

# 2022 IMPACT REPORT



## The Relentless Pursuit of Healthier Communities

2022 marks 25 years that the John Muir Community Health Fund has been crafting initiatives that support the health and health care of our friends and neighbors in Central and East Contra Costa. More than ever before, we see a need to continue and deepen our commitment to collaborate with the under-resourced communities that we serve.



Gail Cristancho  
Chair of the  
CHF Governing Board

We foster lasting partnerships with community nonprofit organizations to address many of the factors that threaten good health throughout people's lives, from lack of access to quality care through systemic racism and food insecurity.

This commitment stems from an ever-growing understanding of the many factors that contribute to health and wellness. When we began, our focus was supporting organizations that delivered direct medical care, but over time our vision of grantmaking evolved. Today, we foster lasting partnerships with community nonprofit organizations to address many of the factors that threaten good health throughout people's lives, from lack of access to quality care through systemic racism and food insecurity.

In practice, this vision has meant relentless questioning, learning, challenging ourselves to revise our views, and thoughtfully incorporating all that we have learned. As an example, this year, we attended a series of board retreats and community discussions that have provided us with the opportunity to generate a racial equity statement that commits us to a new level of community engagement. **This statement holds us accountable to ensure that the work we support is closely aligned with what each community knows it needs.**

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### Community Health Fund • Board Members & Staff

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*Inaugural Member*

Staff  
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Mary Serrano,  
*Grants & Financial, Operations Manager*

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CHF Board Site Visits



More than ever before, we see a need to continue and deepen our commitment to collaborate with the under-resourced communities that we serve.

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**This is difficult but rewarding work, and we are grateful to the many people who have helped make it possible.**

This is difficult but rewarding work, and we are grateful to the many people who have helped make it possible. **John Muir Health, with the leadership of Ken Anderson, Cal Knight and, now, Mike Thomas, funds and enthusiastically supports this work.** Our community nonprofit partners unquestionably save lives. We ask much of our Board members – dedicated public officials and private citizens – and they always respond. Our original executive director, Grace Caliendo, set us up to do all that we do, with the help of Glenda Pacha, the original grants manager.

**And our current team – Executive Director Lillian Roselin and Grants & Financial Operations Manager Mary Serrano – is tireless at bringing together diverse community members to forge initiatives that truly improve community health in lasting ways.** Whether the Community

Health Fund is supporting direct health care, behavioral health, economic or food security, social support, or racial equity, these two extraordinary women have shaped a unique process that does more to stretch the effect of its dollars than any philanthropic or community benefit organization I have ever known.

**Here then, is to the next 25 years of making our county a much healthier place to live.**

*Gail Cristancho*

**Gail Cristancho**  
Chair of the CHF Governing Board



*La Clínica has been so fortunate to have the benefit of a strong relationship with the Community Health Fund, which has supported a number of La Clínica's key strategic endeavors, such as behavioral health integration, healthy aging, and geographic expansion. Serving as a convener, as well as investor, the Community Health Fund has allowed us to build relationships with other nonprofits and community members. We are eternally grateful for their support and backing, which has made us stronger and broadened our impact.*

— Jane Garcia, CEO, La Clínica de La Raza



*For over two and one-half decades, the John Muir Community Health Fund (CHF) has supported initiatives that have targeted health disparities in Eastern Contra Costa County. Unlike some initiatives that target only large entities with visible short-term returns, the CHF has been consistent in supporting even smaller initiatives that address health concerns across all communities in East County. For their ongoing partnership, we are thankful.*

— Federal Glover, Contra Costa County Supervisor, District 5



*When I joined John Muir Health in 2009, I quickly learned it did far more for our community than just healthcare. The Community Health Fund extends that impact even further. The grants they make to get organizations self-sustaining are particularly impactful as the social needs of our community have only grown over time and those "start-ups" will be the future solutions that make our community the best in the Bay Area.*

— Christian Pass, Chief Financial Officer, John Muir Health



*The Community Health Fund has a deep understanding of the communities that it serves. It creates strategic partnerships to advance equity in Contra Costa County and reaches deep into historically marginalized communities by funding organizations that have been providing service to these communities for decades. It has been an honor to partner with the Community Health Fund during the COVID-19 response efforts; it has been instrumental in saving so many lives.*

