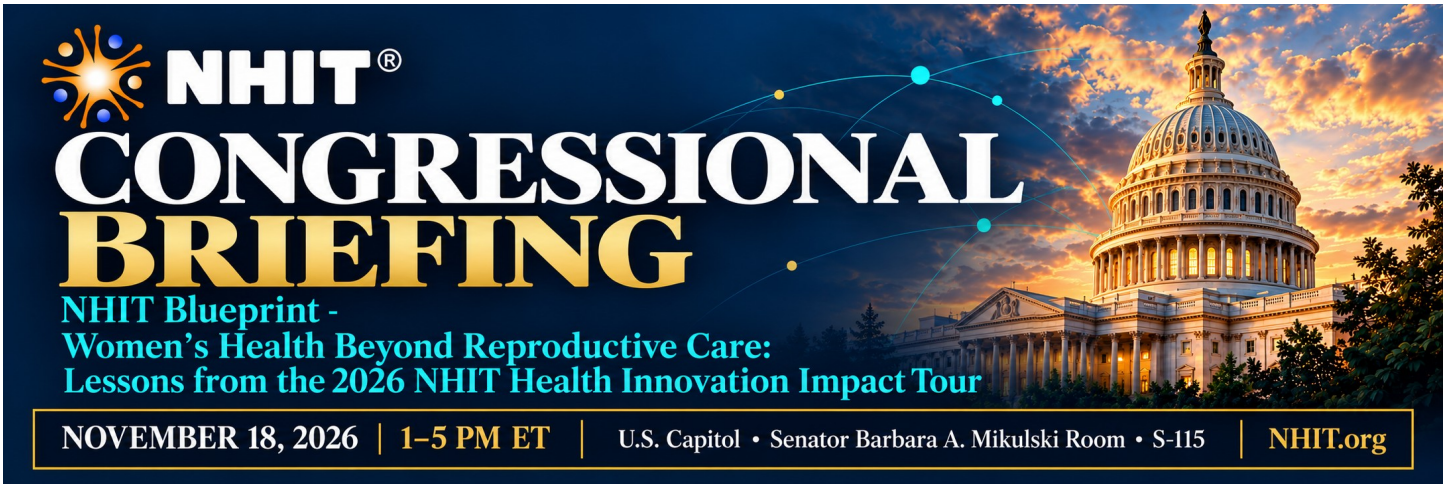

AGENDA

1:30 PM — **Welcoming Remarks**

Luis Belén, Chief Executive Officer, NHIT

Gregory Vidal, MD, PhD, Briefing Co-Chair; Director of Clinical Research, West Cancer Center & Research Institute

1:45 PM — **Congressional Remarks**

U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen (MD), Host

U.S. Representative Darren Soto (FL-09)

Timing subject to Members' schedules.

2:05 PM — **Closing the Last Mile for Women: What We Heard from the Community**

Focus: Women's health beyond reproductive care

Format: 90 minutes, including a 15–30 minute interactive discussion with the audience

Moderator: Mariangellys Rodríguez, PhD, PMP, Associate Director, Operations & Strategy, Puerto Rico Public Health Institute (PRPHI) · Puerto Rico

Panelists:

Gregory Vidal, MD, PhD, Director of Clinical Research, West Cancer Center & Research Institute · Memphis

Adriana Rocha Garcia, PhD, President & CEO, Center for Health Empowerment in South Texas (CHEST) · San Antonio

Karen M. Winkfield, MD, PhD, Executive Director, Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance · Memphis

Julietta Lopez, Vice President for Federal Advocacy and Network Engagement, Hispanic Federation · Central Florida

3:35 PM — **NHIT INSPIRED Fellows: Discussion and Capstone Presentations**

Winnie Kpissay, George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health

Edward Ohene-Marfo, BDS, MPH, UAMS Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health

Adriana Salcedo-Rodríguez, MD, MPH, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Hannah Chan, MD, MHM, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Ella Woolman, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

4:05 PM — **Closing Remarks: From Blueprint to National Action**

Luis Belén, Chief Executive Officer, NHIT

4:20 PM — **Networking: Connecting for Action**

5:00 PM — **Adjourn**

This Briefing is hosted by the **National Health IT Collaborative for the Underserved (NHIT®)** *with the Office of U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen (MD). A nonpartisan convening of a 501(c)(3) organization.*

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

WELCOMING & CLOSING REMARKS



LUIS BELÉN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER — NATIONAL HEALTH IT COLLABORATIVE FOR THE UNDERSERVED (NHIT®)

Luis Belén is a nationally recognized leader in health policy, digital innovation, and equitable healthcare transformation, with a strong focus on improving outcomes in rural and underrepresented communities. As CEO of NHIT®, he collaborates with the White House, Capitol Hill, and strategic partners to advance AI-powered healthcare solutions and mentor the next generation of health leaders.

