

White House Highlights Affordable Care Act “Champions of Change”

Honors Kern SEIU ACA Training Team

March 21st the White House honored ten Champions of Change who are dedicated to improving access to health care. These individuals are helping others in their community understand the impact and opportunities from the health care law, the Affordable Care Act. SEIU Local 521 1st Vice President, Carmen Morales, received the honor on behalf of the SEIU 521 Nurse Committee. Carmen is a Surgery Department Family Nurse Practitioner and Certified Diabetes Educator at Kern Medical Center in Bakersfield, CA.

Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius remarked at the ceremony: “The President's health law gives hard working, middle-class families the security they deserve. The Affordable Care Act forces insurance companies to play by the rules, prohibiting them from dropping your coverage if you get sick, billing you into bankruptcy through annual or lifetime limits, and, soon, discriminating against anyone with a pre-existing condition.” “Thanks to the people attending today’s event, Americans across the country are learning more about the benefits of the Affordable Care Act and getting the health care they need.”

The Champions of Change program was created as a part of President Obama’s Winning the Future initiative. Each week, a different sector is highlighted and groups of Champions, ranging from educators to entrepreneurs to community leaders, are recognized for the work they are doing to serve and strengthen their communities.