Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) Welcomes New Board Members

Press Contact

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Washington, D.C.—Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) is delighted to announce the addition of six new board members.

“PSR is excited that our newest board members bring critical knowledge, experience and perspectives that will enrich our organization and help us advance our mission to achieve a healthier, safer, more just and peaceful world,” said Jeff Carter, Executive Director of PSR. “We are delighted to welcome them and look forward to working with them to advance PSR’s vital mission and goals.”

“Our new board members are joining PSR at an exciting time,” added Pouné Saberi, PSR’s President. “I’m excited about the talent, vision, and leadership they will bring to our organization.”

New Board Members

Joy L. Blackwood

Joy L. Blackwood is a public health educator, HIV/AIDS advocate and a national nonprofit leader. She currently serves as Board Secretary for the Maryland League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, board member of the Green Leadership Trust, and actively engages with several board-level committees, and most recently has started to mentor to young professionals looking to work in the environmental and conservation sector. She served as the first Urban Refuge Program Director at the National Wildlife Refuge Association, working in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, conservation nonprofits,
Friends groups and community organizations to engage with and connect diverse audiences and communities to the ecological richness and benefits of our nation’s public lands and waters.

Prior to working to bring more awareness to national wildlife refuges in urban and suburban areas, Blackwood spent a decade directing a distinguished coalition of environmental, conservation and science-based nonprofit executives (known as the Green Group). She led the development of the Green Leadership Trust, a network of people of color and Indigenous people who serve on environmental boards, that works to build power within the environmental sector by diversifying its leadership through promotion of best practices and other resources, and by driving the leadership pipeline. She was also an instrumental team member in helping to pass the American Clean Energy and Security (ACES) Act in the U.S. House of Representatives during the Obama Administration.

**Dr. Natasha DeJarnett**

Dr. Natasha DeJarnett is the research coordinator at the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), where she leads research as well as children’s environmental health activities. She is a graduate of the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky where she completed her PhD and Masters of Public Health, both concentrating in environmental health sciences. In her postdoctoral studies, Dr. DeJarnett was awarded a fellowship by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to investigate cardiovascular risks of air pollution exposures. In 2015, she became the recipient of the prestigious Impact Award from the Society of Toxicology’s Cardiovascular Toxicology Specialty Section for her 2014 paper “Acrolein Exposure is Associated with Increased Cardiovascular Disease Risk.” Dr. DeJarnett was named 2017 Alumna of the Year by the University of Louisville School of Public Health and Information Sciences and concurrently awarded designation in the class of 2017 Alumni Fellows.

Prior to NEHA, DeJarnett was a policy analyst at the American Public Health Association, where she led the Natural Environment portfolio, including air and water exposures along with climate change. Dr. DeJarnett is a member of the Governing Board of Citizens’ Climate Education and the Steering Committee of the International Transformational Resilience Coalition.

**Dr. Gwen DuBois**

Gwen DuBois, MD, MPH, practiced internal medicine in Baltimore for many years. She now precepts medical residents at Sinai Hospital and serves as a part time instructor at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. She earned her bachelor’s degree at Wellesley College, her medical degree at SUNY-Downstate in Brooklyn, NY and her MPH at Johns Hopkins.
addition to being president of Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility, she is the cofounder of Prevent Nuclear War Maryland and the Crabshell Alliance, where she worked to keep Calvert Cliffs from opening a third nuclear reactor. She serves on the public health committee of the Maryland Medical Association. She was a citizen lobbyist at the preparatory meetings for the UN Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty in NYC.

**Dr. Michael Martin**

Dr. Martin is an Associate Clinical Professor at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF’s) Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. He has been involved in a variety of research projects that focus on preventive medicine issues. These projects include the relationship of cholesterol levels to heart disease, the effects of passive smoking on heart disease, the cost of firearm injuries, sunlight’s aging effects on the skin, and the excessive use of antibiotics in animal agriculture.

During his career, Dr. Martin has also served in a variety of medical executive positions. He was a Principal with William M. Mercer, Inc., a national employee-benefits consulting firm owned by Marsh McLennan. Dr. Martin has served as a CEO for both large medical groups and hospitalist programs and helped initiate and/or assist with a variety of medical startup ventures, including companies involved in the delivery of primary care medical services, hospitalist services, and overseas medical coverage. For over 30 years, he saw patients in the General Medicine Clinic at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, an affiliate of UCSF.

**Surili Patel**

Surili Patel drives strategic development to bridge the gap between public health programs and sound policies. As Deputy Director for the Center for Public Health Policy at the American Public Health Association (APHA), Patel leads the organization’s most notable programs, including climate change, water safety and security, children’s environmental health, tribal health, environmental health messaging, transportation and health, and healthy community design. She is a champion for diversity and applies an environmental and racial justice lens to all programs.

Currently, Patel leads the charge to establish APHA’s new Center on Climate, Health and Equity. Her work aims to inspire action on climate and health, advance policy and galvanize the field to address climate change.

**Dr. Linda Rudolph**

Dr. Linda Rudolph is the Director of the Center for Climate Change and Health at the Public Health Institute. The Center works with local health departments and health professionals to build capacity in climate, health, and equity, and has hosted the US Climate and Health
Alliance. Dr. Rudolph previously served as Deputy Director for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion for the California Department of Public Health. In that role, she was the founding chair of California's Health in All Policies Task Force, and the California Climate Action Team Public Health Workgroup. She was a White House Champion of Change for Climate Change and Health.

Dr. Rudolph was also the Health Officer/Public Health Director for the City of Berkeley, Chief Medical Officer for Medical-Managed Care, Medical Director for the California Division of Workers' Compensation, and a union physician for the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers' International Union.

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**About Physicians for Social Responsibility**

PSR is a nonprofit organization representing medical and health professionals and concerned citizens, with approximately 40,000 members and supporters and with chapters in major cities and medical schools throughout the United States. PSR has been working for more than 55 years to create a healthy, just and peaceful world for both present and future generations. Learn more at [www.psr.org](http://www.psr.org) and follow us on [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com) and [Twitter](http://www.twitter.com).