

COUNTY OF YOLO

Board of Supervisors

625 Court Street, Room 204 • Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 666-8195 • FAX (530) 666-8193 www.yolocounty.org District 1, **Oscar Villegas** District 2, **Lucas Frerichs** District 3, **Dr. Mary Vixie Sandy** District 4, **Jim Provenza** District 5, **Angel Barajas**

County Administrator, **Gerardo Pinedo** Sr. Deputy Clerk of the Board, **Julie Dachtler**

April 11, 2024

Shelly Schorer Interim President, Common Spirit Health Northern California Division 185 Berry Street, Suite 300 San Francisco, CA 94107

Sonja Bjork Chief Executive Officer, Partnership HealthPlan of California 4665 Business Center Dr, Fairfield, CA 94534

URGENT ACTION NEEDED: Reach Agreement to Continue Healthcare Services for Medi-Cal Patients

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors are writing to address a matter of utmost importance to the health and wellbeing of our community. The contract negotiations between Partnership HealthPlan and Dignity Health have reached an impasse, leaving over 17,000 individuals in Yolo County without access to their primary and specialty healthcare providers, resulting in an influx of patients to alternative providers. Some patients report not being able to access essential healthcare services and others report extreme hardship in navigating healthcare options during this period of great uncertainty.

The inability to access healthcare services not only poses immediate risks to individuals' health but also undermines the overall resilience and wellbeing of our community. Dignity Health has been an integral part of the Yolo County community for over 100 years, providing healthcare services to generations of residents; and our County strongly urges Dignity Health to maintain its strong presence and service within our community

We understand the complexity of contract negotiations and the differing priorities and concerns of both parties. However, we urge Partnership HealthPlan and Dignity Health to prioritize the needs of our community and come to the table to renegotiate a contract that ensures continued access to healthcare for all individuals in Yolo County.

A mutually beneficial agreement is imperative in this situation. Both parties must recognize their shared responsibility to uphold the wellbeing of the population they serve. By working collaboratively and in good faith, we can find solutions that meet the needs of both Partnership HealthPlan and Dignity Health while ensuring uninterrupted access to healthcare services for our most vulnerable residents.

We urge Partnership HealthPlan and Dignity Health to return to the negotiation table and continue discussions. Given the urgency of this matter, we kindly request that both parties respond promptly to one another's proposals. Time is of the essence, and prompt action is necessary to prevent further disruptions to healthcare services in our community. It is our collective obligation to ensure that all Californians,

regardless of their insurance, have access to the healthcare services they need and deserve.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask your prompt action and a successful resolution to this issue. For any questions about the County's position, please contact the County's Chief Administrative Officer, Gerardo Pinedo, or Associate Management Analyst, Cindy Perez, in the County Administrator's Office, at (530) 666-8114 or <u>cindy.perez@yolocounty.org</u>.

Sincerely,

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Lucas Frerichs, Chair District 2, Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Dr. Mary Vixie Sandy, Vice Chair District 3, Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Jim Provenza District 4, Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Oscar Villegas / District 1, Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Angel Barajas

District 5, Yolo County Board of Supervisors