Alameda Health Consortium **Community Health Center Network**



CEO Message

Dear fellow advocates:

I am aware that there is a complex and diverse range of emotions because of the recent election, and I want to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to advancing health equity. Founded as a nonprofit to advocate for and support our community health centers that emerged from the civil rights movement, Alameda Health Consortium (AHC) became part of a social movement to help advance health equity to better meet the needs of our historically marginalized communities. To continue building on this momentum, AHC and its member health centers founded the Community Health Center Network (CHCN) a historically unique managed care organization that allows our health centers to do what they do best - serve patients and address the social determinants of health to improve individual and community health outcomes. Together, we form the backbone of Alameda County's primary preventative care delivery services, playing a crucial role in providing accessible and equitable care to our underserved communities.

Our priorities remain the same as they always have, we are committed to inclusion and respect for all members of our communities. We have always believed that everyone, regardless of income, education, insurance, or immigration status, deserves equal access to quality, affordable healthcare. Moreover, we are dedicated to ensuring that individuals are treated with respect and dignity while receiving that care in safe and trusted spaces. While this will remain our identity and our mission, there will be times when the path to achieving these things may deviate and we must course correct, but we will always find our way back to our North Star.

Our North Star remains clear: For Alameda County to become the healthiest county in California, which still requires us to align efforts to achieve three goals in line with that vision:

- Goal 1. A comprehensive safety net system of care for all
- Goal 2. Elimination of community health disparities
- Goal 3. An integrated safety net system that rewards value

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We will remain vigilant in our efforts to continue advocating at every level for accessible, comprehensive healthcare that continues to address social and structural determinants of health, many of which are rooted in structurally racist and nativist policies.

We are committed to scale programs that meet these historic challenges and support community-delivered healthcare rooted in the needs of those we serve. The journey to equitable healthcare is demanding, and progress often comes in incremental steps. But we are resolute. Our focus remains on catalyzing innovation, strengthening our workforce, and right-sizing resources so that every member of our community can access the quality, culturally responsive care they deserve.

I understand that during times of political change, uncertainties may arise, however one thing remains clear and that is our firm commitment to prioritizing equitable access to healthcare for everyone. Feelings of alienation, being marginalized, and anger are all to be expected, but know that we will stand alongside each other as trusted partners and continue to fight for the safety, health, and well-being of all our community members.

Thank you for your trust and resilience. We will move forward together to advocate for policies and funding that will help close these gaps and build a healthier future for all.

With gratitude and dedication,

Andie Martinez Patterson, CEO Alameda Health Consortium Community Health Center Network