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PUERTO RICO Health & Insurance CONFERENCE 2012 *Economic Transformation in Health*



Dr. Jaime R. Torres

DPM, MS, Regional Director

US Department of Health and Human Services, New York Regional Office

Jaime R. Torres, DPM, MS, was named Regional Director of the New York Regional Office for HHS by Secretary Kathleen Sebelius on April 6, 2010. As the HHS Regional Director, Dr. Torres serves as the Region II representative of Secretary Sebelius and helps coordinate the implementation of departmental policies and initiatives in Region II, which includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and seven Tribal nations. He will play a vital role in HHS' effort to effectively implement the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Previously, Dr. Torres was Associate Director of Consultative Services at Coler-Goldwater Specialty Hospital, part of New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation - the nation's largest public hospital system. He is also the founder and past president of Latinos for National Health Insurance, a national coalition working for equality in healthcare.

Dr. Torres has served on the Board of Directors of the National Hispanic Council on Aging and on the Advisory Board of the National Hispanic Medical Association from 2000-2006.

For eight years he served in the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP), which is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As vice-chair of NDEP's Hispanic/Latino Work Group, he was instrumental in creating bilingual health campaigns for people with diabetes.

In 2006, he served as a spokesman for the American Podiatric Medical Association's campaign "Descubras Sus Pies" (Discover Your Feet), which educated the Latino community on how to prevent foot ailments related to diabetes.

In 2009, Hispanic Business Magazine named Dr. Torres one of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics of the Year.

Dr. Torres earned his Doctorate of Podiatric Medicine from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, a master's degree in Community Health from Long Island University and a Bachelor's of Science from Fordham University. He and his wife, sculptor Donita Ellison, live in New York City.