



For Immediate Release  
August 11, 2022

## **California Primary Care Association Releases Statement on California Wildfires as Health Centers Continue to Support Local Communities**

**Sacramento** – California Primary Care Association (CPCA) President & CEO, Francisco J. Silva, released the following statement as wildfires continue to impact our state:

“Over the past few years, California has been devastated by historic wildfires. Unfortunately, the 2022 wildfire season is also having a devastating impact on our communities,” said CPCA President & CEO Francisco J. Silva. “The Oak and McKinney fires have already burned thousands of acres, destroyed homes, prompted evacuations, and sadly, taken at least two lives. California’s community health centers (CHCs) and the communities they serve have been deeply impacted by the state’s destructive wildfires, but even during these challenging times, CHCs continue to uphold their mission of providing much needed care to all those in need. CHCs have expanded clinic hours at unaffected sites, deployed mobile units, mobilized clinicians and staff to assist evacuees at shelters, utilized alternative modes of care delivery, including telephonic and telehealth visits, to ensure timely access to care for patients. CPCA applauds our CHCs for upholding their mission, especially during our most trying times.”

“With the effects of climate change continuing to exacerbate these historic wildfires, CPCA remains committed to advocate for resources CHCs need to mitigate the impact of the climate crisis and build climate-resilient communities.”

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### **About the California Primary Care Association**

The California Primary Care Association (CPCA) represents more than 1,300 non-profit community health centers that provide care to more than 7.2 million patients each year. Community health centers (CHCs) are committed to providing comprehensive, high quality health care to everyone who walks through our doors, in a compassionate and culturally sensitive manner. CHCs include federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and FQHC look-a-likes, community clinics, free clinics, rural health clinics, migrant health centers, Indian health service clinics, and family planning clinics. Services include comprehensive primary and preventive care, women’s health, dental, mental health, substance use treatment, health education, outreach and enrollment, pharmacy and more.