MolinaCares Champions Inland Empire



<u>The MolinaCares Accord</u>, in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of California is recognizing four Inland Empire residents for their leadership, altruism, and advocacy through MolinaCares' Champions Awards program. Due to the pandemic, each honoree will be presented with a trophy and flowers in a socially distanced fashion in lieu of a ceremonial event. The Champions will each receive a \$5,000 grant to pay forward to the nonprofit organization of their choice. This year's awardees include:

Dr. Mona Salomo-Davies Community Outreach Ministry

As a volunteer at Community Outreach Ministry, Dr. Mona Salomo-Davies engages with at-risk children in Riverside County who are impacted by parental incarceration. With a goal of giving disadvantaged youth a second chance to thrive and succeed, Dr. Davies and the Community Outreach Ministry help break the cycle of crime, incarceration, illiteracy, and poverty. She provides education through STEM mentorships and safe, healthy outlets through activities such as camping trips and holiday gatherings. Many of the children who have participated in these programs have become first-generation high school and college graduates. Under her leadership, the organization sponsors booths with free resources at numerous outreach events. Dr. Davies stands out because of her commitment to the lives of vulnerable youth.

John Epps

Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC), Inc.

In his role as a Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC) board member, John Epps advocates for fair treatment for all. He encourages his colleagues to use an equity-focused approach when interacting with clients and other employees. John is also a board member or founder of several groups, including Building Resilient Communities, We Are One United, Inc., Academy for Grassroots Organizations, and the Community Advisory Board for the Center of Health Disparities at UC Riverside. Through his expansive efforts, he is leading the charge to support and uplift diverse communities. He is also working to bring more equity to leadership in nonprofit organizations and boards throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties. John strives to improve access to resources and services that can help Inland Empire residents empower themselves economically and socially. He is also helping develop an employment project to help people better prepare for jobs and career mobility.





Dr. Tom Dolan Inland Congregations United for Change

As executive director of Inland Congregations United for Change for the last 16 years, Dr. Tom Dolan leads a faith-based nonprofit devoted to creating equity advocates and teaching people from marginalized groups how to be agents of change. He has connected farm workers with food banks, health services, and masks and has helped San Bernardino students register voters and address violence in their communities. Dr. Dolan has worked with parents and students to tackle low graduation rates and advocate for mental health centers in schools. He has a long history of commitment to helping unhoused people and formerly incarcerated individuals. Dr. Dolan is known by people in the Inland Empire for his humility and selflessness.



Julieta Barraza

El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center

Through her role as a family support worker for El Sol Neighborhood Education Center, Julieta Barraza provides home visitations to expecting parents and parents with young children in the High Desert area. She also volunteers as a host for a Christian radio station where she encourages families to improve their well-being. As the host, Julieta invites guests such as consuls from the Mexican Consulate and immigration attorneys to provide updates and information. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Julieta organized events where local agencies and organizations provided information about services and resources. She also volunteers at food banks and distributes clothing and backpacks. Julieta's contributions have been recognized by members of congress and county representatives. Julieta dedicates her free time to be of service to her community which she considers a form of demonstrating love.



About the MolinaCares Accord

Established by Molina Healthcare, Inc., The

MolinaCares Accord oversees a community investment platform created to improve the health and well-being of disadvantaged populations by funding meaningful, measurable, and innovative programs and solutions that improve health, life, and living in local communities. The MolinaCares Accord funds such measures through The Molina Healthcare Charitable Foundation Inc., a 501(c)(3) established in 2020 by Molina Healthcare, Inc.

About Molina Healthcare of California

Molina Healthcare of California has been providing government-funded care for over 40 years. As of December 31, 2020, the company serves approximately 593,000 members through Medi-Cal, Medicare Medicare-Medicaid (Duals) and Covered California (Marketplace). Molina's service areas include Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial counties. For more information, visit MolinaHealthcare.com.

