



**A Message from  
Marin Community Clinics' CEO**  
December 11, 2020

Dear Marin Community Clinics Family,

As predicted by public health experts, this autumn has been dark in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been – and continues to be - tragic loss of life and livelihood for hundreds of thousands of Americans.

2020 been a roller coaster ride at Marin Community Clinics. We drastically shifted our entire operations in March by converting services to telehealth. We've also made environmental modifications to the clinics so that they are safe when patients need to receive face-to-face services, and safe for employees.

The recent Stay Home Order will be in effect until January 4, 2021 to slow the spread of the virus. Unlike in March when we had to cease dental operations, limit hours of operation, and convert virtually all health care services from in-person visits to telehealth overnight, this time we are able to stay open and to operate at full capacity. This is possible thanks to the hard work that our providers and staff undertook in the spring and investments in infrastructure and personal protective equipment (PPE) that have been made. We continue to rely heavily on telehealth whenever possible.

Marin Community Clinics received federal support at the beginning of the pandemic, including a grant through the CARES Act. I am hopeful that Congress will pass a relief package to help the people and entities that sorely need it including local and state governments, community health centers such as ours, small businesses, and individuals & families. Many members of our community are suffering due to losses experienced in the past nine months, including patients and staff.

While there is no immediate end to pandemic-related challenges in sight, I am encouraged by effective vaccines that are in the offing. Our leadership team continues to work closely with Marin County Public Health colleagues to plan vaccine distribution for the community. Additionally, we have an internal task force in place to ensure quick and safe distribution to staff and patients.

The holidays are here, and they are different than any time before. Please don't let your guard down due to the desire to be with loved ones outside your household. Like me, you may need to dispel myths when speaking with loved ones (such as that masks are unhealthy; they're not and they provide protection against viral spread) and to be ambassadors of safe behavior.

Thank you for your good will and generosity throughout the year. I sincerely hope that this holiday season brings joy and a sense of well-being to you and yours.

**We are all in this together.**

Mitesh Popat, MD, MPH  
Chief Executive Officer