

Riverside County Health Coalition Speakers!

April 15, 2026

Joe Mota

Joe Mota is a lifelong Coachella Valley resident with deep experience in community organizing, civic participation, advocacy and resident empowerment. He has served as the Regional Director for United Farm Workers of America (UFW) - Coachella Valley, and as Director of Student Services for the Farmworker Institute of Education & Leadership Development (FIELD), a nonprofit educational organization. Mota's experience also extends to how to better serve and support residents through the development of affordable housing with Coachella Valley Housing Coalition (CVHC) and is currently the Director of Power Building for collective impact nonprofit Lift to Rise.



Mihai Patru

Mihai Patru is Executive Director of Blue Zones Palm Springs, leading community well-being initiatives. A former diplomat and social entrepreneur, he specializes in inclusive economic development and entrepreneurship. He co-founded and led Caravanserai, supporting thousands of entrepreneurs. He held roles at UC Riverside and Johns Hopkins SAIS. He also served on California's Entrepreneurship Task Force.



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Marina Carbajal

Marina Carbajal is a program and accreditation coordinator with RUHS- Public Health. As the accreditation lead, she drives public health re-accreditation efforts and cross-departmental improvements. She also serves as a Co-chair for the CHIP Action Groups where she facilitates collaboration between Managed Care Plans and community partners to advance population health strategies.



Robert Gonzalez

Robert Gonzalez is a program coordinator at RUHS- Public Health who has supported health equity initiatives over the past few years. He currently leads internal efforts on Health Equity and Justice and strategic planning within the department. He also serves as a Co-chair for the CHIP Action Groups.

