

## **Preston Maring, M.D.**

Associate Physician-in-Chief and W K Kellogg Foundation Food and Society Policy Fellow  
Kaiser Permanente Medical Center

### **Contact Information**

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### **Key Issues**

Linking local food systems to institutions, promoting good food as the fundamental building block for good health

### **Biography**

Dr. Preston Maring is the Associate Physician-in-Chief at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Oakland, Kaiser Permanente's first hospital location. He is responsible for tertiary care services planning and development for Oakland's 200,000 health plan members as well as members from around the Northern California region.

Preston has been at the Oakland Medical Center for over 37 years. While maintaining a part-time clinical practice of Obstetrics and Gynecology, he has served in a variety of administrative roles.

He is board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and received his M.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1971. He completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Oakland in 1974.

Preston is an enthusiastic cook who was supported by the Kaiser Permanente leadership at the Oakland Medical Center to start a farmers' market for the benefit of staff, members, visitors, the community around the medical center and the farmers. The success of this first market has inspired Kaiser Permanente employees at multiple facilities in 6 states and the District of Columbia to create their own markets. The innovation and spirit of the local facility sponsors has resulted in different market models, community outreach and a program wide focus on healthy eating. Preston has personally supported the development of many of these markets. More recently, he has worked with Kaiser Permanente and the Community Alliance with Family Farmers to help create a system that sources produce for inpatient meals from small family farmers.

He believes that the availability of healthy food choices is fundamentally important in support of Kaiser Permanente's wide reaching health education and health maintenance programs that are sponsored within the program and in the community.