

# Elizabeth E. Hudson, MD

Chief of Infectious Diseases, Panorama City Medical Center

As one of few infectious disease doctors in the San Fernando/San Gabriel Valley region, Dr. Elizabeth Hudson has worked tirelessly to support the Kaiser Permanente COVID-19 command center. “It has been a rollercoaster, truly,” Hudson said. “We’ve learned a lot from the start of the pandemic through now.”

And while experts have uncovered a myriad of information about the novel virus, new questions continue to arise. Hudson said one of the most important things that have helped her, and other health care professionals, navigate through the unknown is recognizing the importance of embracing an interdependent culture.

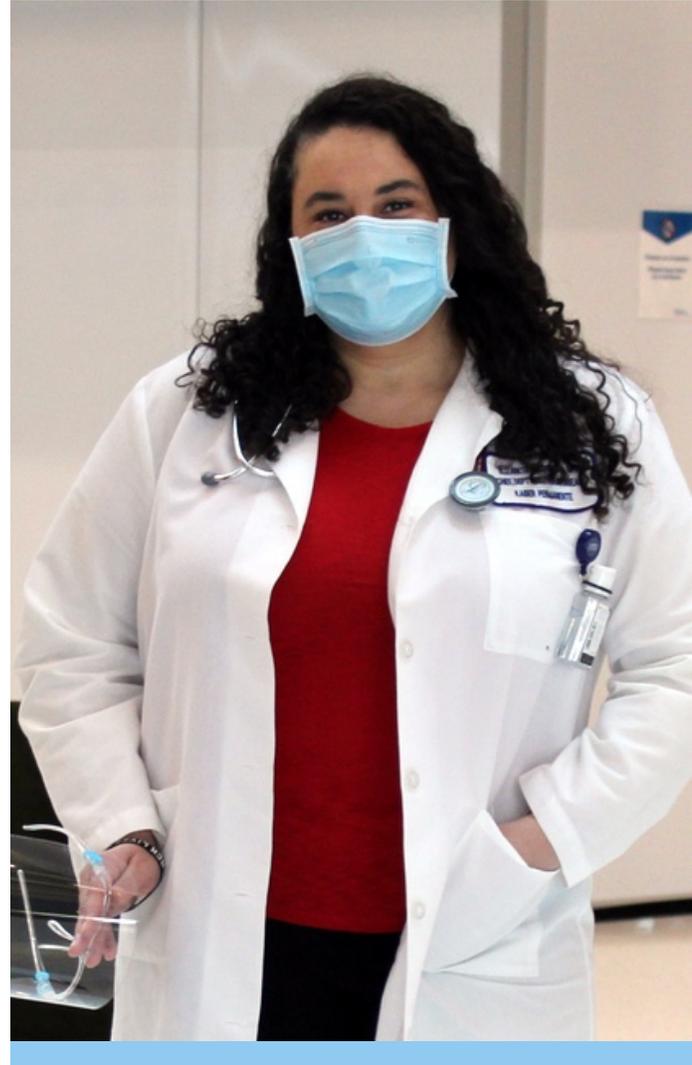
“We wouldn’t get through these days without our own small teams that are working within our own clinic, working with all of the other physicians throughout the hospital,” Hudson said. “From the hospital doctors, to the ICU doctors, and most importantly, all of the nursing staff.”

Another important part, she said, is understanding that sacrifice is hard and uncomfortable, but necessary. “This is all about caring for your fellow human being and showing the Martin Luther King kind of love – a real love for people.”

Spearheading Infectious Disease at Kaiser Permanente Panorama Medical Center, specifically through the duration of the pandemic, has certainly shaped Dr. Hudson.

While it’s impossible to have all the answers, Hudson said she is focusing on making sure patients can get the care they need so they can recover as quickly as possible. “I have seen whole families die, especially earlier on in the pandemic, and it’s just been heartbreaking. That has sort of shaped my whole focus,” she shared.

“I am a teeny, tiny part in such a larger galaxy here, but that is my own personal mission – to try and relieve the suffering.”



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