

El Paso Health's Frank Dominguez To Head Statewide Association



Frank Dominguez

Frank J. Dominguez, President and CEO of El Paso Health, the only locally operated non-profit health maintenance organization (HMO), has been appointed Chairman of the Board of the Texas Association of Community Health Plans (TACHP).

As 2018 Vice-Chair, Dominguez assisted in directing a membership of 12 Texas-based companies that collectively serve over 2 million Texans and who are committed to supporting and improving the health needs of people living at low to moderate incomes. In his new role, he will continue to promote the advantages of locally established companies in consumer and provider satisfaction, connection to community resources important for low-income populations, and for improving the quality of healthcare.

"Frank will step in as TACHP chair with the unanimous support of the community health plans in Texas. He is passionate about his work on behalf of Texans needing healthcare and is also a successful businessman known for his savvy with running an efficient and quality operation," said Kay Ghahremani, President and CEO of Texas Association of Community Health Plans. "Frank's combination of heart and innovation has caught the eye of Texas policymakers. TACHP is fortunate that Frank has agreed to take on this important role."

"We are proud of the work that Frank does at the state level. We look forward to watching him continue to help Texans improve their health in this new role with TACHP," said Steve DeGroat, Board Chairman of El Paso Health.

"Frank is the ideal leader to assume this tremendous responsibility," said Jacob Cintron, President & CEO, University Medical Center of El Paso. "He has proven time and again that his expertise is essential to the success of our health plans. It gives all of us in El Paso a real sense of pride that his expertise will now benefit the rest of our State."

Raising Future RNs: Mentorship Key For Nurses Seeking Growth, New Responsibility



Cohort IX of UMC's Nurse Residency Program shared their personal electronic portfolios to Directors, Managers, Assistant Managers, PI Coordinators, and Educators on Tuesday in the UMC Board Room.

Embedded within the portfolios are their resumes, certifications, nurse residency program experience, nursing philosophy, and their evidence-based

project which includes a solution to an identified problem and the associated cost savings associated with solving it. Cohort 9 of UMC's Nurse Residency program met with some of UMC's most experienced and credentialed Registered Nurses Tuesday in the UMC Board Room. The purpose of the event was to increase mentorship with future RNs and inspire them toward new levels of professional healthcare.

More Than 75 Years of UMC Experience Retires With Two Associates

Together, they represent more than three quarters of a century supporting a mission of care at University Medical Center of El Paso. For Terry Ponce and Sylvia Ruiz, their careers share similar ideologies, faith, support, and love for their jobs and the people they worked with.

While retirement for some people may seem far away, for Sylvia and Terry, it's only days away. Excitement, relaxation, and adventure await them in retirement but the dedication and hard work from Sylvia and Terry is what makes retiring such an emotional experience. Congratulations Terry and Sylvia!

Terry Ponce: Supervisor of Support Services, Radiology Department



Terry Ponce

Q. How long have you been working at UMC?

A. I have been working for UMC for 37 years and 3 months.

Q. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself and how your career started at UMC?

A. I came to apply when I was 22 years old and I interviewed and started the same day as a radiology clerk.

Q. What are some of your favorite memories while working here at UMC?

A. Gosh, I have so many! But, if I had to narrow it down, it would have to be all the changes I've witnessed with the remodeling and changes from Thomason to University Medical Center. We have a beautiful hospital.

Q. Are there any coworkers/supervisors/managers that have played a big role in the development of you as an employee and helped you get to this point?

A. My ex-director David Matta was such a big influence on me throughout the years I worked in the radiology department. The opportunities he gave me to move up to different positions are why I am at where I am today. He always told me to "be loyal to myself and be loyal to my coworkers."

Q. What advice would you give to future and present associates?

A. Look at every day as a new day. The grass isn't always greener on the other side. Be grateful for new beginnings.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to add?

A. Thank you UMC for the opportunity to grow in this wonderful environment. Thank you especially to my radiology work family present and past for all your support and friendship. I will always hold them in my heart.

Sylvia Ruiz: Inventory Expediter Engineering Department



Sylvia Ruiz

Q. How long have you been working at UMC?

A. I've been working 44 years here at UMC.

Q. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself and how your career started at UMC?

A. I graduated from Jefferson High School and applied for a central supply tech the same year. I moved around to purchasing then to a buying position and finally to engineering.

Q. What are some of your favorite memories while working here at UMC?

A. My favorite memories would be working with such incredible people. The experience of working with Jacob Cintron when he was an engineering supervisor to seeing him come back as CEO and President is just an awesome feature of how great my coworkers were and are. Every day I am reminded that the people I work with are why it is so hard to leave.

Q. Are there any coworkers/supervisors/managers that have played a big role in the development of you as an employee and helped you get to this point?

A. Working with Jim Booher in my most recent years. He gave me the opportunity to continue to work at UMC when many people would have been let go. He is an amazing boss and leader for our department.

Q. What advice would you give to future and present associates?

A. I encourage everyone to never give up even on the toughest days. UMC is such a great place to work, don't leave it over one bad day.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to add?

A. I am going to miss everybody and I thank them for everything they've done for me. I love UMC and I am grateful for every opportunity that has been offered to me.

HealthStart 2019 Family Event Set For Feb. 2 at UMC West Clinic

Hundreds of UMC Associates, community members, families and others will take part in UMC's 2nd Annual HealthStart event Feb. 2 at the UMC West Clinic (6600 North Desert Blvd.).

The event will feature a 5k run and a 1-mile walk, gym, general fitness and healthy food, nutrition/vitamin vendors and displays.

The purpose of the event will be to stimulate and create healthy lifestyles for families and individuals, while also exposing them to UMC's clinic location.

UMC will also have representatives from partners at El Paso Children's Hospital and Texas Tech.

Click on this link to register today at www.RaceAdventuresUnlimited.com.

Cost is \$15 per person; only \$10 per person for groups/teams of four or more.

First 300 registrants will receive a swag bag of goodies and a long-sleeve T-shirt!



About The Pulse:

The Pulse newsletter is a product of the UMC Public Affairs office and features news briefs and updates from around our campus. It is distributed to our El Paso community. If you have an item that you would like to have considered for The Pulse, email it to [Ryan Mielke, UMC Director of Public Affairs](mailto:Ryan.Mielke@umc-el-paso.com).