



**For Immediate Release**

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**ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICTS ANNOUNCES NEW CEO**

*Health Policy Expert Cathy Martin Brings Strong Experience Working to Increase Access to Care and Eliminate Health Disparities for Californians.*

Sacramento, CA – The Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) has named Cathy Martin as Chief Executive Officer, effective July 6, 2020.

“I am extremely pleased to welcome Cathy Martin as the next CEO of the Association. I believe she has what ACHD needs to support California’s Healthcare Districts during this extraordinary time.” said Howard Salmon, Chair of the ACHD Board of Directors. “As COVID-19 cases resurge in California, it is important to eliminate health care disparities and to ensure everyone, including those in rural or low-population communities, have access to the life-saving care they need.”

Martin has worked in the nonprofit sector for more than 25 years, of which, the last 15 have been committed to health care or public health. Martin most recently served as the Vice President of Workforce Policy for the California Hospital Association (CHA). In this role, she led a strategic initiative to develop and implement solutions to address the long-term need for health care professionals in California. In addition, she led the Healthcare Laboratory Workforce Initiative in developing strategic solutions to the critical laboratory workforce shortage in California.

She has partnered with various philanthropic partners over the years, raising millions of dollars in grant funding for projects related to public health, education, and health workforce. Prior to joining CHA, Cathy was the Executive Director of the California State Rural Health Association, a membership organization that advocates for access to health care in California’s rural communities.

“I have always been a passionate advocate for access to quality, timely and culturally appropriate health care. Healthcare Districts play a crucial role in ensuring access to care in many of California’s unique and diverse communities. I am honored to be chosen to lead the organization at what is sure to be a challenging time in health care and look forward to serving the ACHD Membership” said Martin.

Martin’s predecessor, Ken Cohen, retired in February of 2020. Amber King has been acting as Interim CEO since Cohen’s retirement and will resume her previous role of Vice President, Advocacy & Membership.

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**About the Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD)**

The Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) represents Healthcare Districts throughout the state. The Association serves the diverse needs of California’s Healthcare Districts by enhancing public awareness, training and educating its Members and advocating for legislation and regulatory policies that allow Healthcare Districts to deliver the best possible health services to Californians. To learn more, visit [www.achd.org](http://www.achd.org).