

# JOEL HERNANDEZ BUENAVENTURA, MD, MPH

North Tower Unit 3604 La Verti Residences 1991 Donada St. Brgy. San Isidro, Pasay City, 1306 Philippines  
+639989931130 ~ docjowl@gmail.com

## PERSONAL STATEMENT

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Medical doctor and public servant with a profound interest in global public health issues and health diplomacy and international relations and its link to the health of local populations. Deeply committed and motivated to the advancement of equitable access to health care through public service and reducing health disparities in underserved and unserved populations in the Philippines. Over thirteen years of service in government, including six years of grassroots experience as a rural health physician in a remote island in central Philippines. Current work at the Department of Health focusing on international health cooperation, specifically addressing issues on the health of migrants and overseas Filipinos. Worked as intern in prestigious public health institutions, such as the World Health Organization and Médecins Sans Frontières, in the field of pharmaceutical policy, access to essential medicines, vaccines and diagnostics and neglected tropical diseases. Recipient of various grants and scholarships in recognition of leadership and academic excellence, staunchly advocating for the improvement of the Philippine health care system through evidence-informed policy making and integrated health systems thinking from a cadre of competent and appropriate health human resource.



## PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Department of Health, Bureau of International Health Cooperation** **Manila, Philippines**  
*Division Chief/ previously Chief Health Program Officer* June 2013-Present

- Chief of the International Relations and Diplomacy Division
- Prior Head of the Migrant Health Unit; Program Manager of the Philippine Migrant Health Program
- Focal point on matters related to Migrant Health, Global Health Security Agenda, ASEAN, American, Middle East and European Affairs; previous focal for Foreign Donation, Foreign Surgical and Medical Missions and Development Partners including USAID and the Global Fund;
- Current focal point for all international humanitarian aid and donations for the health sector during COVID-19 response; during Typhoon Haiyan, facilitated entry of Foreign Medical Teams in the country and coordinated all health development partners in health cluster coordination meetings

**Department of Health/Local Government Unit** **San Jose, Romblon, Philippines**  
*Rural Health Physician (Doctor-to-the-Barrio Batch 20)* May 2006 – October 2008  
*Municipal Health Officer* October 2008 – June 2013

- Supervised Rural Health Unit (RHU) activities and the performance of RHU staff
- Conducted medical consults and community outreach as the only physician in resource-poor island of about 10,000 population, with prompt referral of serious cases to appropriate health facility
- Ensured effective implementation of national and local health programs, including maternal and child health, expanded program of immunization, infectious diseases (i.e. tuberculosis, dengue fever, filariasis and helminthiasis), non-communicable diseases (i.e. hypertension, diabetes), etc.
- Worked on local health systems development, health financing and governance such as enrolment of indigents to PhilHealth and establishment of community-based pharmacies and a lying-in clinic

## NON-GOVERNMENT/VOLUNTARY CIVIC EXPERIENCE

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**Philippine Society of Public Health Physicians** **Manila, Philippines**  
*Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees* March 2018 - Present



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### LEADERSHIP AWARDS AND ACADEMIC HONORS RECEIVED

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**National Academy of Science and Technology** **Manila, Philippines**  
*Participant and Member, Future Health Leaders Workshop* November 22-23, 2014

**Boston University School of Public Health** **Boston, Massachusetts, USA**  
*Allan R. Meyers Award for Excellence in Health Services, Honorable Mention* May 17, 2011  
*John Snow, Inc. Award in International Health* May 22, 2011

**Japan International Cooperation Agency** **Tokyo, Japan**  
*Recipient, Training Program for Young Leaders in Health and Medical Services* October 2008

**University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Medicine and Surgery** **Manila, Philippines**  
*Academic Distinction, Cum Laude* April 2004

### PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCHES

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Henry J, Volk A, Kariuki S, **Buenaventura J**, et al. Ending Neglected Surgical Diseases (NSDs): Definitions, Strategies, and Goals for the Next Decade. *International Journal of Health Policy and Management*, August 2020, Volume 9, No. 9. DOI:10.34172/ijhpm.2020.140

**Buenaventura J**, Beltran M, Sudiagal A. Setting up a Migrant Health Program: the Philippine experience. *European Journal of Public Health*, May 2018, Volume 28, Issue suppl\_1: 132-133. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cky048.063>

Guinto R, **Buenaventura J**. Putting the health of migrants at the centre of migration governance: a source country perspective from the Philippines. *European Journal of Public Health*, May 2018, Volume 28, Issue suppl\_1: 131-132. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cky048.060>

Myser C, Astle B, **Buenaventura J**, et al. Comparing high-income and low- and middle-income country host perspectives on students' short-term experiences in global health: a qualitative analysis. *The Lancet Global Health*, March 2018, Volume 6, Supplement 2, Page S40. DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(18\)30169-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30169-4)

Cherniak W, Latham E, **Buenaventura J**, et al. Visiting Trainees in Global Settings: Host and Partner Perspectives on Desirable Competencies. *Annals of Global Health*, March - April 2017; 83(2):359-368. DOI: 10.1016/j.aogh.2017.04.007

Cherniak W, Latham E, **Buenaventura J**, et al. Host perspectives on short-term experiences in global health: a survey. *The Lancet Global Health*, April 2017, Volume 5, Supplement 1, Page S9. DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(17\)30116-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(17)30116-X)

Peiris S, **Buenaventura J**, Zagaria N. Is registration of foreign medical teams needed for disaster response? Findings from the response to Typhoon Haiyan. *Western Pacific Surveillance and Response Journal*, 2015, 6 (Supplement 1): 29-33. DOI: 10.5365/wpsar.2015.6.2.HYN\_014

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## LANGUAGES SPOKEN (CEFR)

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<b>Filipino (Tagalog)</b>	Proficient Speaker (C2) - Native Language
<b>English</b>	Proficient Speaker (C2) - Second Language
<b>Spanish</b>	Independent Speaker (B2) - Nivel Intermedio, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain
<b>German</b>	Basic Speaker (A2) - Level 2, Deutscher Akademie, Wien, Austria
<b>French</b>	Basic Speaker (A1) - Level 1, Alliance Francaise, Manila

## REFERENCES

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- Dr. Ma. Soledad Antonio** Director, Bureau of International Health Cooperation  
Department of Health, Republic of the Philippines  
Email Address: [msqantonio@doh.gov.ph](mailto:msqantonio@doh.gov.ph)
- Dr. Kolitha Wickramage** Coordinator, Global Migration Health Research and Epidemiology  
Global Migration Support Unit, International Organization for  
Migration  
Email Address: [kwicramage@iom.int](mailto:kwicramage@iom.int)