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March 28, 2024

The Honorable Caroline Menjivar  
Chair, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3 on Health & Human Services  
1021 O Street, Suite 6720  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Akilah Weber, M.D.  
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health  
1021 O Street, Suite 4130  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **RE: REQUEST FOR REAPPROPRIATED FUNDING – Department of Health Care Services Budget, CalAIM PNA Path**

Dear Senator Menjivar and Assemblymember Weber:

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, in coordination with our Solano County Department of Health and Social Services, Public Health division, I am writing to respectfully request reallocation of unexpended funds appropriated for Support for Vital Public Health Activities in FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 to establish and enhance local health department capacity and infrastructure to meet new requirements as part of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Population Health Management (PHM) Strategy.

Solano County Health and Social Services, Public Health division, greatly appreciates the leadership demonstrated by the Legislature and Administration in providing stable funding for increased public health workforce and infrastructure. Local health departments throughout the state have worked diligently to hire new staff and establish additional local capacity. However, during the first two years of funding, hiring was hampered by various challenges, including but not limited to recruitment hurdles, civil service requirements, and lingering impacts of harassment endured by public health personnel during the pandemic.

As a result of these challenges, in addition to the requirement to spend at least 70 percent of funds on staff, it is anticipated that there will be some unexpended monies from the first two years of this funding stream (FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24). Instead of reverting back to the state General Fund, we respectfully request that unexpended funds support local infrastructure needed to successfully implement the CalAIM PHM Strategy, which includes a Population Needs Assessment (PNA).

Under the state's CalAIM initiative, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is requiring Medi-Cal managed care plans meet their PNA requirement to identify priority health needs of our community and our community's residents enrolled in Medi-Cal by meaningfully engaging with our local health department on our Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Solano Public Health works with the Healthy Solano Collaborative to develop the community health assessment and community health improvement plan, which includes partner agencies from health care providers, community-based organizations and other key partners addressing health and

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social determinants of health issues. Additionally, to inform the community health assessment and community health improvement plan, Solano Public Health coordinates key informant interviews and focus groups representing the diversity of the county.

The Administration is anticipated to pursue statutory changes to require all local health departments statewide, beginning January 1, 2028, to conduct a three-year CHA and CHIP cycle that is synchronized with DHCS Medi-Cal managed care plan timelines. Local health departments and managed care plans have been instructed to utilize 2024-27 as a ramp-up period to begin transitioning to the statewide three-year synchronized cycle.

Of note, Solano County Health and Social Services, Public Health division does not have dedicated funding to support this new required work in partnership with Medi-Cal managed care plans. The new partnerships with Medi-Cal managed care plans will increase and expand needs for information gathering, including data exchange data visualization, data analysis, project management and recruitment and coordinating community partners in key activities.

Utilizing the state's existing CalAIM Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) structure which is intended to establish infrastructure needed for successful CalAIM initiatives, Solano County Health & Social Services, Solano Public Health requests reallocation of unexpended FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 Support for Vital Public Health Activities funds to establish a competitive funding opportunity (PNA PATH) specifically for local health departments. This funding would assist our local health department in building key capabilities for new collaborative partnerships with our Partnership HealthPlan of California and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, as well as other new partners that may be required.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Gerald R. Huber, Director of Solano County Health and Social Services at (707) 784-8400.

Sincerely,



Mitch Mashburn, Chair  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

**CC:**

The Honorable Bill Dodd, California State Senator  
The Honorable Lori Wilson, California State Assemblymember  
Honorable Members, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3  
Honorable Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1  
Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors  
Scott Ogus, Deputy Staff Director, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee  
Elissa Wynne, Staff Director, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee  
Andrea Margolis, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Anthony Archie, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus  
Kirk Feely, Fiscal Director, Senate Republican Caucus  
Eric Dietz, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus  
Joe Shinstock, Fiscal Director, Assembly Republican Caucus  
Michelle Gibbons, Executive Director, County Health Executives Association of California

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Jack Anderson, County Health Executives Association of California Staff  
Jerry Huber, Director, Solano County Health and Social Services  
Bela Matyas, M.D., M.P.H., Health Officer, Solano County  
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Karen Lange, SYASL Partners, Inc.