

CCHCP Board Welcomes New Executive Director

The Cross Cultural Health Care Program's (CCHCP) Board of Directors is pleased to welcome Paulina Bendaña as our new Executive Director. She also joins our team of trainers and facilitators of our Bridging the Gap medical interpreting, cultural competency, and Equity and Inclusion programs.

Paulina brings over 35 years of experience in community engagement, advocacy, strategic communications, and corporate social responsibility. Her main areas of expertise are strategic planning for nonprofits and businesses, international strategy, public policy/government relations and team facilitation/collaboration and leadership.

Among Paulina's responsibilities in her corporate career, she led Boeing's international environment policy, as well as the company's international corporate citizenship programs with a network of community investors in over 40 countries. The community issues that her team addressed were: science and math education; microenterprise programs – particularly for women and youth entrepreneurs; environmental education and conservation; access to clean water; job training; and health care services.

Paulina's commitment to social justice fueled her extensive volunteer work in Ten Thousand Villages of the National Capital Area, including serving as Chair of the Board of Directors of that organization.

As a volunteer in the field of international development, she was the co-founder of a nonprofit network and annual conference bringing together nonprofit, government and business organizations that undertake humanitarian and economic development projects in Honduras. Her service in the nonprofit sector extended as a Board Member of Pure Water for the World, a nonprofit organization that helps the underserved in developing countries by providing safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene education.

Fluent in Spanish and bicultural, Paulina has traveled to more than 30 countries outside the United States, mostly for her work with nonprofits and businesses.

Please join me in warmly welcoming Paulina in her role as the new Executive Director of CCHCP as she builds on the legacy established by our past Executive Director and now Senior Advisor, Ira SenGupta!

Dwight Wheaton, President, Board of Directors