



Dr. Rosie Sokas has worked tirelessly over her 30 years in occupational health to advance the vision and work of Alice Hamilton. In 1977, Dr. Sokas' began her life-long contribution to improve the lives of workers as a U.S. Public Health Service Core physician working with the Las Marias Migrant Health Center in Puerto Rico where she directed the medical care to 2,000 migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families. Following this experience, she received advanced training as a NIOSH Fellow in Occupational Health at Harvard School of Public Health and Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. Since completing this training, she has worked continuously to protect worker health through a combination of public service, research, teaching and academic medicine. Specifically, Dr. Sokas served as Director of OSHA's Office of Occupational Medicine where as a strong worker advocate, she provided leadership to the Agency and field and technical support to the larger occupational health community. She continued her public service as NIOSH's Associate Director for Science, a leadership position which she used to promote NIOSH's critical contributions to the larger CDC mission. Within NIOSH she was a tireless advocate for the need for NIOSH to focus on the service industry, especially health care and its expanding and highly diverse workforce.

Dr. Sokas has had an exemplary academic career distinguished by her focus on advancing worker's role in occupational health research. Currently, she is Director and Professor of the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health, Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. In addition to teaching and leading a

post-doctoral traineeship, Dr. Sokas conducts extramurally funded research of training intervention effectiveness among construction workers and home health workers. She serves on the Governor's Panel to address Latino Workforce Injuries and Fatalities and the Attorney General's Task Force examining asbestos contamination at Illinois Beach State Park. Her service to the American Public Health Association's Occupational Health Section includes serving as Section Secretary (1997-98), Governing Council member (1999-2001) and Section Chair (2002-03).