

Dr. Sandra B. Nichols is a Civil Rights Health Advocate who's leveraged more than 35 years of visionary service in public health and medical



management, her roles were the key to her understanding and contributing to the healthcare of this nation and her passion to tackle social determinants in healthcare and improve health equity for marginalized populations. The former Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Health Inclusion and Community Engagement at UnitedHealth Group is passionate about normalizing health success for all and impacting the wellness trajectory of future generations.

Dr. Nichols came of age in the East End projects of Little Rock Arkansas watching a community of people die and decided that this would no longer be true on her watch. Driven to make a difference, she began her career as a rural physician before joining administrations of two Arkansas Governors, Jim Guy Tucker, and Mike Huckabee as the Director and Commissioner of the Arkansas Department of Health. In this role, she strategically engaged every legislator to personally join her on her mission of change, not only taking them into the heart of the community, but into one of the federally funded clinics where she practiced.

Dr. Nichols went onto to hold numerous positions in the healthcare industry, among them that of Senior Vice President & Chief Medical Officer of National Inpatient Care Management for United HealthCare and Chief Executive Officer of Amerigroup in the District of Columbia and Virginia, all in an effort to propose policies and set the direction for health care in our nation especially health inclusion and community engagement.

Today, she's setting the agenda for the future of healthcare serving on numerous boards and organizations. Under her leadership as Chairwoman of the Board for National Medical Fellowship, a nonprofit organization that provides scholarships and support for underrepresented students in medicine and the health professions, the organization supported numerous student in health care and continues to contribute to the rise of a healthcare focus by minorities. She's also a Past Chairman of ASTHO Alumni, and a board member of Heart and Vascular Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Nichols has contributed her expertise as a member of the Harvard Medical School Division of Sleep Medicine Executive Council, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Southern Rural Access Board, the Mercantile Bank Board, the Board of Trustees for Columbia College, and the Creating Healthier Communities Organization. Dr. Nichols also served a four-year term on the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice of the Health Resources and Services Administration, a position appointed by Kathleen Sebelius, the Secretary of Health, and Human Services.

Dr. Nichols graduated from Columbia College in Missouri with a Bachelor of Arts. She holds a Master of Science in Biology from Tennessee State University and a Medical Degree from the

University of Arkansas School of Medical Science. She served as Chief Resident during her time there and completed a fellowship in Occupational and Environmental Medicine. Dr. Nichols is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, Center for Disease Control and Prevention Public Health Leadership Institute and is an alumna of the American Swiss Foundation Young Leader Conference. She obtained a master's degree in health care Delivery Science from Dartmouth College and is a fellow at the American Academy of Family Practice.

Throughout her career, Dr. Nichols has received numerous prestigious awards and citations. She has been honored as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women by The Daily Record and received the Women Who Mean Business Award from the Washington Business Journal. Moreover, she was named one of the Top 25 Minority Executives in Health Care by Modern Health Care Magazine. Dr. Nichols was a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Columbia College and was acknowledged by the National Congress of Black Women, Inc. the National FBI Community Leadership Award, Talented Tenth Award, Eta Phi Beta Vision of Excellence Award, BETAH Associates, Inc. Spirit of Excellence Corporate Champion Award, and the Public Health Leadership Institute Scholar Award. These recognitions highlight Dr. Nichols' exceptional achievements and contributions in leadership and healthcare.

Dr. Nichols looks forward to sharing her life experiences in a forthcoming book while persisting in her role as a dedicated health advocate for marginalized populations. Her goal is to inspire transformative change and bridge the gap between the healthcare needs of underserved communities and the availability of essential resources to improve the health and wellbeing of all.