

Physicians for a National Health Program Board Elections 2018: Candidate Biographies

At-large Seats (2 seats)

At-large board member not up for election: Philip Verhoef, MD, PhD (Illinois)

Stephen Chao, MD (Texas)

Dr. Stephen Chao is a family physician at Legacy Community Health Services, a FQHC in Houston. He is also a clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and was previously on the faculty of Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Chao's interests include care for immigrant and refugee populations, community health, and public policy. He serves or has served on the boards of Health Care for All Texas (currently as vice president), Refugee Services of Texas-Houston, OCA-Greater Houston, Chinese American Doctors Association of Houston (immediate past president), Eastside Promotoras de la Buena Salud, San Antonio Healthcare-NOW, and Doctors for Change. Born and raised in Houston, Dr. Chao attended Rice University and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and completed his residency training at UT Health San Antonio.

Danny McCormick, MD, MPH (Massachusetts)

Dr. Danny McCormick is a practicing general internist, health services researcher, medical educator and activist focusing on single-payer national health insurance. In addition to practicing primary care internal medicine at the Cambridge Health Alliance, he is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and the director of the Division of Social and Community Medicine in the Department of Medicine and co-director of the Harvard Medical School fellowship in general medicine and primary care. He also leads the curriculum in social medicine and research-based health activism in the internal medicine residency program at the Cambridge Health Alliance. Along with research colleagues David Himmelstein and Steffie Woolhandler, he has published numerous research articles relating to single payer national health insurance and has used this research to advocate for a single payer program. Dr. McCormick served as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation health policy fellow in Washington, DC, and a staff member of United States Senate Committee on Health Education Labor and Pensions under Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.). Dr. McCormick is currently a member of PNHP's Board of Directors and has been a member of the Massachusetts chapter of PNHP for over 20 years.

North East Region (3 seats)

Board members in this region not up for election: (none)

Adam Gaffney, MD (Massachusetts)

Dr. Adam Gaffney is a national board member, secretary, and president-elect of PNHP and chair of the Massachusetts chapter. Dr. Gaffney is a prolific writer and blogger on health policy. He is currently co-chair of the US/Canadian Pharmaceutical Policy Reform Working Group and was previously co-chair of the Working Group on Single-Payer Program Design, which published an

updated “Physicians’ Proposal for Single-Payer Health Care Reform” in the American Journal of Public Health in 2016. Dr. Gaffney is a pulmonary and critical care physician at Cambridge Health Alliance and instructor in medicine at Harvard Medical School. He completed medical school at the NYU School of Medicine, residency at Columbia University Medical Center, and a clinical and research fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Mary O’Brien, MD (New York)

Dr. Mary O’Brien has been a practicing primary care physician in New York City for the past 35 years – first as associate director of an urban emergency department for 10 years and now as a primary care physician at Columbia. She is double-boarded in internal medicine and emergency medicine. For several summers she has volunteered at a rural clinic in the Mississippi while the medical director takes vacation time. She currently precepts fourth-year medical students at Columbia in their primary care rotation. A member of the board of directors of Physicians for a National Health Program, Dr. O’Brien is also a member of the New York Metro chapter’s executive committee.

Janine Petito, MD (Massachusetts)

Dr. Janine Petito is a graduate of Wesleyan University, where she studied biology and science in society, and was inspired through her studies by the impact physicians can have not only on individual patients but on entire health systems. She received her MD from Boston University School of Medicine and is now completing residency at Cambridge Health Alliance, both of which have missions embodying the ideal of equitable health care for all. Dr. Petito became involved in Students for a National Health Program as a first year medical student, and served as co-chair of its political advocacy team from 2014-2016, and was subsequently a student delegate on PNHP’s Board of Directors.

South Region (1 seat)

Board member in this region not up for election: Olveen Carrasquillo, MD (Florida)

Jessica Schorr Saxe, MD (North Carolina)

If not actually born a single-payer supporter, Dr. Saxe was born to be one: universal health care through a single-payer system was an explicit and implicit social justice message in her family. Brought up near Washington, DC, she attended Oberlin College, received her MD at Tufts University School of Medicine, and completed residency at Duke, seeking greater warmth in ambient temperature and receptiveness to family medicine. From 1980 to 2015, she worked as a family physician for the underserved in Charlotte, NC. Her practice reinforced her interests in access to care, as well as in prevention and lifestyle changes. In 2009, Dr. Saxe convened a group of health professionals to support health reform. The group eventually supported single-payer health care and evolved into Health Care Justice—NC, a chapter of PNHP. She has been the chair since its inception. Dr. Saxe has written op-eds, many advocating for Medicare for All, for the Charlotte Observer for over 30 years. Now retired, speaks on single-payer health care and other health advocacy topics, and volunteers at Shelter Health Services. She has received numerous community and professional awards.

North Central Region (1 seat)

Board member in this region not up for election: Ann Settgest, MD (Minnesota)

Susan Rogers, MD (Illinois)

Dr. Susan Rogers, recently retired, is a volunteer attending hospitalist and internist at the John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County. She previously was co-director of medical student programs for the Department of Medicine. She is also assistant professor of medicine at Rush University, where she is active on the committee of admissions and advised the Rush SNaHP chapter, and assistant professor of medicine at Rosalind Franklin University. She has received numerous teaching awards from Stroger Hospital, Rush University, and Rosalind Franklin University. Dr. Rogers is a past co-president of Health Care for All Illinois and currently serves as a national board adviser to Physicians for a National Health Program. She has given numerous presentations on single payer, including many grand rounds and presentations to members of Congress. She previously served on the boards of the Near North Health Service Corp, a FQHC in Chicago, and Ancona School. Dr. Rogers is a member of the American College of Physicians, the Society of General Internal Medicine, and the National Medical Association. Dr. Rogers received her medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine and completed her residency at Cook County Hospital, where she served as chief resident.

West Region (1 seat)

Board members in this region not up for election: Paul Hochfeld, MD (Oregon) and Paul Song, MD (California).

Scott Goldberg, MD (California)

Dr. Scott Goldberg is a resident in internal medicine-primary care at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and San Francisco General Hospital. Dr. Goldberg is a current member of PNHP's Board of Directors and previously served a student representative on PNHP's board and as a leader of SNaHP. He is an active member of the Society of General Internal Medicine and serves as a union delegate for UCSF chapter of Committee of Interns and Residents (CIR). Dr. Goldberg received his medical degree from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in 2016 and bachelor's degree from Brown University in 2005.