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To: National Academy of Medicine – Action Collaborative on Decarbonizing the U.S. Health Sector.

Re: Network Organization Application – Commitment Statement

Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) is a fully integrated, publicly operated health system dedicated to serving the under-served, including persons who have Medi-Cal (Medicaid) insurance, the uninsured, unhoused, and immigrant populations. As such, CCHS has a special and unique commitment to assuring for health, social and racial equity for all persons. Services are inclusive of acute inpatient care, ambulatory care, behavioral health, a full array of public health services from disease prevention to health policy work, emergency medical services (EMS), hazardous materials regulatory oversight, environmental health (food, water, sanitation), special services for persons who are unhoused and health insurance coverage.

CCHS comprises several Divisions, including Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and clinics, Public Health, Behavioral Health, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Hazardous Materials, Environmental Health, Health Housing and Homeless and the Contra Costa Health Plan.

Contra Costa County and Contra Costa Health System is dedicated to addressing climate change including assertively addressing its own contribution to greenhouse gas emission, waste, energy usage, environmental toxins, and water utilization. Additionally, we endeavor to understand and appreciate the impacts that climate change has on the uniquely vulnerable populations we serve more fully. This follows a 2020 action taken by our governing Board of County Supervisors declaring a climate emergency and creating the Inter-departmental task force on climate change. This task force is currently in the process of updating the 2015 Climate Action Plan with plans for adopting the updated 2022 plan in March of 2022.

Actions Include:

- Health Care Delivery - The County Green Business Plan sits within CCHS and has driven significant efforts to transition to the use of clean energy, including



installing solar panels, with battery banks, on more than a dozen of our health-related facilities as well as purchasing the remainder of our electricity from Marin Clean Energy (MCE). Additionally, we have achieved LEED-Silver certification on a number of new construction projects over the past 10 years. We have also recently joined Practice Green Health to help drive sustainable operations in our hospital and clinic operations. Additionally, CCHS has recently produced an Extreme Heat response plan, as well as a Wildfire Smoke response plan that touches on the unique roll each Division of CCHS plays in assuring for the health and wellbeing of the populations and communities we serve.

- Health Care Supply Chain and Infrastructure – We are embarking on a quality management improvement process related to health product supply chain including updating our green purchasing policy at both the organization and county operations level. A number of staff are also committed to reducing our production of waste in the pharmacy, and operating rooms.
  
- Health Professional Education and Communication - In March of 2022 we will be offering professional education on climate change and outlining our CCHS strategy on climate action. Additionally, a number of our staff have joined a non-profit organization called Climate Health Now.
  
- Policy, Financing, and Metrics - Our health service leaders have recently commented on the State Climate Adaptation Plan, supported county policy on banning the use of natural gas in all new construction, as well as requiring the conversion to electric vehicles tied to land use development permits. In addition, we supported the use of funding from recently passed local tax measure (Measure-X) to support the installation of EV charging stations in all county facilities for both staff and the public.

Sincerely,

*Daniel Peddycord*

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Chief Climate & Health Policy Officer



Contra Costa Health Services

