

Honoring the memory of **Dr. Ruben P. Cowart**

We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Cowart. The visionary founder of Syracuse Community Health and CHCANYS, Dr. Cowart, was not only a pioneer in community health but also a tireless advocate for equitable access to care. His dedication laid the foundation for a center that continues to serve with compassion, dignity, and excellence. Dr. Cowart's legacy lives on in every barrier broken. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and all who were touched by his remarkable leadership and humanity. May his memory continue to inspire all of us.

~Dr. LaVonne Ansari, Community Health Center of Buffalo

Dr Cowart was a health center pioneer, indeed. He came to his health center career as a dentist. His healthcare expertise led him to establish a health center-controlled managed care plan in Syracuse. He was a pleasure to work with for many, many years. He will be missed.

~Lindsay Farrell, Open Door Family Medical Center

Dr Ruben Cowart was a great man. His legacy is forever imbedded in the fabric of the FQHC movement. Condolences to Dr Reid and the entire Syracuse Community Health Center family, and all who knew, loved, and admired him.

~Judith Watson, Westchester Community Health Center

Dr. Cowart was a staunch health center supporter and a person that many of us watched in awe and who we learned from as we grew in the movement. An avid supporter of both CHCANYS and NACHC, he taught me the value of the power that we have when we come together to advocate and rally around our collective agendas. I will always remember Ruben as he was one of the people that I admired and who inspired me as an upcoming CEO. May he rest in peace and may we all remember him as one of those pioneers whose professional paths helped change our world.

~Paloma Hernandez, Urban Health Plan

Dr Cowart's enthusiasm and passion for his work, and for those who worked with him, will be sorely missed. Praying for his family and loved ones in this difficult time.

~Dr. David Kim, Beacon Christian Community Health Center

