

Public Health is Where You Are

Inspiring the next generation of health leaders



For the past 60 years, Kaiser Permanente has partnered with the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health to host Master of Public Health (MPH) student interns across our enterprise. In honor of National Public Health Week (April 4-10), we're sharing more about South Bay Medical Center's involvement with this partnership and our commitment to developing future public health leaders.

South Bay Medical Center hosts at least 1 student from the UCLA MPH program every year for a 10-week, fieldwork internship. Our interns fulfill a variety of roles, such as consultants, project managers, analysts, and administrative residents. During their internship with us, students identify an operational challenge or opportunity and work to develop solutions with managerial oversight. They then prepare a problem-solving consulting report following the internship. Many interns continue with Kaiser Permanente, eventually accepting full-time roles upon graduating from the MPH program.

In fact, South Bay Medical Center's Chief Administrative Officer, Ozzie Martinez, started his Kaiser Permanente career as an MPH student intern in 2002. After graduating in 2003, Ozzie transitioned to a full-time leadership role in operations and strategy. In his current position, Ozzie directs medical group operations to serve patients and surrounding communities in the South Bay service area, overseeing care for more than 260,000 members. Ozzie has continued to stay engaged with UCLA's Fielding School, championing the partnership at KPSB and mentoring our student interns, as well as serving as a guest lecturer in various MPH courses and professional development workshops. He also hosts an annual "Day on the Job," allowing a group of students to shadow him in his leadership role.

"Helping grow the health care visionaries of tomorrow is a true honor and a responsibility that I view as essential to being a successful leader of today," says Ozzie. "The theme of National Public Health Week, 'Public Health is Where You Are,' reminds us that every person has the ability to make a powerful impact in their community. Not only do our student interns receive training to help them realize their full potential in this arena, South Bay Medical Center's involvement with the program supports our community health focus area of Economic Opportunity by providing quality careers with the potential to reduce economic inequities in the public health domain."



Ozzie Martinez, MPH

In recognition of Ozzie's dedicated service to this program, the UCLA Health Policy & Management Alumni Association is honoring him next month with the Ira Alpert Service Award. Kaiser Permanente South Bay is proud to have inspirational leaders like Ozzie and the opportunity to shape future leaders. We encourage all health care workers to consider how they can personally make an impact on public health from where they are.