



Elaine Batchlor, MD, MPH is the Chief Executive Officer of the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital and the driving force behind a unique, community-oriented healthcare delivery system that is improving the health of South Los Angeles—and providing a model for quality healthcare for underserved communities nationally.

Throughout her career, Dr. Batchlor’s focus has been to improve access and quality of care for communities that have lacked both. Her innovative and collaborative approaches have increased access for underserved populations and have been adopted as best practices throughout the state. The healthcare delivery system she is building uses these same approaches, bringing remarkable early results to a community that has been particularly affected by health care shortages, including the closing of the area’s only public hospital in 2007. MLKCH has been recognized as a “hospital of the future” by Politico, and in February 2019 Dr. Batchlor was recognized with the Irvine Foundation California Leadership Award, which recognizes “innovative, effective leaders whose breakthrough solutions to critical state challenges improve people’s lives, create opportunity, and contribute to a better California,” according to the foundation’s website.

Dr. Batchlor is an active voice in public dialogue and policy discussions about healthcare and underserved populations—including access to quality care as an issue of social justice. She is particularly focused on addressing the legacy of biases and discrimination that has led to disparities in health care outcomes.

Dr. Batchlor is one of 35 national healthcare leaders invited to be part of The Zetema Project, an invitation-only working group of health care leaders dedicated to advancing solutions to the nation’s most challenging health care questions. She has addressed the Black Caucus of the California state legislature and the first State of Black Women forum, a gathering of black women leaders across California addressing policy solutions to improve the lives and wellbeing of black women. In addition, Dr. Batchlor has been a mainstage speaker at Health 2.0 in Silicon Valley and a panelist on health disparities at The Atlantic Ideas Festival in Washington, DC.

Dr. Batchlor is a member of the board and past chair of the Integrated Healthcare Association. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, the boards of directors of the Hospital Association of Southern California, the Healthcare Quality Institute and California Health and Wellness, and the editorial board of Health Affairs, the leading peer-reviewed journal of health policy thought and research.

Dr. Batchlor serves on the boards of the Institute for Public Health, the Institute for Hospital Quality, the Institute for Human Caring, California Health and Wellness, the Hospital Association of Southern California, and the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, a board member and past chair of the Healthcare Quality Institute, and a member of the editorial board of Health Affairs, the leading peer-reviewed journal of health policy thought and research.

To further build understanding and improve public education, Dr. Batchlor writes an ongoing [column on health care topics](#), including racial disparities in health care and the power of civic participation to expand access to quality care, in the Los Angeles Sentinel, one of the most influential news outlets reaching African-Americans in the western U.S.

Before assuming the helm of Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital, Dr. Batchlor served on the executive leadership team of L.A. Care Health Plan, the nation's largest public health plan providing care to the county's most vulnerable residents. As chief medical officer, she was instrumental in developing a care delivery model that expanded access and resources to more than a million individuals. She spearheaded provider adoption of health information technology, including physician usage of electronic health records and telemedicine to improve access and provide integrated, patient-centered care for Los Angeles's Medi-Cal (Medicaid) population.

Prior to L.A. Care, Dr. Batchlor served in leadership positions at the California HealthCare Foundation, the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Prudential Health Care, and Ross Loos Medical Group. Early in her career she served as a clinical instructor at the UCLA School of Medicine.

Dr. Batchlor received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University, a Master of Public Health degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Doctorate in Medicine degree from Case Western Reserve University. She is married to a lawyer who has spent his career representing indigent clients, currently working for the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office. The couple has twin boys.

Public Speaking Topics

- Best practices in delivering quality health care to safety net communities
- Access to quality health care as an act of social justice
- The legacy of systemic racism and bias that has led to racial disparities in health care
- Policy reforms needed to expand access to quality health care in America

Recent Speaking Engagements

- Keynote Speaker, Health 2.0 Conference, Dec. 2018
- Dean's Distinguished Lecture, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, Oct. 2018
- Panelist, "[The Equity of Health](#)," The Atlantic Festival, Sept. 2018

Boards

- Integrated Healthcare Association (member and past chair)
- California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, board of trustees
- Hospital Association of Southern California
- Healthcare Quality Institute
- Editorial board, Health Affairs
- California Health and Wellness
- Institute for Human Caring
- UCLA Fielding School of Public Health
- Past member, Institute for Public Health

Member

- National Academy of Medicine

Recent Published Writing

Policy paper

- “California Healthcare Reform and Expansion: Principles and Approaches to Improve the Health of African American Communities,” with David Carlisle, M.D., Ph.D., policy paper submitted at the request of Gov. Gavin Newsom, Jan. 2019

Opinion columns

- “Mental Health is as Important as Physical Health,” July 18, 2019
- “How Data and Evidence can Help us Solve the Problem of African American Maternal Mortality,” Los Angeles Sentinel, April 18, 2019
- “Why I am an Environmentalist,” Los Angeles Sentinel, Jan. 17, 2019
- “Your Vote Is An Act of Social Justice,” Los Angeles Sentinel, Nov. 1, 2018
- “The Path to Health Care for All,” Los Angeles Sentinel, July 9, 2018
- “The Health of Black Women,” Los Angeles Sentinel, Apr. 19, 2018
- “Angry Women and #MeToo,” Los Angeles Sentinel, Jan. 25, 2018



**Martin Luther King, Jr.
Community Hospital**