

# Medical Leaders Saluted By Foundation

*Sierra Health Foundation Honors Black Child Death Reduction Leaders For Efforts*

Two local health professionals were honored last week for their efforts to help area children thrive.

The Sierra Health Foundation recognized Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths members Dr. Ethan Cutts of Kaiser Permanente and Diane Galati of Dignity Health for their pioneering work to ensure that infants and their families have a healthy start in life, through the infant sleep assessment education.

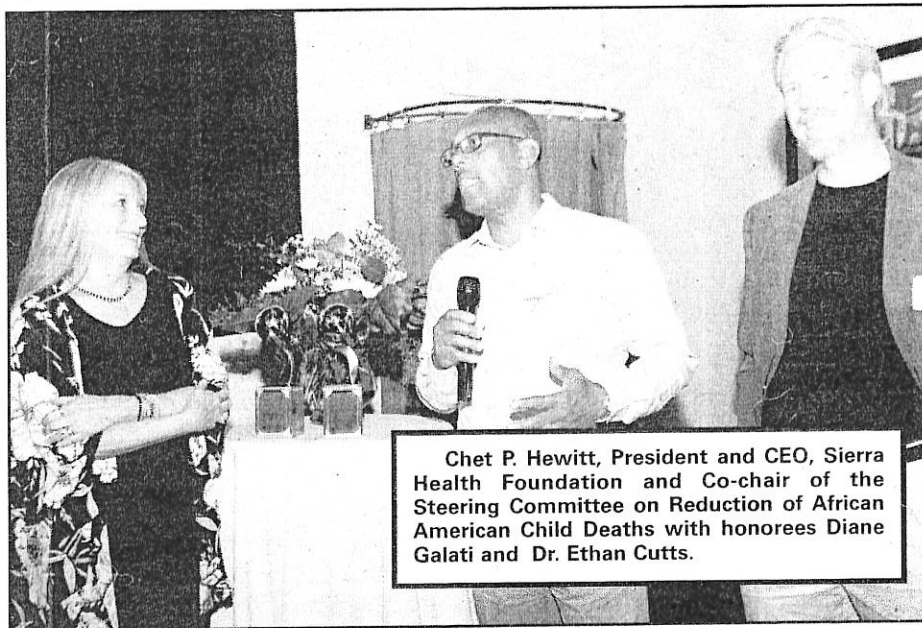
Tragically, in Sacramento County, for the past 20 years, African American children died at two times the rate of other children. According to the Child Abuse Prevention Center, infant deaths make up 50 percent of those mortalities.

"These are tragedies that do not need to happen, and thanks to Dr. Cutts and Ms. Galati's tireless leadership, families are educated on safe sleep practices," said Chet P. Hewitt, President and CEO, Sierra Health Foundation and Co-chair of the Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths.

"If the family does not have a crib, one is provided to them to ensure their baby's safety," Hewitt continued.

The celebration, hosted at Mulvaney's B&L, included welcome remarks by Chet P. Hewitt and fellow Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths co-chair Dr. Natalie Woods Andrews.

Sierra Health Foundation is a private philanthropy investing in and serving as a catalyst for ideas, partnerships and programs that improve



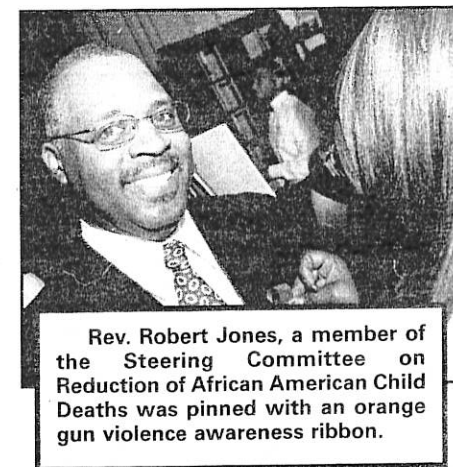
Chet P. Hewitt, President and CEO, Sierra Health Foundation and Co-chair of the Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths with honorees Diane Galati and Dr. Ethan Cutts.



Sandra Davis-Houston, left, and Patrice Coyle of Dignity Health were among those attending.



Ashley Johnson recognized honorees on behalf of Assemblymember Kevin McCarty.



Rev. Robert Jones, a member of the Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths was pinned with an orange gun violence awareness ribbon.

health and quality of life in Northern California. The foundation is committed to improving health outcomes

and reducing health disparities in the region through convening, educating and strategic grantmaking.

OBSERVER Photos by ROBERT MARYLAND