

NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health

April 25, 2018

Jomana Musmar, MS, PhD
Acting Designated Federal Officer
Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 715H
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Dr. Musmar:

On behalf of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), I write in support of the nomination of Stephanie Black, MD, MSc to serve as a voting member of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (PACCARB). NACCHO is the voice of the nearly 3,000 local health departments across the country. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities.

Dr. Black serves as Medical Director of the Communicable Disease Program for the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH). Prior to this appointment she held an Assistant Professor of Medicine position in the section of Infectious Diseases at Rush Medical College. In Chicago, Dr. Black focuses on healthcare associated infections (HAIs) and infection control in healthcare facility settings, addressing antibiotic resistance, conducting surveillance and outbreak investigations, and responding to emerging infectious disease threats including *Candida auris* and carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae. Dr. Black recently presented on containment efforts to control multidrug resistant organisms as part of CDC's *Vital Signs* April 2018 Town Hall. Additionally, Dr. Black provides leadership in the field of practice through her participation on national, state, and local committees and is widely recognized and respected in her field. She has served as a NACCHO liaison on the Council for Outbreak Response: Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance Pathogens (CORHA) since January 2017.

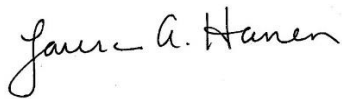
Local health departments are a key partner with healthcare providers and hospitals in preventing and responding to healthcare-associated infections and combating antibiotic resistance. Dr. Black's clinical and public health background and experience informing policies and guidelines enable her to provide comprehensive policy and program perspectives to support and evaluate implementation of U.S. government activities related to combating antibiotic-resistant pathogens. Her understanding of infection prevention and control, antibiotic stewardship, and HAI surveillance data, particularly at the intersection of public



health and healthcare, will be invaluable to helping the committee make recommendations that are evidence-based, progressive, and realistic.

Dr. Black has demonstrated capability and her broad range of positions highlights her ability to address the challenge of antibiotic resistance at various levels from clinical, academic, and public health perspectives. The breadth and depth of her experience make her an ideal candidate for this position. Dr. Black would be a valuable addition to PACCARB, and we give our strongest recommendation for her candidacy. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Cantu, Director, Infectious Disease and Immunization at 202-507-4251 or mcantu@naccho.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura A. Hanen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and 'H'.

Laura Hanen, MPP
Interim Executive Director & Chief of Government Affairs