TOP WOMEN LEADERS IN HEALTH CARE
Letter from the Publisher

Considering the challenging times we are faced with due to the coronavirus crisis, it has become particularly evident that solid leadership in the health care sector — which has always been important — has become more essential than ever. Health care professionals put themselves in harm’s way to help keep our communities safe, and the industry’s leaders have transformational decisions to make every day.

There are some particularly stellar health industry stewards in the Los Angeles region who happen to be women, and we’ve alphabetically listed some of the best here, along with some information about their careers and recent successes.

The health care leaders listed in these pages were chosen by the Los Angeles Business Journal for exceptional stewardship and achievement across the full spectrum of responsibility, exemplary leadership as evidenced by the highest professional and ethical standards, and for contributions to the health and well being of the Los Angeles community at large.

Congratulations to the extraordinary women who made this list and thank you for working to keep the people and businesses of Los Angeles healthy in a time like this.

Best regards,

Josh Schimmels
Publisher & CEO

Top doctors deserve top leadership.

Congratulations to our President and CEO, Lori J. Morgan, MD, MBA, for being recognized as one of 2020’s Top Women in Healthcare.

Find your top doctor at: HuntingtonHospital.org/Doctors
TOP WOMEN LEADERS IN HEALTH CARE

LARA KHOURI
Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Lara Khouri is responsible for leading several critical departments essential to the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) mission, including strategic planning, health system development, and integration, government, community, and business relations, marketing and communications, and the cancer, neurological, orthopedic, cardiac, and fetal & neonatal service lines. She has also worked closely with CHLA physicians to develop an expanded system of care for children in Los Angeles and beyond. Khouri also led a team responsible for the dramatic growth and performance management of the hospital’s delivery system across the continuum, from the more than 100 primary care pediatricians based in four counties in the CHLA Health Network, to the nationally-ranked, advanced care provided by the hospital’s key designated service lines. She has also overseen the growth of CHLA’s Global Health Program to serve hundreds of patients from six continents and 70 countries.

SARAH KILPATRICK, MD, PhD
Professor and The Heping and Nancy Liu Endowed Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Diversity
Cedars-Sinai

Sarah Kilpatrick oversees 27 full-time faculty members, each specializing in high-risk pregnancies and complex gynecologic conditions. Her academic programs include Maternal Fetal Medicine (including pre-natal diagnoses), Family Planning, Fertility and Reproductive Medicine, Gynecologic Oncology, and Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery. Dr. Kilpatrick also oversees quality and safety standards for more than 140 Ob-Gyn physicians and directs diversity programs for Cedars-Sinai faculty of more than 450. She spearheaded the development and expansion of multidisciplinary clinical programs for women during and following pregnancy, including the Inflammatory Bowel Disease in Pregnancy Program, which features a unique clinic where expectant mothers consult simultaneously with a maternal-fetal medicine specialist and a gastrointestinalologist.

CARYN LERMAN, MD
Director, USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center; Associate Dean for Cancer Programs
Keck School of Medicine of USC

Caryn Lerman is the first female director of USC’s NCI-designated Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center (NCCC). In this role, she provides the strategic vision to accelerate the NCCC’s impact on reducing the burden of cancer in our ethically and racially diverse catchment area of Los Angeles County and beyond. Through her work at the USC NCCC, Dr. Lerman has brought innovation, integration, and diversity to healthcare. As a leader in Kwik Medicine, she set forth a vision for patient-centered cancer care that leverages clinical, genomic, environmental and lifestyle information about patients to provide the most individualized and effective approaches to cancer prevention, treatment, and survivorship. For example, in the first 15 months of Dr. Lerman’s leadership, the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center launched the Targets to Therapies program to transform laboratory discoveries into new cancer treatments, with multiple potential novel therapies in early stage drug development.

