



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Guam Health Forward 2046 — Healthcare & Community Summit

October 17–18, 2026 | Day 1: Guam Museum, Hagåtña | Day 2: Hyatt Regency Guam

The following biographies represent several members of our faculty — nationally and internationally recognized healthcare leaders who will be presenting at the summit.

Dr. P. Michael Stone, MD, MS, FAAFP, FMCP-M

Opening Visionary Keynote Speaker | Day Two — Sunday, October 18, 2026 | 8:30 AM

Fellow, American Academy of Family Physicians | Senior Research Fellow, Ateneo School of Medicine | Core Faculty, Institute for Functional Medicine

Dr. P. Michael Stone, MD, MS, FAAFP, FMCP-M, is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and Senior Research Fellow with the Ateneo School of Medicine Department of Research and Innovation. He serves as Senior Advisor for the Office of Personalized Health and Well-Being at the University of Georgia and is a clinical investigator integrating primary care, nutrition science, functional medicine education, and clinical research.

Dr. Stone earned his Master of Science in Nutrition in 1982 and his MD from the University of Washington in 1987, completing his internship, residency, and fellowship at UCLA Ventura from 1987 to 1991. Since 2006 he has served as Core and Certification Faculty for the Institute for Functional Medicine, educating clinicians in collaborative care teams nationally and internationally. His research includes well over 100 Phase 1, 2, 3, and 4 clinical trials.

Dr. Stone works closely with his spouse Dr. Leslie Stone and their daughter Emily Stone Rydbom, CEO and nutritionist, toward a shared mission of improving personalized health and medical care for individuals and communities by decreasing disease burden and improving health for future generations.

Dr. Leslie Stone, MD

Featured Keynote Speaker | Day Two — Sunday, October 18, 2026 | 10:45 AM

Board-Certified Family Practice Obstetrician | Co-Founder, GrowBaby Health | Principal Investigator, ROOT Study

Dr. Leslie Stone, MD, is a Board-Certified Family Practice Obstetrician with fellowship training in Surgical Obstetrics, a published researcher, and an internationally recognized lecturer in maternal and perinatal health with more than four decades of clinical experience. Her work integrates systems medicine principles into evidence-based, Medicaid and insurance-reimbursed obstetric care within real-world clinical environments. She is a primary author on multiple peer-reviewed publications in maternal and perinatal health and co-founder of a clinically validated, integrated perinatal OB–nutrition care model designed to improve pregnancy and intergenerational health outcomes.

Dr. Stone is the owner of a family practice clinic serving diverse patient populations across two rural settings, providing comprehensive care in resource-limited environments — an experience that informs her systems-level approach to maternal health innovation, particularly in rural and underserved communities.

Since 2011 Dr. Stone has partnered with Emily Stone Rydbom to develop, implement, and refine the GrowBaby integrated OB–nutrition care model in a high-Medicaid obstetric practice. Combining obstetric care, precision nutrition, and personalized risk assessment, the model has demonstrated sustained improvements in pregnancy and birth outcomes over more than a decade and has been successfully deployed across four states and four distinct delivery systems.

Dr. Stone is also co-creator of a first-of-its-kind maternal–fetal genetic screening test emphasizing modifiable host–environment factors in personalized genomics. She currently serves as Principal Investigator on the ROOT Study — a groundbreaking study launching in partnership with a Medicaid managed care organization, hospital system, and OB-GYN clinical team (NCT 07559773). Over the course of her career she has delivered more than 5,000 babies.

Dr. Todd P. Chang, MD, MAcM

Featured Speaker | Day Two — Sunday, October 18, 2026 | 12:30 PM

Vice Chair for Education, Pediatrics | Director, AI in Medical Education, Keck School of Medicine of USC | Medical Director, CHLA Las Madrinas Simulation Center

Dr. Todd P. Chang, MD, MAcM, is a practicing pediatric emergency medicine physician at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and leads the CHLA Las Madrinas Simulation Center as Medical Director and Research Director. Academically he is Professor of Clinical Pediatrics (Educational Scholar) at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

Dr. Chang serves as Director of Artificial Intelligence in Medical Education within the undergraduate Keck School of Medicine curriculum and as Vice Chair for Education for the Department of Pediatrics. He has substantial experience in scholarly academic innovations, with more than 150 peer-reviewed publications and multimedia contributions, and has been instrumental in navigating educational technologies and programs in hospitals, universities, and healthcare systems across the world.

Dr. Chang will bring a live hands-on SimPaul neonatal simulation experience to the Guam Health Forward 2046 exhibit hall — the first time this technology has been demonstrated live on Guam. The simulation will be operated by CHLA simulation specialist Néhémie throughout the day.

