

August 30, 2019

Margie Scott-Cseh  
Committee Management Specialist  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Road NE  
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**Re: Nomination for Appointment of Dr. Junda Woo to the CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and STD Prevention and Treatment**

Dear Selection Committee,

On behalf of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the nearly 3,000 local health departments that we represent, I write to express strong support for the nomination of Junda Woo, MD, MPH (she/her/they/them) to the CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis, and STD Prevention and Treatment (CHACHSPT). Dr. Woo possesses a deep understanding of and passion for the science, policy, and operational realities of addressing HIV, viral hepatitis, and STDs, as well as intersecting epidemics, such as the opioid crisis.

Dr. Woo is the Medical Director for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District in Texas, a jurisdiction of 1.7 million people. San Antonio is the seventh largest city in the United States and is in south central Texas, seated within Bexar County, one of the 48 counties included in *End the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America*. San Antonio is a diverse community with a large Hispanic and foreign-born population. As the Medical Director, Dr. Woo serves as a liaison between the public health and health care communities and guides quality assurance and training activities for the health department's STD, HIV, TB, and immunization clinics. Dr. Woo serves as a clinician in these settings, seeing STI, PrEP, and TB patients. Dr. Woo's role bridges clinical care and public health and also requires that she possesses a deep understanding of the social, political, and economic challenges facing her community.

Dr. Woo played a key role in the health department's work to win the Robert Wood Johnson Culture of Health Prize in 2018, and Dr. Woo was instrumental to San Antonio's efforts to join the Fast-Track Cities Initiative on World AIDS Day in 2017. Since then, she has co-lead its work with partners and stakeholders across the jurisdiction to achieve its goals. San Antonio was the first city in Texas to join the Fast-Track Cities Initiative. Locally referred to as the End Stigma End HIV Alliance (ESEHA), a collective impact model is followed for achieving the goals of 90-90-90. Nearly one-fifth of the members of the Alliance are people living with HIV. The membership is also inclusive of every HIV/AIDS service organization in the community, Ryan White providers, academic partners, behavioral health, and public health. ESEHA's name leads with stigma because stigma is the paramount barrier to testing and care. The Alliance's latest accomplishment is communitywide Rapid Start—newly diagnosed people can be linked to care within 2-3 days at any of the four Ryan White clinics in the jurisdiction.



Dr. Woo has been actively engaged with NACCHO for a number of years, demonstrating a commitment to advance and enhance the capacity of San Antonio to respond to HIV, STI, and viral hepatitis, but also to collaborate with peers and partners across the country to elevate best practices, spur innovation, and advocate for the needs of local health departments. In 2017, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health Department was awarded a competitive funding opportunity from NACCHO to support partnership development and action planning between local health departments and community health centers. This project was funded through NACCHO's cooperative agreement with the CDC Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention. Though this project, NACCHO worked closely with Dr. Woo to support project activities, which included the development of an action plan to enhance the impact of collaboration with community health centers, including for the delivery of PrEP. Since the one-year project ended, Dr. Woo has regularly shared updates on ESEHA's efforts with NACCHO, providing valuable insight to work that is taking place on the ground and examples that can be shared with local health departments across the country.

In 2018, NACCHO invited Dr. Woo to participate in a new initiative funded by CDC's Division of STD Prevention to explore and scale-up express STI testing services. Dr. Woo actively engaged in a year-long Community of Practice with colleagues from across the country and the CDC, regularly sharing their work in San Antonio and providing valuable insight and direction to NACCHO's efforts to document and describe models for express service delivery. Dr. Woo's leadership in this area also included delivering a plenary presentation at the National Coalition of STD Directors' Annual Meeting in 2018, titled "The New Sexual Health Services Paradigm: What Works for You?"

Dr. Woo will bring a breadth and depth of relevant and important experience and expertise to the CHACHSPT. Her membership will ensure that the local health department perspective is represented in the work of this important federal advisory committee to the Secretary, HHS; the Director, CDC; and the Administrator, HRSA. Further, she will provide valuable insight about HIV, viral hepatitis, and STI prevention, care, and treatment from the perspective of a local health department in the Southern United States, and can speak to the challenges of securing access to HIV, viral hepatitis, and STI prevention, care, and treatment services in a non-Medicaid expansion state.

I am confident that Dr. Woo has the experience and expertise to be an active and valuable member of the CHACHSPT, would provide a unique perspective to the Committee, and serve as an important link to the realities of local public health practice. I look forward to continuing NACCHO's important relationship with the CHACHSPT through Dr. Woo's service. Please contact Gretchen Weiss, NACCHO's Director, HIV, STI, and Viral Hepatitis, at [gweiss@naccho.org](mailto:gweiss@naccho.org) with any questions about this nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Freeman", written in a cursive style.

Lori Tremmel Freeman, MBA  
Chief Executive Officer