He leads the NHIT Data Fusion Center® in collaboration with AWS, leveraging AI and cloud technology to translate social determinants of health (SDOH) data into actionable insights for patients, providers, researchers, and policymakers.

Belén is a tireless advocate for digital fairness and innovation, and a visionary behind the NHIT INSPIRED AI Academy. A recognized leader in digital health, he co-founded HIMSS Latino. An alumnus of A Better Chance and New York University, Belén has been honored with the 2024 NYU Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award and the 2025 HIMSS Policy Influencer Award.

CONGRESSIONAL REMARKS



HOST

U.S. SENATOR CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

UNITED STATES SENATOR — MARYLAND

Chris Van Hollen has represented Maryland in the U.S. Senate since 2017, after serving in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2003 to 2017. His office is hosting the NHIT Congressional Briefing in the Senator Barbara A. Mikulski Room.



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DARREN SOTO

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE — FLORIDA'S 9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Darren Soto has represented Florida's 9th Congressional District, centered on Osceola County and parts of Orange and Polk counties, since 2017. He was the first person of Puerto Rican descent elected to Congress from Florida. At NHIT's Central Florida Summit he told participants, "Washington can't fix what it doesn't hear."

CLOSING THE LAST MILE FOR WOMEN: WHAT WE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY



MODERATOR · PUERTO RICO

MARIANGELLYS RODRÍGUEZ, PHD, PMP

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS & STRATEGY — PUERTO RICO PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE (PRPHI)

Mariangellys Rodríguez, PhD, PMP, is Associate Director, Operations & Strategy, at the Puerto Rico Public Health Institute (PRPHI) of the Puerto Rico Science, Technology & Research Trust. A biomedical scientist with a PhD in cancer biology, she has worked across academia, industry, government, and nonprofits in the U.S., Latin America, and Asia-Pacific. At PRPHI she leads strategy and operations and supports cross-sector initiatives to strengthen Puerto Rico's health system, including a study on integrating and sustaining promotores de salud comunitaria. She is a member of the 2026 class of the U.S.-Japan Leadership Program and founder of Amplified Biomed Consulting.



PANELIST · BRIEFING CO-CHAIR · MEMPHIS

GREGORY VIDAL, MD, PHD

DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL RESEARCH — WEST CANCER CENTER & RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Gregory Vidal, MD, PhD, is Director of Clinical Research at West Cancer Center & Research Institute in Memphis, where he chairs the breast oncology program, and an Associate Professor at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. A medical oncologist specializing in breast cancer, he earned his MD and PhD at Tulane University School of Medicine and completed research training at Stanford. He has led multiple breast cancer clinical trials and serves on ASCO's Research Committee. His research focuses on barriers to oncology care for diverse populations, including equitable access to biomarker testing. He co-chaired NHIT's Memphis Summit.



PANELIST · BRIEFING CO-CHAIR · SAN ANTONIO

ADRIANA ROCHA GARCIA, PHD

PRESIDENT & CEO — CENTER FOR HEALTH EMPOWERMENT IN SOUTH TEXAS (CHEST)

A lifelong resident of San Antonio, Adriana Rocha Garcia, PhD, was raised in and continues to call Southwest San Antonio home. She is passionate about organizations that help the most underrepresented populations in San Antonio. Growing up in a Spanish-speaking household to parents with a first- and second-grade Mexican education, she became the first in her family to earn a college degree. Rocha Garcia was the first woman elected to represent District 4 on the San Antonio City Council, in 2019, where she served three terms. She is president and CEO of the Center for Health Empowerment in South Texas, a nonprofit focused on bringing access to health care to neighborhoods on the south, west and east sides of San Antonio and South Texas, increasing access to health careers for students in underserved areas, and closing the life expectancy gap between those with and without access to care.