Dr. Cindy Hoepner, DHSc, MBA, FACHE

Featured Speaker | Day One — Saturday, October 17, 2026 | 2:30 PM

Chief Executive Officer, Isla Community Health Center, Saipan, CNMI

Dr. Cindy Hoepner, DHSc, MBA, FACHE, serves as Chief Executive Officer of Isla Community Health Center in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands — one of the Pacific region's leading federally qualified health centers serving a diverse and underserved island community. A Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Dr. Hoepner brings

decades of healthcare leadership, administration, and regional health systems expertise to her role.

Dr. Hoepner's session at Guam Health Forward 2046 will address regional healthcare collaboration and healthcare financing across the Pacific, including a landmark panel discussion on building a Pacific Island Health Coverage Framework — a proposed regional response to the longstanding exclusion of Guam and U.S. territories from ACA marketplace funding. Her perspective as a healthcare CEO operating across the CNMI and the broader Pacific region makes her one of the most important voices in this conversation.

Dr. Carolina Quezada, MD

Featured Speaker | Day Two — Sunday, October 18, 2026 | 2:35 PM

Associate Dean, Clinical Education | A.T. Still University-School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA)

Dr. Carolina Quezada serves as Associate Dean of Clinical Education and Regional Director of Medical Education for A.T. Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA). She also serves as Director of Clinical Education at Family HealthCare Network, a federally qualified health center in California's Central Valley, where she continues to practice Internal Medicine and Pediatrics while training the next generation of physicians.

A first-generation college graduate, Dr. Quezada earned her Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from Saint Mary's College of California before receiving her Doctor of Medicine degree from Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. She completed the combined Internal Medicine-Pediatrics residency program at LAC+USC Medical Center, where she developed a passion for caring for underserved and medically complex patient populations.

The youngest of eight children born to migrant farm-working parents, Dr. Quezada's personal journey has profoundly shaped her commitment to health equity, medical education, and service. As a former National Health Service Corps Scholar, she continues to practice in the same federally qualified health center where she fulfilled her scholarship commitment, reflecting her enduring dedication to improving healthcare access in underserved communities.

Dr. Quezada is deeply committed to mentoring future healthcare professionals and advancing diversity in medicine. She serves on the Alliance in Mentorship (AIM) Board for MiMentor and is actively involved in numerous community outreach initiatives throughout California's Central Valley. Her professional interests include medical education, physician workforce development, primary care innovation, community-based training, health equity, mentorship, and preparing future physicians to provide compassionate, patient-centered care in underserved communities.

Dr. Christina Higa, PhD

Featured Speaker | Day Two — Sunday, October 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM

Director, TASI Research Program & Pacific Basin Telehealth Resource Center | University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Dr. Christina Higa, PhD, is Director of the Telecommunications and Social Informatics (TASI) Research Program within the Social Science Research Institute at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She serves as Principal Investigator of Pili Ola: Hawai'i Statewide Telehealth and Digital Health Initiative, part of Hawai'i's Rural Health Transformation Program.

Dr. Higa also directs the Pacific Basin Telehealth Resource Center (PBTRC), one of 14 federally funded Telehealth Resource Centers supported by the Health Resources and Services

Administration (HRSA). PBTRC serves Hawai'i and the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands, providing technical assistance, training, and strategic support to advance the development, implementation, and integration of telehealth across the region.

Her work focuses on expanding access to healthcare through telehealth and digital health, particularly for rural, underserved, and geographically isolated communities — making her one of the most relevant and impactful voices on digital health innovation for the Pacific region.

MAJ Tom Babauta, LCSW

Featured Speaker | Day Two — Sunday, October 18, 2026 | 1:40 PM

Director of Psychological Health, Guam Army National Guard | Chief of Behavioral Health

Tom Babauta is a licensed clinical social worker with over 30 years of experience in the field of mental health. He serves as the Director of Psychological Health for the Guam Army National Guard in his civilian capacity and is an active Guam Army National Guard Officer serving as Chief of Behavioral Health. He recently relinquished Command of the Medical Readiness Detachment after five years as Unit Commander.

MAJ Babauta has served as President of the Guam Association of Social Workers, Chairman of the Guam Disabilities Council, and Chairman of the Guam Board of Social Work. He is the 2006 Guam Association of Social Workers Social Worker of the Year — a recognition that reflects a career defined by service, leadership, and advocacy for the most vulnerable members of our community.

His session at Guam Health Forward 2046 — One Island, One Health: Bridging Military, Veteran and Community Healthcare to Build Tomorrow's Healthier Guam — will address the unique behavioral health needs of Guam's military and veteran community and the opportunities for military and civilian healthcare collaboration across our island.