KELLY LINDEN
CEO
Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center

Kelly Linden became CEO of Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center almost three years ago. In her career, she has developed a strong background in operations leadership, strategy and business development for healthcare providers, including hospitals and outpatient facilities. Among her areas of expertise is controlling operational costs through contract negotiations with suppliers and purchasing services organizations and collaboration with the clinical and medical staff in utilization management and product standardization. She also brings to her work at Providence Saint Joseph her skills in staff engagement and collaboration. She has led a multi-million dollar complex campus development, including the construction of a new patient tower and has developed market strategies and physician alignment with providers serving diverse communities. Linden is also focused on growing key service lines including cardiovascular, cancer and orthopedics.

MARCIASLYAGHT, DNP, RN
Associate Director for Patient Care Services and Chief Nurse Executive
Greater Los Angeles VA

Marcia Lyons has a span of control reaching more than 2,000 FTES, including disciplines of nursing, social work, chaplain services, and sterile processing. She is a member of the executive leadership team for the Greater Los Angeles VA and is intimately responsible for quality care metrics, budgeting, strategic planning, policy creation, and professional development at all levels. Among her colleagues and those with whom she has worked, Dr. Lyons is known as a remarkable leader. Determined and decisive, she harnesses the ability to dissect a situation and provide meaningful suggestions but also has the ability to lead from a ‘bird’s eye’ perspective. She routinely engages in discussions and decisions that account for large-scale patient care services. As a servant but compassionate leader, she inspires her team members to grow, learn, and contribute professionally to themselves and to others through mentorship.

CHRISTINA MILLER, PHD
President and CEO
Mental Health America of Los Angeles

Christina Miller is president and CEO of Mental Health America of Los Angeles (MHALA), one of LA County’s largest and most comprehensive mental health organizations, providing integrated mental health services, medical care, wellness services, housing, employment, education and financial services, with special services for veterans and young adults. Since becoming MHALA’s CEO two years ago, Dr. Miller has led a strategic and cultural change process that has resulted in the integration of agency staff and services, a 30% increase in agency funding, the development of new functions (such as private development and evaluation), and has expanded reach and partnerships with the larger community. She has led the agency in new strategic directions with a focus on resilience and quality of life, and special expansion in employment and youth services. She brings a breadth of mental health expertise from her work in inpatient, outpatient, community mental health, and nonprofit settings.

LORI J. MORGAN, MD, MBA
President and CEO
Huntington Hospital

Lori J. Morgan is the president and CEO of Huntington Hospital, a 619-bed, not-for-profit hospital in Pasadena. In her three years at Huntington Hospital, Dr. Morgan has brought her best-practice lens as both a physician and administrator to elevate how care is delivered. She has fortified resources that support the patient experience and invest in programs that ensure quality outcomes. She is also leading the organization’s vision in expanding access to care across the continuum. Dr. Morgan holds a deep concern for all patients, especially those who are most vulnerable to a traumatic life situation or past experience. She implemented a trauma-informed care training for every employee in the hospital that recognizes and appropriately responds to patients who have experienced trauma to ensure the hospital is honoring the humanity in each person who seeks care.

LAURA MOSQUEDA, MD
Dean, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Professor of Family Medicine and Geriatrics; Director, National Center on Elder Abuse
Keck School of Medicine of USC

Laura Mosqueda is the dean of the Keck School of Medicine of USC, where she also serves as professor of family medicine and geriatrics, and professor at the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology. Dr. Mosqueda sets the vision for the Keck School of Medicine, with groundbreaking research, biomedical education and social justice. As dean, Dr. Mosqueda has strengthened internal and external community relationships at Keck School of Medicine. She created a new Office of Community Engagement, Office of Leadership and Wellness, Office for Social Justice, and the center for Gender Equity in Medicine and Science (GEMS). Dr. Mosqueda is internationally known in the field of elder abuse and neglect and continues to publish in this area. She is the principal investigator on an NIH-funded R01 project investigating the underlying mechanisms of elder mistreatment in people with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia.