

MORGAN

Randall C. Morgan, Jr., MD, MBA, is the President and CEO of the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute based in Washington, D.C. In that role he leads a staff of scholars and research specialists who focus upon the elimination of Health Disparities. He is also an active orthopedic surgeon who has practiced in Sarasota and Bradenton, Florida since 2005. He serves as founder and President of University Park Orthopedics in that community. He is also Clinical Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Florida State School of Medicine and is also a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Community Medicine at the University of Connecticut. He is a graduate of Grinnell College with a B.A. in Chemistry. He received the M.D. degree from Howard University. He served as a resident in Orthopedic Surgery at Northwestern University and served a Pediatric Orthopedic Fellowship at Children's Hospital in Cincinnati. He later received an MBA degree from the University of South Florida.

Dr. Morgan served as the 95th President of the National Medical Association during the years 1996 and 1997. He was the first board-certified orthopedic surgeon to hold that position. Dr. Morgan is a true pioneer in his profession and was among the first surgeons to perform total joint replacement surgery at Northwestern University. Dr. Morgan has practiced General Orthopedic Surgery and Pediatric Orthopedics in Evanston, Illinois, and as well in his hometown of Gary, Indiana, for more than 30 years prior to his relocation to Sarasota. With the assistance of his father, Mr. Randall C. Morgan, Sr., he founded the Orthopedic Centers of Northwest Indiana and served as its president from 1975 to 1999. At one time, this was the largest minority-owned orthopedic practice in the United States. He has written and published extensively throughout his career on Orthopedics, Social Responsibility, Health Equity, and the Education Pipeline for Underrepresented young scholars. He is a Diplomat of the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery and the American Board of Managed Care Medicine. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of Alpha Omega Alpha honorary medical society.

PRICE

Winston Price, M.D., FAAP, FACPE is a board-certified pediatrician and served as President of the National Medical Association (NMA) from August 2004 to July 2005. He is a graduate of Cornell Medical College and received his residency training in pediatrics at the Weill-Cornell Medical Center-Sloan Kettering Medical Center.

Dr. Price serves as the President and Chair for the National African American Drug Policy Coalition and also serves as the Chair of the Southwest Georgia Area Health Education Center (SOWEGA-AHEC) which focuses its mission to recruit, train and retain a robust and highly qualified health workforce for 38 counties in SW GA. He also serves as Chief Information Officer for the W. Montague COBB/NMA Health Institute and was recently appointed to serve on the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health Council/Steering Committee. He holds academic positions at the Philadelphia College of Medicine as an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Director of Pipeline Programs for the SW Georgia Campus, and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Georgia. Dr. Price also practices clinical medicine serving a SW population in Georgia with a focus on preventive care.

HILL

Dr. Washington Hill received his M.D. from Temple University School of Medicine and completed residency at William Beaumont Army General Hospital in El Paso, Texas.

After 12 years in private practice, he completed a Fellowship in Maternal–Fetal Medicine. He holds, academic appointments at a number of prestigious schools of medicine. Dr. Hill is the founding Director of the Maternal Fetal Medicine at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. He has a strong interest in education, patient care, and clinical practice, and is a regular participant at conferences throughout the country. Recently, he completed two years in Rwanda teaching African medical students, residents, faculty, and staff “Safe Motherhood”. Dr. Hill is senior physician in Women’s Health at CenterPlace Health and has practiced at Sarasota Memorial Hospital 30 years and delivered babies 55 years. Dr. Hill is involved daily in the care of high-risk obstetrical patients including those with substance use disorders, promoting “Safe Motherhood” and preventing maternal death throughout Florida, diversity, equity and inclusion, perinatal/community education and reviewing obstetrical medical-legal issues. He is the lead author on the NMA’s Call to Action on Maternal Mortality.

MERRITT

Dr. Lisa Merritt obtained her medical degree from Howard University after completing her B.S. at Georgetown University with honors. She underwent training in family and community medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, then completed her residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. During

residency, she was co-founder of the resident council of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation as well as the Resident Section of the National Medical Association. While managing her practice specializing in catastrophic injury and serving as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of California Davis, she founded the Multicultural Health Institute (MHI) in Sacramento, California to focus attention on health disparities and the economic impact of prevention strategies. A former seven-year President of the Capitol Medical Society and Vice President of the Golden State Medical Society, Merritt was an original member of the California Office on Minority Health statewide multicultural health task force and strong advocate and originator of initial policies on improving cultural and linguistic standards in health delivery in the State of California.

