, and Hispanic leaders from the business community. CHCI’s vision is to have an educated and civically active Latino community that participates at the local, state, and federal policy decision-making levels. CHCI seeks to accomplish its mission by offering educational and Latino youth leadership development programs, services, and activities that promote the growth of participants as effective professionals and strong leaders.

Prior to joining CHCI, Durán was the director of the Washington, D.C. office of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO). There she managed the daily operations of the office, monitored legislative activities of Congress, served as the organization’s liaison to Members of Congress, and built a variety of coalitions. As spokeswoman for NALEO, Durán was a leader in the development of the Coalition for Hispanic Advancement (recently merged with the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda - NHLA), the largest “working” coalition composed of more than 30 national and regional Latino organizations.

Durán has a myriad of experiences from non-profit affiliation to work on Capitol Hill. In 1990, Durán worked for the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives in the Office of Systems Management. In 1993, she worked as a staff assistant for the House Banking Committee under the chairmanship of U.S. Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez (D-TX) and then moved to the position of legislative assistant for U.S. Rep. Gene Green (D-TX). Under Congressman Green’s leadership, Durán worked on issues including immigration, banking, housing, civil rights, defense/intelligence, transportation, science, space, and technology.

Durán’s international experience includes being stationed in Okinawa, Japan in 1987, and serving as a U.S. Speaker for the U.S. Information Agency in Caracas, Venezuela in 1996. Durán serves as a Presidential appointee on the President’s Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, and was appointed to serve on the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans. She is also a member of the Executive Advisory Board of the Harvard Journal of Hispanic Policy. Durán also is affiliated with numerous associations including; MANA a National Latina Organization, GANAS, Women in Military Service Memorial Organization, Congressional Hispanic Staff Association (past President), and the Congressional Marine Corps Association.

A native of Los Angeles, California and raised in Wichita, KS, Durán served as a Corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps where she attended Communications School and was named Honor Graduate of her class. Durán has a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Park College in Arlington, Virginia.

JENNIFER KATES, M.A., M.P.A., Senior Program Officer, HIV/AIDS Policy, The Kaiser Family Foundation. Ms. Kates manages the Foundation's HIV-related policy projects, conducts policy research and analysis, and provides HIV/AIDS expertise to the Foundation's public health information campaigns and media partnerships, and to numerous external stakeholders including the media, policymakers, and community members. Her work focuses on issues of health care coverage, financing, access to care, and prevention, particularly for those increasingly affected by the epidemic including women, people of color, and young people. She manages the Foundation's ongoing Capitol Hill Briefing Series on HIV/AIDS, as well as its National HIV/AIDS Policy Initiative, a joint initiative of the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Ford Foundation.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Ms. Kates was a Senior Associate with The Lewin Group, where she focused on HIV/AIDS policy, strategic planning/health systems analysis, and managed care and vulnerable populations. She provided consulting services to clients such as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the New York State AIDS Institute, the Texas Department of Health, the New York City Department of Public Health, the Whitman Walker Clinic, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Before that, Ms. Kates was the Director of the Office of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns at Princeton University. She also was the Coordinator of Princeton University's Alcohol and Other Drugs Peer Education Program, at the University's Health Center.

Ms. Kates holds a Bachelors Degree in Political Science and Women's Studies from Dartmouth College, a Masters Degree in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts, and a Masters Degree in Public Affairs, with a concentration in Demography, from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

DANIEL MONTOYA, Director of Government Affairs, AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA). APLA is dedicated to improving the lives of people affected by HIV disease; reducing the incidence of HIV infection; and advocating for fair and effective public policy.

Mr. Montoya is the former Executive Director of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (Council), The White House, established by Executive Order through former President William Jefferson Clinton. The Council makes recommendations to the President on programs and policies that affect people with HIV and AIDS. He acted as liaison between the Advisory Council, the President, Vice President, Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, federal agencies, state agencies, and private and community-based organizations.

Mr. Montoya was responsible for managing staff support to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, including coordinating all meetings and hearings of the Council, and working with subcommittees of the Council to develop and monitor policy recommendations made by the Council to the President. He provided policy advice and assistance to the President, Vice President, Secretary of HHS, and the director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, developed an annual report to the President concerning HIV/AIDS issues that evaluated the nation's efforts to combat HIV/AIDS. Mr. Montoya finished his coursework for his Masters in Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin (final degree pending completion and approval of Professional Report), where he also received his Bachelors of Business Administration in Finance. He previously worked at the Texas General Land Office where he focused on environmental and energy

policy at both the local, state and federal levels. His main focus were policy issues as they affected minority, underserved and vulnerable populations in Texas.

Mr. Montoya has worked with numerous local, state and national AIDS-related organizations focusing on care and services, housing, complimentary therapies and human and civil rights, having served as both a volunteer and board member. He is actively involved in local, state, and federal politics/elections and is currently the co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Leadership Council of the Democratic National Committee.

As a person living with HIV for over 14 years, Mr. Montoya is especially sensitive to the hopes and needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.

CONGRESSMAN CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ. After his swearing-in on April 17, 1997, Congressman Rodriguez joined the Armed Services Committee to support our military and the special place they have in his hometown of San Antonio. He joined the Veterans Affairs Committee to promote the rights and benefits of the more than 50,000 veterans in the 28th District who answered the call to serve. He currently serves as first vice chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and serves as its health care task force chairman.

As a United States Representative, Congressman Rodriguez works closely with local community leaders on a range of issues to promote the interests of the counties, cities, towns and residents in his congressional district. He actively fights in Congress for area military bases, for improved health care and for economic development opportunities for large and small businesses.

Congressman Rodriguez has been at the forefront of military base redevelopment using innovative partnerships and cost-saving approaches. Congressman Rodriguez successfully worked to enact legislation creating the Brooks City Base, the first such development venture of its kind, at Brooks AFB. The transformation of the former Kelly AFB into Kelly USA, a state-of-the-art manufacturing and logistics center, remains another key initiative. Finding new tenants for Ft. Sam Houston and working with the Air Force to enhance missions at Randolph AFB and Lackland AFB are key legislative goals.

Congressman Rodriguez vigorously advocates for strengthening public education, improving benefits for veterans and military retirees, and protecting Texas farmers and ranchers. He believes in prudent spending policies that protect Social Security and Medicare as national safety nets for aging American workers and their families.

Congressman Rodriguez has successfully obtained additional resources for regional technical assistance centers used by educators, for the National Park Service to expand and preserve the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, and for area transportation needs. He helped spearhead the successful effort to bring new health care access points for veterans in South Texas.

In the Texas House of Representatives, then-Representative Rodriguez held the chairmanship of the important Local and Consent Calendar Committee. He served on the Public Health and the Higher Education Committees, and presided as a vice-chairman of the Legislative Study Group, a coalition of progressive Texas House members.

From 1975 to 1987, Mr. Rodriguez served as a board member of the Harlandale Independent School District, worked as an educational consultant for the Intercultural Development Research Association, and served as a caseworker with the Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation. From 1987 to 1996, he taught at Our Lady of the Lake University's Worden School of Social Work.

Congressman Rodriguez attended San Antonio College and later received his BA in Political Science from St. Mary's University in San Antonio. He received his Masters of Social Work from Our Lady of the Lake University. He and his wife of more than 20 years, Carolina Peña, have one daughter, Xochil Daria.