The Evidence Based Leadership Collaborative (EBLC), a cross sector team focused on scaling proven health self-management programming to measurably improve outcomes for diverse populations, is pleased to welcome our new Executive Team Leadership: Paul Hepfer – Chairperson, Kate Lorig – Vice Chairperson, Margaret Haynes – Treasurer and Dianne Davis – Secretary. Current Advocacy Committee Leader Don Smith will continue to serve the Executive Team in an adjunct role.

Chairperson Paul Hepfer, MS is Chief Executive Officer of Project Open Hand in San Francisco, CA. As an advocate for medical nutrition intervention, he will further the mission of educating healthcare payers and providers on the role of medical nutrition and health promotion programs in improving health outcomes. Paul brings more than 20 years of experience in community health and wellness services. He previously served as senior vice president of programs for The Health Trust in San Jose and Santa Clara County for 13 years. In that role, he provided vision and leadership for The Health Trust’s entire portfolio of services, including HIV/AIDS programming, Meals on Wheels, community-based chronic disease prevention and management services, and a wide range of supportive housing programs.

Vice-Chairperson Kate Lorig, DrPH is Professor Emerita at Stanford University School of Medicine and a founding partner of the Self-Management Resource Center. For the past many years, she has been developing, evaluating, and making available to the public self-management programs for people with chronic conditions, cancer survivors and caregivers. Most recently she has been involved in adding remote delivery of these programs including videoconferencing and mailed toolkits. She has authored several books and many articles about arthritis, chronic disease diabetes, pain, and caregiving. She travels extensively at the invitation of organizations concerned with patient care and academic research.

Treasurer Margaret “Peggy” Haynes is Senior Director of MaineHealth’s Healthy Aging Center for Health Improvement. Under her leadership of MaineHealth’s Partnership for Healthy Aging (PFHA), the organization has received national recognition for efforts in health promotion and collaboration between health care and community organizations, and has led the successful translation and national dissemination of A Matter of Balance to a Lay Leader model.

Secretary Dianne Davis is Vice President of Community Wellness at Partners in Care Foundation leading implementation of a diverse portfolio of evidence-based programs with community and clinical partners. She has more than 25 years’ experience in healthcare administration, Managed Care and Gerontology and leads the national dissemination of the HomeMeds medication safety program.

Don Smith has served as Director of the Tarrant County Area Agency on Aging at the United Way of Tarrant County in Fort Worth, Texas since 2005. He has 30 years of experience working for health, human service, and governmental organizations. He has also served on numerous state and federal task forces, work groups, boards, and committees to support older adults and adults living with disabilities.

Since March 2020 when COVID-19 necessitated the adoption of physical distancing and shelter-at-home guidelines, EBLC and other evidence-based program administrators, community-based organizations, health care, and policymakers have come together to adapt these programs to be delivered remotely. We look forward to expanding and integrating this essential program delivery, providing a continuum of care and connection for older vulnerable and isolated communities through the network of safety net community providers nationally.