



Your neighborhood network of community health centers

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CONTACTS: Dilys Jones  
*Marketing Communications Manager*  
818-301-6371: [djones@vchcare.org](mailto:djones@vchcare.org)

Alex Medina  
*CCALAC Communications Specialist*  
(213) 201-6529: [amedina@ccalac.org](mailto:amedina@ccalac.org)

**Paula Wilson, Valley Community Healthcare President & CEO, Elected 2016-17 Chair of Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County (CCALAC)**

North Hollywood, CA--- At the June, 2016 Board of Directors meeting of the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County (CCALAC), Paula Wilson, President & CEO of Valley Community Healthcare was elected chair of the largest regional association of community and free clinics in California.

Since 2002, Wilson has actively represented Valley Community Healthcare at CCALAC meetings, serving on the Development, Operations and Human Resources Committees, the Policy Advisory Group. As a member of the CCALAC, Wilson headed the CEO Search Committee that resulted in the appointment of Louise McCarthy as President & CEO of CCALAC in 2005, and she was most recently engaged in developing the CCALAC 2015-2020 Strategic Plans.

“Paula is an innovative thinker and a vocal advocate for health centers, and I am delighted to have her as our board chair,” said Louise McCarthy, CCALAC’s President & CEO. “Paula’s leadership will be integral as CCALAC and our members strive to transform care for LA’s underserved and improve the overall health of our communities.”

As the new chair, Paula Wilson plans to solidify the CCALAC’s efforts to create a comprehensive health care system throughout LA County to support those newly-insured by the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

“There is a severe shortage of primary care providers not only in Los Angeles, but throughout the United States,” stated Wilson. “The issue is compounded by the addition of millions of new Medi-Cal patients to the managed care system. This means that healthcare centers and clinics providing a medical home for this underserved population must take proactive steps to ensure that patients have access to the care they need. We will employ a variety of strategies in order to continue to provide primary health care, including dental and mental health services to the remaining uninsured, working poor and vulnerable populations.”

CCALAC’s strategic plan during the next five years will be to advance the evolution of whole-person care for healthier communities. The includes advancing of the integration of health care systems to ensure quality, comprehensive care, promoting a performance-driven and innovating culture to improve patient engagement and experiences as well as a dynamic workforce and leadership, and demonstrating the value of clinics from the patients, provider and partner perspective.

For more than 45 years, Valley Community Healthcare has been dedicated to enhancing the well-being of the San Fernando Valley community by providing high quality, culturally sensitive primary medical care and related health services at two centers located in North Hollywood and North Hills, and a school-based clinic in Granada Hills. The healthcare facility provides local families access to comprehensive clinical treatment and health management to those in need, regardless of their ability to pay.