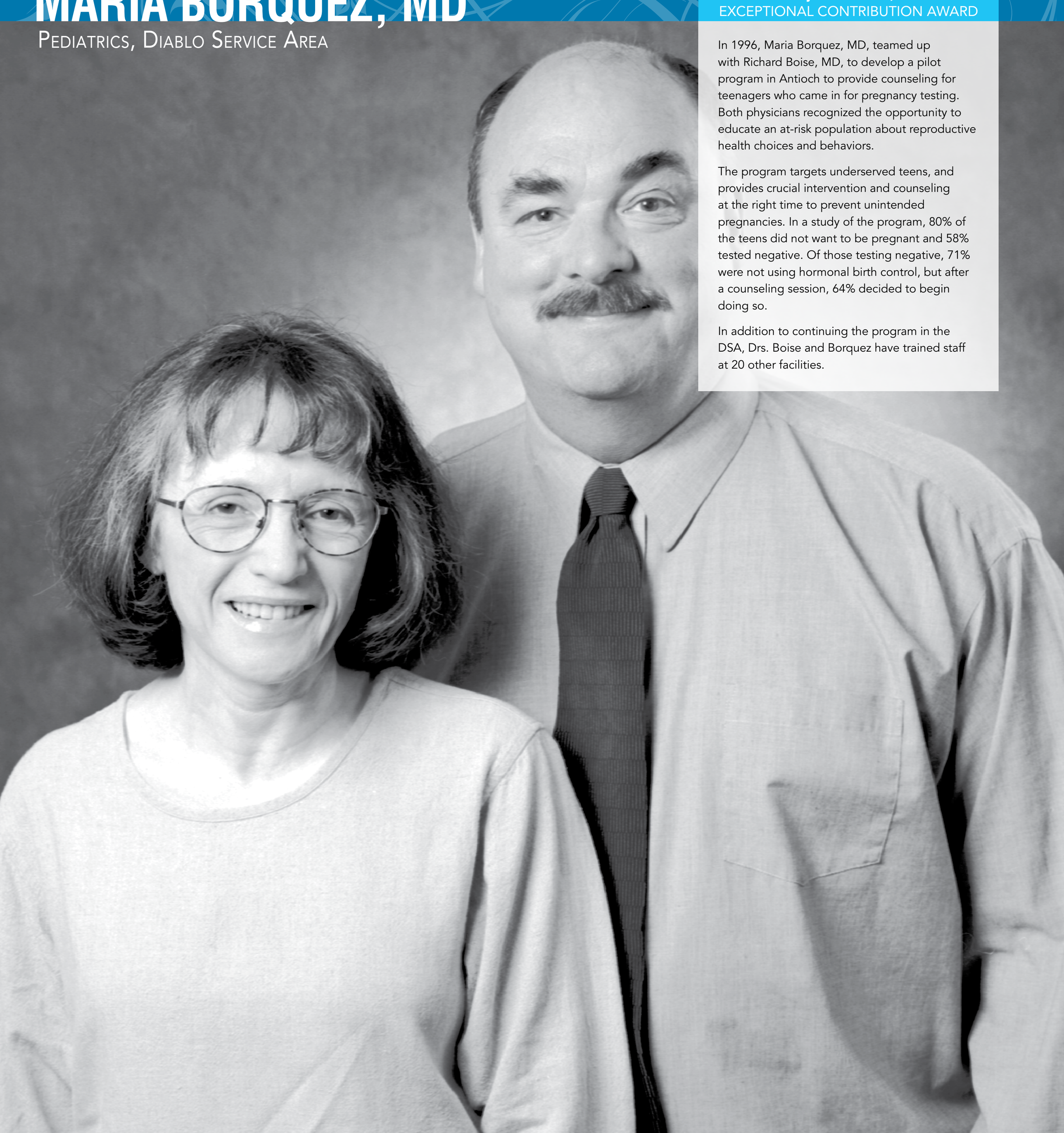
MARIA BORQUEZ, MD

Pediatrics, Diablo Service Area



2001 Sidney R. Garfield, MD
EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

In 1996, Maria Borquez, MD, teamed up with Richard Boise, MD, to develop a pilot program in Antioch to provide counseling for teenagers who came in for pregnancy testing. Both physicians recognized the opportunity to educate an at-risk population about reproductive health choices and behaviors.

The program targets underserved teens, and provides crucial intervention and counseling at the right time to prevent unintended pregnancies. In a study of the program, 80% of the teens did not want to be pregnant and 58% tested negative. Of those testing negative, 71% were not using hormonal birth control, but after a counseling session, 64% decided to begin doing so.

In addition to continuing the program in the DSA, Drs. Boise and Borquez have trained staff at 20 other facilities.