



BAY AREA Community Health Advisory Council

formerly African American Community Health Advisory Committee

OPEN LETTER FROM THE BAY AREA COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (BACHAC) TO THE COMMUNITY

Greetings Everyone,

Over the past 18 months the Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council (BACHAC), formerly known as the African American Community Health Advisory Committee (AACHAC) has been on a journey of transformational change. These changes came about for several reasons:

- Major changes in the financial and administrative support from our previous fiscal sponsor
- Demographic trends and changes in the populations that we serve
- Ongoing desire to build a sustainability infrastructure and stabilize funding sources

A subset of BACHAC members, community partners, co-founder Gloria Brown and myself in partnership with an external organizational strategy and innovation consultant met several times over the 18-month period to explore options, discuss demographic trends and on-going health disparities of underserved communities, changing the organization's name and ways to build a sustainable organization to meet the on-going needs of the community.

During this time, BACHAC also embarked on a fiscal sponsor evaluation process and in July 2018, we selected the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, the largest public foundation in the United States. The communication of these important organizational changes was then shared with the membership in August 2018, and our sponsors/supporters in October 2018. In December 2018, we shared our vision with the community at an open house holiday event.

One important change was the announcement of our new name and logo. The Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council retains important aspects of our former name and further positions us in the community as a key resource and partner to others in the work of reducing health disparities and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Similarly, our new logo borrows design elements from our old logo. Over the next several months, you will see our new logo and name appear in our promotional materials, on our website and Facebook page, and as part of our e-mail signature blocks, etc.

Our mission, vision and values remain the same as does our commitment to serve the community. We remain passionate and enthusiastic about our work and thank you for your patience as we made our way through this important transformation. To assist our community in understanding and supporting our efforts, we have added name change talking points and FAQs to our website. Please take a moment to review and share with those you know who are a part of our community.

Should you have any further questions and/or ideas, please feel free to contact us at aachacsanmateo@gmail.com or at 650-652-3884. Thank you for your support!

Lisa M. Tealer
Interim Executive Director