



Full Biography

Glenda F. Newell-Harris, M.D. is an internal medicine physician, physician executive, speaker, author, and trusted patient advocate.

Most recently, she served as Regional Medical Director for YesCare, where she led multi-disciplinary medical teams and oversaw the delivery of quality health care within correctional facilities across multiple states. Throughout her career, she has combined clinical leadership with a longstanding commitment to health equity, improving access to quality care, and empowering patients to become informed advocates for their own health. Today, she continues to serve organizations nationwide through speaking, consulting, and board leadership.

In February 2024, former President Joe Biden appointed Dr. Newell-Harris to serve on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee for the Office of Minority Health. In this capacity, she served as an advocate for the health interests of racial and ethnic minority groups.

Her career includes service as a Lieutenant in the National Health Service Corps, and as a physician with Kaiser Permanente, Planned Parenthood, and Alameda Health System in the San Francisco Bay area. She also maintained a private practice, served as a medical consultant in a variety of health care settings, and was vice chair of the Health Commission for the City of Oakland.

Dr. Newell-Harris has held leadership roles in health and medical organizations, including her tenure as a regional officer for the National Medical Association. She currently serves on the advisory board of UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, the board of the Ethnic Health Institute, and is a member of the Sinkler Miller Medical Association.

Her commitment to service extends beyond medicine. She has served as the board chair of the Imani Community Church in Oakland, and as a trustee at her high school alma mater, Miss Porter's School in Farmington, Connecticut.

Dr. Newell-Harris is a respected medical expert and sought-after speaker who helps organizations navigate today's most pressing conversations around health literacy, patient advocacy, leadership, and well-being. She regularly speaks for corporations, health systems, professional associations, nonprofit organizations, faith communities, universities, and community organizations nationwide. Recent engagements include collaborations with organizations such as Genentech, California Black Health Network, Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church, and Special Olympics.

The book she co-authored, *Focus On Your Best Health*, uses real-life scenarios to provide health care consumers with practical solutions to their medical encounters. It underscores her dedication to empowering consumers to communicate, navigate and advocate for themselves within the health care system.



Beyond clinical practice and executive leadership, Dr. Newell-Harris is a global leader. Her career is characterized by community and international service for underserved populations in the United States, Latin America, Africa, and the Caribbean. Her global service has also included leading delegations to Jamaica on several trips to enhance the educational development of students.

As the 16th National President of The Links, Incorporated and The Links Foundation, Incorporated – one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations – she was the first and only medical doctor to serve in this role, overseeing a \$15.5 million budget and bringing decades of health and medical expertise to increase awareness and education in health advocacy and prevention. Under her leadership, the organization launched a minority women's medical scholarship program to address the shortage of underrepresented physicians in communities nationwide. During her tenure, she also helped raise more than \$2 million for The Links Foundation to support its programs and initiatives.

Mentorship has been a longstanding part of Dr. Newell-Harris' service. She mentors pre-medical and medical students, and serves as a trusted advisor to young adult women who aspire to leadership.

Her contributions have been recognized with numerous honors, including the Sinkler Miller Medical Association Trailblazer Award, National Medical Association Scroll of Merit, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award for Leadership and Global Community Service, the Distinguished Service Award from the National Medical Fellowship, and the St. Jude Volunteer Award. She has received accolades from Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, John Hale Medical Society, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Jack and Jill of America, the NAACP, and many others.

In 2022, Miss Porter's School honored her lifelong leadership and service by dedicating The Dr. Glenda Newell-Harris '71 Student Center in her name.

Dr. Newell-Harris continues to inspire individuals and organizations to communicate more effectively, advocate more confidently, and lead with greater purpose. Learn more about her speaking, consulting, and other professional work at www.doctorglenda.com.