



## 2025 CHAMPS Awardees

Virtual Awards Ceremony | Wednesday, December 10, 2025

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***Stanley J. Brasher Legacy Award***  
**Jim Garcia, Chief Executive Officer & Founder**  
**Tepeyac Community Health Center, CO**

Like Stanley J. Brasher, Jim Garcia hails from New Mexico and has made a lasting impact on Colorado. At 17 years old, he became the first of 11 kids in his family to leave New Mexico to attend college in Colorado.

In 1993, Jim recognized a critical need for accessible, affordable health care in his community. Just a year later, he launched Tepeyac Community Health Center's first clinic out of a small neighborhood bungalow. He rallied community members to contribute their time, resources, and expertise, transforming the bungalow into a two-exam-room clinic. Today, under Jim's steady and devoted leadership, Tepeyac now operates a 24,000-square-foot facility, serving more than 10,000 patients annually.

Jim speaks softly and carries a big, effective, healthcare-for-all stick. Over the past 30 years, his humble and consistent leadership has shaped Tepeyac into a trusted cornerstone of health and social justice in North Denver. Jim is the embodiment of Tepeyac's mission, which is to inspire health, wellbeing, and humanity in the community, through all of life's stages.

Beyond his work with Tepeyac, Jim has contributed his leadership to numerous organizations, serving as Colorado Community Health Network's Treasurer and as a board member for the Colorado Health Foundation, the Denver Board of Environmental Health, Healthier Colorado, Mental Health Colorado, and the Mile High Health Alliance.

Whenever there is an unmet need in his community, Jim steps in. He has offered Tepeyac as a refugee screening site and partnered with GrowHaus on a fresh food initiative. Jim also collaborated with disability advocates to design a new Tepeyac clinic site, and, recognizing the poor air quality in the area, formed a partnership with the Love My Air program. He continues to find innovative and impactful ways to serve and uplift his community.

*For his enduring contributions to community health in Colorado and the Mountain/Plains States, we are pleased to present Jim Garcia with the CHAMPS Stanley J. Brasher Legacy Award.*