Dr. Merritt in her practice and through MHI created numerous successful initiatives to reduce health disparities through preventive health education and health screenings. Through those and other collaborative efforts, MHI has touched thousands of lives. By working with schools, local community, and faith-based organizations to promote science, technology, engineering, creative arts math, and health (STEAMH) careers MHI has mentored numerous young people in college and graduate school preparation, encouraging them to work in underserved communities. Dr. Merritt is adjunct professor at New College and has published numerous articles and books in the field of physical medicine and rehabilitation. She lectures nationally and internationally on rehabilitation and multicultural health issues.

GORDILLO

Dr. Manuel “Manny” Gordillo was born in Iowa where his father came for internship and residency. He returned with his parents to Lima Peru where he grew up and went to medical school. He returned to the US in 1987 for residency training at Southern Illinois University in Springfield Illinois and then for fellowship training at University of Texas at Houston. During that time, he pursued research for treatment of hepatitis B using RNA technologies during a time of its infancy. He relocated to Sarasota, Florida in 1992 to specialize in infectious diseases in a joint private practice with Infectious Diseases Associates. He also worked on the staff at Sarasota Memorial Hospital where he later became the hospital’s epidemiologist over the last 15 years. While there he has been at the helm during several large local epidemics and some pandemics including the first HIV, SARS, H1N1, MERS, Zika and now COVID-19. During this pandemic he has been

coordinating all of the clinical aspects of education, prevention, testing, research, and treatment of this coronavirus. He works hand-in-hand with CDC, Florida Department of Health, The Sarasota County Health Department, local school board, City Commission and Florida State University. Currently, Dr. Gordillo is an adjunct professor at the Florida State University and serves as a content expert to the media and multiple civic organizations. Since December he has been busy promoting the Covid-19 vaccine at all levels but especially in advocating for minority community acceptance.

TAYLOR

Dr. Janet Taylor is a Community Psychiatrist in Sarasota, Florida working with individuals who are criminal justice involved and have mental illness. She also has a private practice. The practice of Community Mental Health is extremely rewarding to Dr. Taylor, because "being on the frontline with individuals and their families battling the emotional and economic impact of Mental Illness is where I can make a difference". She attended the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky for Undergraduate and Medical School. An internship in Internal Medicine at the Miriam Hospital-Brown University followed. Her psychiatric residency was completed at New York Medical College - Westchester Medical Center. She received a Master of Public Health in Health Promotion/Disease Prevention from Columbia University. She was a recipient of the 2008 Woman in Medicine Award (National Medical Association- Council of Women's Concerns).

Her medical experience is also international. While living in Vancouver, British Columbia, she practiced Community Psychiatry at Greater Vancouver Mental Health. During that time, Dr. Taylor developed an interest in Life Coaching and became a Certified Professional Coach through the Coaches Training Institute.

She is a frequently invited speaker on the subjects of Minority Health, Self-Care, Stress Management, Parenting and Work-Life Balance. She is a frequent contributor to CBS "This Morning," and NBC "The Today Show" and ABC "Good Morning America" on issues of motherhood, parenting and mental health. Dr. Taylor is also regularly featured on CNN, MSNBC and was on ABC.com's regular webcast, "Mom's Get Real". She had a column in Family Circle Magazine is titled, "Ask Dr. Janet". Dr. Taylor has also been featured on three television shows, Celebrity Crime Files- TV-One, Discovery Health/Own- "Facing Trauma" and a syndicated talk show, "The Jeremy Kyle Show". Dr. Taylor is a frequent speaker on the impact of Racial Trauma and Racism, Antiracism and Conscious Allyship.

CORCUERA

Luz Corcuera was born in Peru and moved to Florida from Toronto, Canada, in August 2000, where she practiced family and group therapy; she remains a clinical member of the Ontario Society of Psychotherapists. In addition, she obtained a master's degree in Pastoral Ministry in 2003.

Luz has a proven track record in community-building and engagement. She previously served as Program Director for Healthy Start Manatee and as a Community Health Director for the Florida Department of Health in Manatee County. Luz is passionate about education, health, cultural competency, and understanding the social determinants influencing socio-economic wellbeing. Her significant work includes developing and overseeing diverse community-based initiatives to empower underserved and at-risk communities via prevention and education.

As an immigrant woman, Luz knows firsthand the challenges of integrating into a new community and sees education as the path out of poverty—values that she instilled in her own children from an early age. She also understands the struggles of talented young people who may not have had the same opportunities that her children had to realize the American Dream. She is committed to working with any individual and organization that promotes these opportunities for our young population.

Luz has been recognized with numerous awards for building strong relationships in the Manasota region with private, public, faith-based, and civic organizations to close the education achievement gap, reversing negative health trends, and empowering people to civic integration.