

Congratulations and welcome to the following physicians, who will begin four-year terms on the NPA board of directors as of March 12, 2010.

Ricky Choi [CV](#)

My name is Ricky Choi and I am the Department Head of Pediatrics at Asian Health Services, a community health center based in Oakland, CA. I am applying for a position on the Board of Directors because of this important moment in our nation's history and the vital role the National Physician's Alliance has to play in health reform. Though many legislative aspects of health reform will hopefully approach completion, important plan details and adjustments will be made in the next few years. As the conscience of physicians and a dedicated advocate for our patients, the NPA must continue to rally like minded physicians around our commitment to health care that is affordable, accessible, and equitable. We need to further develop campaigns and programs to restore integrity in medicine. I bring experiences that can add leadership to these goals. My daily focus is on improving health care quality and access both in the clinic and at the policy level. My patients are from low income immigrant families who speak any of ten different Asian languages. We work closely with the community to provide cost efficient and culturally sensitive primary care services. We also mobilize our patients and elevate the community's voice to local, state, and national leaders. I serve on the board of directors of the National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians, an organization seeking to address the cultural and linguistic barriers to quality care as well as identifying needs of specific ethnic groups. Appointed to the Council on Multicultural Health, I take help shaping state policies and programs of the California Departments of Public Health and Health Care Services so as to reduce health disparities and address the unique challenges faced by California's ethnic minorities. I was also selected to be on the Pediatric Working Group of the NPA's Good Stewardship Project, which is tasked to develop recommendations for practice that are of high quality while cost effective. In only a few years the NPA has had impressive accomplishments for which we should be proud. Looking forward, I hope to be a part of the leadership that tackles the many challenges to our patients and the integrity of our profession.

Bill Jordan [CV](#)

I am a Faculty Development Fellow at Montefiore. I completed a Preventive Medicine residency and MPH at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. I earned my MD at McGill, and completed Family Medicine residency at Montefiore. I have worked extensively with immigrants and people with chronic mental illness. More recently, I have focused on healthy food availability, and economic development to improve community health. I am currently Board President of a non-profit that advocates on behalf of street vendors, Esperanza del Barrio. I also serve as Development Director of the New York Local Action Network of the NPA.

Reason for Interest

As a doctor trained in family and preventive medicine in underserved areas of New York City, I have a strong commitment to the core values of the NPA. I believe that doctors have a duty beyond seeing individual patients, to serve and advocate for the health of communities. I have worked with my colleagues in the New York Local Action Network of the NPA over the past year to build coalitions and help move health care reform forward. I would like to serve on the board of the NPA to spread the model of success we have forged in New York to other regions across the country that are at earlier stages of development.

Skills and Experiences

I have worked with the New York Local Action Network of the NPA since March 2009. I participated in Congressional lobbying visits, conducted interviews with the international press, delivered rally speeches, sat on panels, appeared on TV, gave talks about advocacy at primary care residency programs, and developed our local website (<http://npany.blogspot.com>).

As a resident, I gathered medical center support for Green Cart legislation in 2008, which increased availability of fruits and vegetables in underserved communities in NYC. I was voted onto the board of Esperanza del Barrio after assisting members to apply for the new permits. I won the grant for and have supervised work on Locarto, an online map of vendors funded by the Google.org fund of the Tides Foundation. I was subsequently voted in as Board President in August 2009.

Akbar Rahman [CV](#)

When I applied to this board a year ago, I wrote that I was 'acutely aware of the need for an organization like the National Physicians' Alliance.' A year later, my perception of that need is only heightened. Health care reform in this country is on the cusp of becoming reality, but it is only because of the hard work of groups like ours. Over the past year, I have had the privilege to serve this organization as a board member, and provide some small measure of leadership to our efforts. I very much would like to continue in that capacity.

As a board member, I assisted our 'Secure Healthcare for All' campaign through the organization of 'Echo Events' around the country this past summer, as we played our part in the successful passage of the House health care reform bill. I have had the opportunity to learn the issues, and actively participate in, the strategic planning of our organization during this historical time. And now, as part of the planning committee for the 2010 National Meeting, I look forward to even more of a chance to contribute to this organization.

Born and raised in San Jose, California, I was out of the state for nearly thirteen years before returning for residency. During that time I spent two years as a volunteer teacher in Tanzania, East Africa, and two more years living and working in Washington DC, before moving to Chicago for medical school at Northwestern University. While at NU, I also earned my MPH. These experiences have given me tools in fundraising, project planning, and organizational development. I am eager to continue putting this knowledge to work for the NPA.

It has been a privilege to serve on the NPA Board of Directors this past year, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue. I thank you for your consideration.

Kate Tulenko [CV](#)

As a former AMSA member, former co-chair of AMSA's International Health section, current NPA member, and leader in global health policy, I would be honored to serve on the NPA board. I am interested in serving on the board for three main reasons: 1) Volunteerism is important to me. It's never enough just to do your job; you must serve through volunteer work. 2) With the AMA's continued focus on what's good for physicians, rather than what's good for patients or best for both, the NPA can serve a strong counterpoint and a voice for positive change, and I want to be part of making that happen. 3) My management and prior board experience will enable me to help guide the NPA on strategy, message positioning, and volunteer management. I would bring a unique global perspective to NPA's board. I have over ten years' experience with global, US, and non-US national level health policy on issues such as health sector reform; HIV/AIDS; health financing; health insurance; and maternal and child health and have worked with institutions such as the WHO, CDC, and Gates Foundation. I have just accepted the position of the Deputy Director of the US government's new \$300 million global health workforce program. I previously served for five years as the coordinator of the World Bank's Africa Health Workforce Program where I assisted African countries to train more health workers and retain existing workers.

With my global perspective from over a decade of working in every imaginable type of health system, I could help NPA bring the best health service delivery ideas to the US and be a voice in calling for the US to take responsibility for the global health effects of its actions.

In addition to my global perspective, I bring US community and national experience. I continue to practice pediatrics at Mary's Center, a federally-qualified clinic serving a mainly uninsured and underinsured Latino community in Washington, DC.

Thank you for your consideration; it would be a great honor to serve on the NPA board.