

Message from Dave Mast, Chief Executive, L.A. Medical Foundations



DeEtte Montgomery To Head New L.A. Medical Foundations Diversity Council

Dear physicians and caregivers,

In Leslie Dwight's poem, she asked the question, "What if 2020 isn't cancelled...but rather the most important year of them all". She pondered that perhaps it's: "A year we finally accept the need for change. Declare change. Work for change. Become the change. A year we finally band together instead of pushing each other further apart." As compassionate caregivers and physicians within our medical foundations we should be coming together and insisting on change too.

In my earlier message, I mentioned that justice, as a core value, is an action statement as well as our individual guide to deal with the future. So, today, I am announcing the formation of the first Diversity Council for the LA medical foundations in Southern California. DeEtte Montgomery will be chairing this new group, bringing her many qualifications to the table.

As the chief operating officer of Providence Medical Institute, she is an active participant in a year-long program with a group called The Leverage Network (TLN), which is an organization that supports African American leaders in healthcare and includes a six-month fellowship for a select cohort of African American executives. The program consists of health subject matter resources, thought leadership and insights from the boardroom on emerging governance trends and issues. It also combines content with panel discussions featuring sitting African American board members who share real life experiences, challenges and success on their journey in the healthcare industry. Multiple health systems play a significant role in this organization and DeEtte will have access to the structure and tools that address surrounding diversity and inclusion issues.

DeEtte is beginning work on the development of the framework for the new council. With her current management role at PMI and her participation at TLN, I believe that she will guide this new council to help participants understand the true nature of diversity and inclusion in healthcare and beyond. Using a wide set of diverse points of view, the goal of the council is to lead to balanced leadership with caregivers and physicians.

I hope that the recent social events have stirred within each one of us a desire to support needed change and I encourage you to consider participating in the diversity council to help make a difference where we work.

This is a moment when your commitment is more important than ever. Please reach out to DeEtte by e-mail if you are interested in participating in the group.

With Gratitude,

David Mast
Chief Executive, Los Angeles Medical Foundations