



## **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

***Honoring the Oath: A Call to Action  
March 13-16, 2009, Washington DC***

### **FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2009**

**6:30 PM--** Happy Hour with NPA Leadership and DC NPA Group, Hotel Lobby

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2009**

**7:30-10:00 AM** NPA Board of Directors Meeting

**10:00 AM-12:30 PM** NPA Leadership Strategic Planning Meeting

**10:45 AM** Registration Table Open

**12:50-1:30 PM** **Conference Opening Session:** NPA Outgoing President Lydia Vaias, MD, MPH

**1:30-2:30 PM** ***Keynote: Dora Hughes, MD, MPH  
Counselor to the Secretary of Health and Human Services  
Health Care Reform 2009***

Dr. Dora Hughes, Counselor to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, served as a member of the Obama Campaign Health Policy Team and continues to play a key role in the development of the President's legislative agenda. She previously served as Deputy Director for Health for Senator Edward M. Kennedy on the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions in the United States Senate. Prior to working on Capitol Hill, Dr. Hughes served as Senior Program Officer at The Commonwealth Fund, a national health foundation in New York City. Dr. Hughes completed medical school at Vanderbilt University, residency at Brigham & Women's Hospital, and earned her M.P.H. at the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Hughes is board-certified in internal medicine.

**2:30-2:40 PM** ***~Break~***

**2:40-4:00 PM**

***Visions for Health Care Reform: Diverse Strategies Considered***

Sponsored by: Secure Healthcare for All Campaign

Moderator: Valerie Arkoosh, MD, MPH, NPA Board of Directors

Panelists: David Grande, MD, MPA

National Physicians Alliance Board of Directors

Nick Unger, leader of the Universal Health Care Action Network & Training Director, AFL-CIO Health Care Campaign

Walter Tsou, MD, MPH

Physicians for a National Health Program

Richard Kirsch

National Campaign Director, Health Care for America Now

**4:00-4:10 PM**

***~Break~***

**4:10-5:10 PM**

***Eliminating Conflict of Interest in the Practice of Medicine***

Sponsored by: the NPA's Unbranded Doctor Campaign

Moderator: Benjamin Schaefer, MD

Panelists: Allan Coukell, Policy Director, the Prescription Project, Boston, MA

Chris McCoy, MD, National Physicians Alliance Policy Committee Chair

**5:10-5:30 PM**

***~Refreshment Break~***

**5:30-6:30 PM**

***NPA Executive Update and Open Forum***

Enjoy an interactive session with National Physicians Alliance leadership, including an overview of the year's accomplishments and a glimpse at our plans. Ask your questions and share your suggestions for the months ahead.

**6:30-9:30 PM**

***A. Gene Copello Memorial Reception***

Featuring Dr. Phil Pearl and the Children's National Medical Center Jazz Band

***Honored Speaker: Marian Wright Edelman***

Founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), Mrs. Edelman has been an advocate for disadvantaged Americans for her entire professional life. She has received many honorary degrees and awards including the Albert Schweitzer Humanitarian Prize, the Heinz Award, and a MacArthur Foundation Prize Fellowship. In 2000, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, and the Robert F. Kennedy Lifetime Achievement Award for her writings which include eight books, most recently: *The Sea is So Wide and My Boat is So Small: Charting a Course for the Next Generation*.

**SUNDAY MARCH 15, 2009**

**8:00-9:00 AM**            **~Continental Breakfast Provided~**

**9:00-10:15 AM**            **Gun Violence and Public Health**  
Sponsored by: the NPA's D.C. Action Network

Moderator: Patricia Turner, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery  
Director of Resident Training  
University of Maryland Dept. of General Surgery

Panelists: John A. Rich, MD, MPH  
Professor and Chair, Drexel University  
Department of Health Management and Policy  
  
M. Chris Gibbons, MD, MPH, Associate Director  
Urban Health Institute  
The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg  
School of Public Health

**10:15-10:30 AM**            **~Break~**

**10:30-11:45 AM**            **Keynote: Ron Pollack, Founding Executive Director of Families USA**  
***The Power of Coalitions in 2009 Health Care Reform***  
Sponsored by: the NPA Council of Consumers

Ron Pollack is the Founding Executive Director of Families USA, a national organization for health care consumers whose mission is to achieve high-quality, affordable health coverage for everyone in the U.S. *The Hill*, a weekly newspaper covering Congress and their staffs, named Mr. Pollack one of the nine top nonprofit lobbyists. *Modern Healthcare* named Mr. Pollack one of the 100 Most Powerful People in Health Care. *National Journal* named him one of the top 25 players in Congress, the Administration, and the lobbying community on Medicare prescription drug benefits. In 1997, Mr. Pollack was appointed by President Clinton as the sole consumer representative on the Presidential Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. In that capacity, Mr. Pollack helped prepare the Patients' Bill of Rights that has been enacted by many state legislatures. Prior to his current position at Families USA, Mr. Pollack was the Dean of the Antioch School of Law. Mr. Pollack received his law degree from New York University where he was an Arthur Garfield Hays Civil Liberties Fellow.

**11:45 AM-1:00 PM**            **~Lunch Provided~**

**1:00-2:15 PM**

***Living with AIDS: Pediatric Realities***

Sponsored by: DC NPA Group

Moderator: Kathy Woodward, MD  
Children's National Medical Center

Panelist: Lawrence D'Angelo, MD, Dir. Adolescent Medicine  
Children's National Medical Center

**2:15-2:30 PM**

***~Break~***

**2:30-4:30 PM**

***The Physician as Advocate: Honoring the Oath***

Sponsored by: the NPA's Rx: Vote Campaign

Moderators: Rishi Manchanda, MD, MPH & Alex Blum, MD

Panelists: Jerome A. Paulson, MD, FAAP  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics & Public Health  
George Washington University  
Medical Director for National & Global Affairs,  
Child Health Advocacy Institute, Washington, DC

Robert Blum, MD, PhD  
Director of the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute

Anthony Schlaff, MD, MPH  
Director of Public Health Programs, Tufts University School of Medicine

Marc Wetherhorn  
Federal and State Affairs National Advocacy Director  
National Association of Community Health Centers

**4:35-5:00 PM**

***National Conference Closing Session/Remarks***

Dave Evans, MD, NPA President-Elect & Lydia Vaias, MD, MPH, NPA Past President

**MONDAY MARCH 16, 2009: NATIONAL PHYSICIANS ALLIANCE LOBBY DAY**

**8:00-9:00 AM**

NPA Board of Directors Meeting

**9:00-10:00 AM**

Health Care Update and Lobby Training

**10:30 AM-2:00 PM**

Meetings with Congressional Members and Staff