PANELIST · MEMPHIS

KAREN M. WINKFIELD, MD, PHD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — MEHARRY-VANDERBILT ALLIANCE

Karen M. Winkfield, MD, PhD, is Executive Director of the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance, the partnership between Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and Ingram Professor of Cancer Research at Vanderbilt. A radiation oncologist specializing in breast and hematologic cancers, she is an implementation scientist focused on community-engaged research and serves as Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement at Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. She was appointed in 2021 to the National Cancer Advisory Board. She earned her MD and PhD at Duke University.



PANELIST · BRIEFING CO-CHAIR · CENTRAL FLORIDA

JULIETTA LOPEZ

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FEDERAL ADVOCACY AND NETWORK ENGAGEMENT — HISPANIC FEDERATION

Julietta Lopez is Vice President for Federal Advocacy at Hispanic Federation, where she leads the organization's federal policy work and its Washington, DC office, building coalitions and campaigns with a network of more than 600 nonprofit members and partners and serving as a liaison between communities, advocates, and federal lawmakers. She joined Hispanic Federation in January 2024 after more than a decade in community affairs and outreach, most recently as director of community and external affairs for Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer. The daughter of Colombian immigrants, she was raised in Queens, New York.

NHIT INSPIRED FELLOWS · DISCUSSION AND CAPSTONE PRESENTATIONS



PRESENTER

WINNIE KPISSAY

NHIT INSPIRED FELLOW — GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MILKEN INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Winnie Kpissay is a sophomore pursuing a B.S. in Public Health on the Pre-Med Track at George Washington University. Her passion lies at the intersection of biotechnology, public health, and health equity. Her path began in the lab at Celldex Therapeutics, where she shadowed biotechnologists and manipulated antibody genes using recombinant DNA methods. She has since gained industry exposure through the National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals eXperience in Puerto Rico and as an Aseptic Biomanufacturing Scholar with New Jersey BIO Futures, learning drug development from professionals at Johnson & Johnson, Merck, and Cellares. Through the Princeton University Preparatory Program, she also researched racial and socioeconomic inequities in U.S. healthcare and clinical trials. Today she's applying technology and science to address care gaps across populations.



PRESENTER

EDWARD OHENE-MARFO, BDS, MPH

NHIT INSPIRED FELLOW — UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES FAY W. BOOZMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Edward Ohene-Marfo is a dental public health specialist from Ghana and a PhD student in Health Promotion and Prevention Research at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health. He holds a Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) and a Master of Public Health (MPH) from the University of Ghana. He is a member of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. His research focuses on health promotion, health disparities, adolescent tobacco and e-cigarette use, social media influences on health behaviors, and the application of implementation science to improve public health outcomes. With extensive experience in community-based health promotion and underserved populations, he is particularly interested in leveraging Artificial Intelligence, data-driven approaches, and emerging technologies to address public health challenges, advance health equity, and strengthen prevention efforts.



PRESENTER

ADRIANA SALCEDO-RODRÍGUEZ, MD, MPH

NHIT INSPIRED FELLOW — JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Adriana Salcedo-Rodríguez, MD, MPH, is a physician with a background in emergency medicine who recently earned her Master of Public Health and a certificate in Implementation Science from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She has contributed to community-based health promotion programs focused on chronic disease prevention, working alongside community health workers to support underserved populations. She is currently exploring how artificial intelligence can strengthen community health worker programs, improve care coordination, and support people living with chronic conditions.



PRESENTER

HANNAH CHAN, MD, MHM

NHIT INSPIRED FELLOW — HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Hannah Chan, MD, MHM, is a physician, Harvard MPH student, and healthcare leader with experience spanning clinical medicine, public health, health technology, and organizational leadership. As COO of Skinopathy and GetSkinHelp, she works at the intersection of healthcare delivery, innovation, and operations. Her interests include strengthening health systems, translating ideas into practical solutions, and leading interdisciplinary teams to improve health outcomes.



PRESENTER

ELLA WOOLMAN

NHIT INSPIRED FELLOW — UNC GILLINGS SCHOOL OF GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Ella Woolman is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health, studying Nutrition Science & Research with minors in Chemistry and Data Science. She conducts research on a randomized Food is Medicine trial for adults with type 2 diabetes and food insecurity, where she manages clinical and continuous glucose monitor data and studies how participants use healthy-food vouchers. Ella is interested in precision nutrition, nutrigenomics and using data to personalize chronic disease prevention.