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EXCITING NEW PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN ICONIC WEST OAKLAND INSTITUTIONS
Healthy Communities, Save A Life Wellness Center and West Oakland Health Council

August 6, 2014 (Oakland, CA) – The Alameda County Health Care Services Agency is pleased to announce and support the new partnership between Healthy Communities Inc. (HCI) and the West Oakland Health Council (WOHC) through which, it hopes to see expanded access to primary care for the residents of West Oakland. Since 2004, the HCI Save A Life Wellness Center has served West Oakland’s highest risk and most disadvantaged citizens. Through this new partnership Save A Life patients have begun receiving primary care services at WOHC effective July 1, 2014. HCI will continue to provide employment assistance, drug and alcohol, and mental health counseling services on the San Pablo corridor where its presence has created a haven of health.

“Transitioning primary care services to the capable physicians and staff at WOHC is bitter sweet since our patients have become like family. However, through this partnership, HCI will be better able to focus on fortifying our violence prevention work through expanded case management and health education services, alcohol and other drug addiction supports, job placement assistance, and mental health consultation on the San Pablo corridor through our mobile health van, and at our new location, at 1485 8th Street in the lower bottoms in West Oakland,” said Pastor Raymond Lankford, Healthy Communities President and co-founder.

“We are honored to partner with HCI and welcome their patients as ours. Any opportunity to serve the unique needs of West Oakland’s residents, well, that’s what we’ve been doing for the last 45 years and this partnership is no different. Through our collaboration, patients will access a broader array of services and conveniences such as on-site laboratory, radiology, and a pharmacy,” said Dr. Robert Cooper, WOHC Medical Director.

HCI currently serves more than 2,500 high-needs patients annually.

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Healthy Communities’ mission is to provide a safe place to harbor men of color caught in the vicious cycle of poverty, prison, and public systems and to provide trauma-informed care and community building so that they can realize their true purpose as productive members of society.

<http://healthycommunities.us/Index.html>

The West Oakland Health Council is a nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Center providing primary care, mental health, and substance abuse recovery services. Its mission is to improve the health and well-being of residents in Emeryville, Southwest Berkeley, West, North, and East Oakland, and to reduce morbidity, preventable disability, and premature death. <http://www.wohc.org/>