



**THE
HEALTH
LIST**

Their faces might not be plastered on billboards or on the cover of *TIME*, but professionals in the health sector are changing the world each day. The idea of public health is a broad concept covering many areas of medicine and topics of interest including community health, microbiology, and mental health and stability. The physicians working to create change are those who drive research and impact the development of the term “health care”, demonstrating their dedication and determination to succeed, all to benefit others.

There are thousands of people who work to revolutionize the way people look at health and wellness, from notable figures who practice and preach like Mehmet Oz, to people who change the face of health from a laboratory like Youyou Tu. But each of them want people to live a healthy life, free from disease and illness.

Our inaugural Health List celebrates those who are making a difference in health; who are dedicating their lives to the well-being of the human race; and who are making sure the next generation is able to live in a healthier world. These influential people are transforming health care, and we thank them for it.

The Dynamic Duo

Stanley and Marion Bergman are casting a philanthropic net wider than the medical field.

Written by **Sarah Manning**

Photography by **Hechler Photographers**



Stanley and Marion Bergman are impacting the healthcare industry from two different angles. Stanley is chairman of the board and CEO of Henry Schein Inc.—the world’s largest provider of healthcare products—while his wife, Marion, practiced pulmonary medicine and critical care for more than three decades. Their roles in two branches of the medical field grew from the same roots: Stanley and Marion were born, raised, and educated in South Africa, but moved to the United States early in their professional careers.

“Here in America, we cherish the ideal that all people have the opportunity to choose their destiny, to advance and optimize their own careers, and to live by their own personal values,” Stanley says. “We continue to believe that no dream is too big for America.”

This is a notion proven by Stanley’s employer, Henry Schein, Inc. Henry Schein opened his New York pharmacy in 1932. As the decades passed, the company grew from a stand-alone pharmaceutical dispensary to a Fortune 500 company, providing healthcare products and services to office-based dental, animal health, and medical practitioners internationally.

“Henry Schein was founded on the belief that our success is inextricably linked to the success of the customers and communities we serve,” Stanley shares. “Since 1932, we have pursued the ideal of ‘doing well by doing good.’ This spirit of corporate citizenship is ex-

emplified through Henry Schein Cares, our global corporate social responsibility platform.”

The Henry Schein Cares Foundation has a mission to “help health happen” by increasing access to care for underserved populations around the world. To achieve this, it focuses on wellness, prevention, and treatment; emergency preparedness and relief; and capacity building. “Henry Schein Cares is also the umbrella for the other areas of our corporate social responsibility work, including our environmental sustainability efforts, our work to engage our team, and our efforts to maintain a corporate environment built on ethics and values,” Stanley says.

Outside of Henry Schein, Stanley is involved with several institutions, including the New York University College of Dentistry, the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, the Columbia University Medical Center, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University, and the Metropolitan Opera. He has received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor as well as the CR Magazine Corporate Responsibility Lifetime Achievement Award, along with several honorary degrees.

Stanley recently finished his term as president of the American Jewish Committee (AJC), and together with his wife founded AJC’s Africa Institute, which works to connect Africa, Israel, and the United States.

The Bergmans describe themselves as a “truly international family,” which contributes to the diversity of their philanthropic activities. “Marion and I were born and educated in South Africa. We have lived in the U.S. for four decades, and our children and grandchildren have experienced the cultural benefits of living abroad,” says Stanley. “Our family actively supports organizations fostering the arts, higher education, cultural diversity, grassroots health care, and sustainable entrepreneurial economic development initiatives in the United States, Africa, and other developing regions of the world.”

“We cherish the ideal that all people have the opportunity to choose their destiny, to advance and optimize their own careers, and to live by their own personal values.”

Stanley clarifies that the international nature of his family is not the only driving force behind their widespread philanthropy. “The truth is,” he says, “*global* and *local* are more intertwined than ever. The forces of globalization, including telecommunications, transportation, social media, and technology in general, are making the world a smaller space. For us, it is as relevant to focus on pandemic preparedness and response as it is to focus on supporting a local health fair or an individual scholarship. We are all interconnected.”

The matriarch of this international, philanthropic family is not to be overlooked. Marion has dedicated her life to hands-on medical care as well as tackling public health in underserved communities.

“From a young age, I was very interested in biological science and passionate about finding ways to help others. A career in health care was a natural fit for me,” she says. “I have moved throughout the healthcare field



L-R: Marion, Steve Kess, and Stanley

in a variety of ways over the past three decades. With every turn on my journey, I have made decisions and played various roles that I believed gave me an opportunity to make a positive contribution where I saw a need.”

Marion worked as an intensive care doctor and pulmonary specialist for more than 30 years before deciding to shift the focus of her career. “I longed to have an opportunity to move from solely looking at the individual patient to pursuing a more global perspective on improving public health in underserved communities,” she explains.

Marion returned to school and earned her Master of Public Administration degree in 2006. This sparked her move to the non-profit field. “I have found a wonderful platform to make a positive contribution through my work at Miracle Corners of the World (MCW), and by serving on the boards of several health and human rights nonprofits.”

MCW was co-founded in 1999 by Stanley and Marion’s son Eddie. “MCW’s mission of empowering young people to become positive agents of change in their communities has provided an exceptional opportunity to make a difference,” says Marion. “Through directing healthcare programs for MCW, I have been given a unique platform to focus on an issue that I care deeply about: the link between oral health and overall health. This includes our work to improve the state of oral health in Tanzania, and to advocate for the inclusion

of oral disease in the United Nations Political Declaration on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases.”

In addition to her work with MCW, Marion serves on the boards of the Global Child Dental Fund, American Jewish World Service, Physicians for Human Rights, the Temple University Maurice H. Kornberg School of Dentistry, and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The Bergmans are a family whose philanthropic work circles the world, extending from one end of the healthcare industry to the other and beyond. “A commitment to giving back to society is a deeply ingrained part of our family’s values and has been reinforced by various life experiences,” says Stanley. “In our family’s religious tradition of Judaism, there is a concept of *tikkun olam*, which means that each of us has a responsibility to do our part to ‘repair the world.’”

For Marion and Stanley, repairing the world starts with healing the physical ailments of an individual, mending bridges across international borders, and creating a better world for all. **LM**