

PROVIDER CORNER

DR. IZQUIERDO RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

On January 23, 2007, the 17th Surgeon General of the United States, Richard H. Carmona, M.D., M.P.H., FACS returned to his boyhood hometown of the Bronx to confer the Surgeon General's Medallion on Dr. Richard Izquierdo. The medallion is the highest honor that the Surgeon General can bestow on a civilian or officer. Dr. Izquierdo was Dr. Carmona's childhood doctor and his lifelong personal mentor.

"It is a privilege to award my mentor and friend Dr. Izquierdo the Surgeon General's Medallion," Dr. Carmona said. "It's fitting that my last Medallion would be given to my first doctor, and to a man who has guided my footsteps from the time I was a poor child running the streets, until today."

At the event, Dr. Carmona pledged 10 scholarships for staff members of Urban Health Plan to participate in the weeklong Canyon Ranch Life Enhancement Program at the Canyon Ranch Institute in Tucson, Arizona where Dr. Carmona is now president. This program will train them to continue to promote



prevention and wellness.

Speakers who participated in the event included the chairman and founder of *Essence* and *Latina* magazines Ed Lewis and New York City Council Member the Honorable Maria del Carmen Arroyo. A proclamation from the office of United States Senator Charles Schumer was also read aloud during the ceremony.