



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

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Date: May 24, 2022

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ 4/5 Vote Required

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### **Resolution of The Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California, Thanking Santa Rosa Community Health CEO Naomi Fuchs for Her Contributions to Public Health**

**Whereas**, Naomi joined Santa Rosa Community Health in 1999, when that organization was known as Southwest Community Health Center, became president of its Board of Directors, and made it her mission to help save the financially struggling clinic to ensure primary care access for uninsured and underinsured families; and

**Whereas**, Naomi then served as CEO of Santa Rosa Community Health from 2001 to 2022, leading the organization for over two decades, through its growth from a single 40-employee clinic in Roseland to a health home for over 50,000 patients who are now served by 500 employees at eight health centers across Santa Rosa; and

**Whereas**, Naomi developed the Family Residency partnership with UCSF Medical School and Sutter Hospital in 2007 which now trains 36 residents every year, and launched at Santa Rosa Community health the first accredited Family Nurse Practitioner Residency in the United States in 2011; and

**Whereas**, Naomi modeled early leadership in HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention in Sonoma County, which had one of the highest infection rates in the nation; and

**Whereas**, Naomi expanded school-based care and pediatric primary health services in one of the highest social vulnerability index communities in Sonoma County and established a Healthcare for the Homeless site now serving over 2,000 patients a year; and

**Whereas**, Naomi inspired tens of thousands of patients, staff, other leaders and community members after the 2017 Tubbs Fire destroyed Santa Rosa Community Health's Vista Campus – its largest medical center which alone served 24,000 patients a year – by rebuilding and reopening the campus in two years, launching the first use of "Clinics in a Can" in California,

and creating a community resiliency initiative to help people throughout Sonoma County address head-on the trauma caused by the fires; and

**Whereas**, Naomi led innovations in virtual care delivery in public health settings beginning with telehealth and other virtual services after the 2017 Tubbs Fire destroyed the Vista Campus, and expanding dramatically when Santa Rosa Community Health pivoted to nearly total virtual care during the COVID pandemic; and

**Whereas**, Naomi collaborated with thousands of Santa Rosa Community staff and community partners, prioritizing the voices of patients, community, and new leaders, to achieve these results; and

**Whereas**, Naomi influenced health systems change not only in Sonoma County, but throughout the State of California – inspiring other leaders to bring bold, innovative visions to life for people whose voices and needs too often go unheard in public policy decision-making – in roles that included leading the Redwood Community Health Coalition of health centers serving over 275,000 patients across six counties, founding with other community leaders the Sonoma County Health Action Council to reduce disparities across the County, and serving as President of the statewide California Primary Care Association; and

**Whereas**, Naomi is a visionary, compassionate leader who exemplifies with humility and humanity what it means to walk alongside each person on their journey to health and wholeness – to “meet the needs of our community with love and with yes!”;

**Now, Therefore Be It Resolved**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California, hereby expresses its deep appreciation to Naomi Fuchs and honors her for her many contributions to the health of every person – in communities across Sonoma County, and in the world.

**Supervisors:**

Gorin:                      Rabbitt:                      Coursey:                      Hopkins:                      Gore:

Ayes:                      Noes:                      Absent:                      Abstain:

**So Ordered.**