

June 15, 2020

The Honorable Raul Ruiz, M.D. United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Ruiz:

On behalf of our 16 member organizations, serving over 850,000 patients in the three southernmost California counties of San Diego, Imperial and Riverside, and the 29 million patients — 7.2 million Californians — America's Community Health Centers serve, **thank you** for the leadership and the support you have shown as we tirelessly work to respond to and mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in our communities.

My members and I are grateful for your efforts in leading the letter urging House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Leader Mitch McConnell to protect the \$7.6 billion in funding set aside for Community Health Centers in the Heroes Act and to include an additional \$1 billion for telehealth infrastructure projects and \$1 billion in emergency workforce funding. Your willingness to identify these critical financial gaps and bring them to the attention of the highest levels of government has been critical to ensure our frontline medical workers have the resources they need.

I thank you and your staff, especially Erin Doty, for your ongoing support of Community Health Centers. All are proud to partner with you to strengthen California's health care safety-net, particularly in times of crises.

Sincerely,

Henry N. Tuttle
President and CEO

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<u>Health Center Partners of Southern California</u>, a family of companies, includes a 16-membership organization of federally qualified health centers, Indian Health Services Organizations, both urban and sovereign, and Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest, collectively serving 850,000+ patients each year, for 3.6 million patient visits each year, at 160 practice sites across San Diego, Riverside, Imperial counties, with the seventh largest provider group in the region. <u>2018/2019 Impact Report</u>