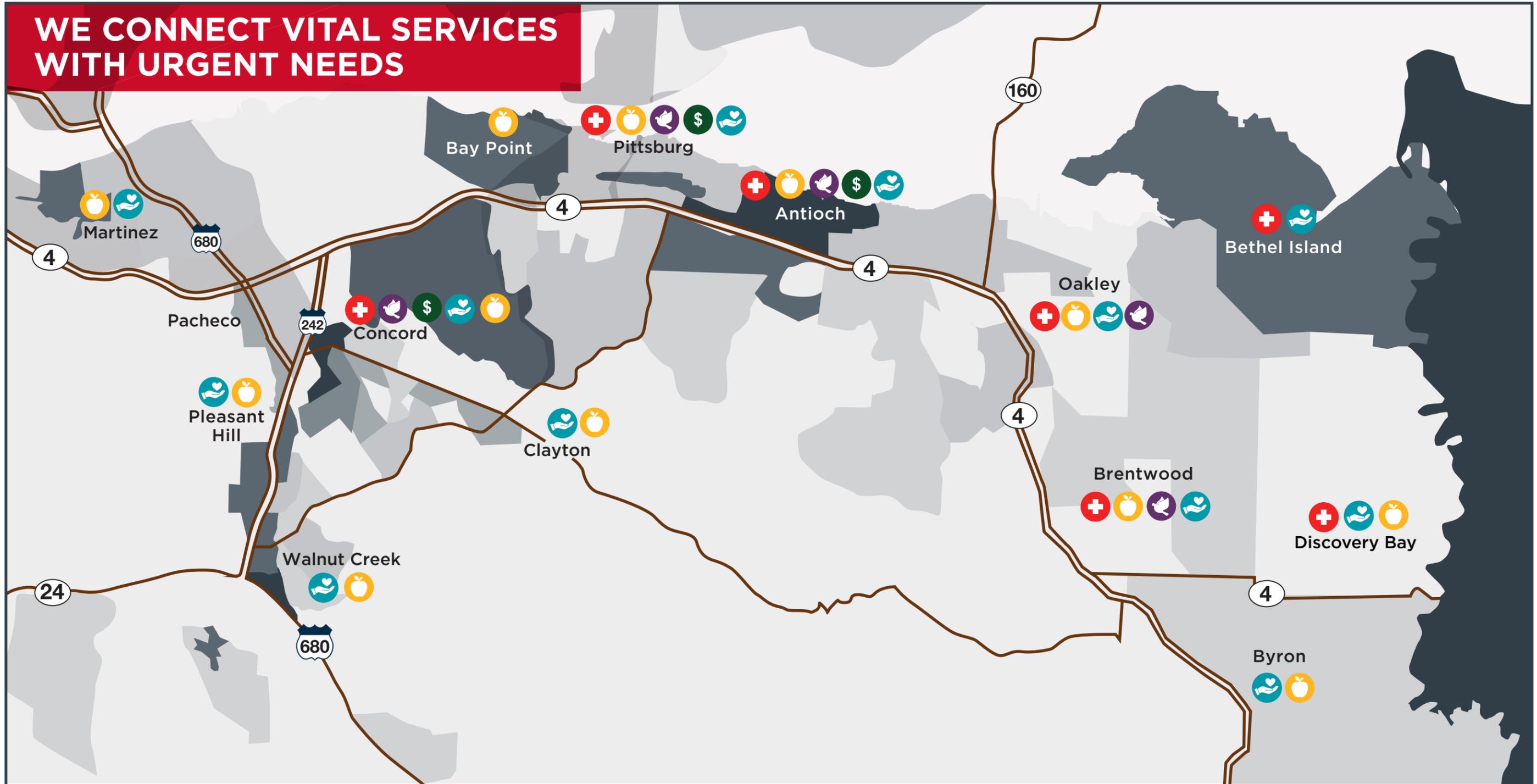
— Gilbert Salinas, Chief Equity Officer, Contra Costa Health Services



*The Community Health Fund has played a significant role in addressing unmet health care needs of underserved populations in East and Central Contra Costa County. The CHF is unique in that it doesn't just provide funding, but also provides technical support, advice and connections for the purpose of ensuring that the initiatives it funds are able to continue long-term serving these populations. It was an honor and a privilege to serve on the Community Health Fund Board, as we knew we were truly making a difference.*

— Linda Best, Former Board Member, John Muir Community Health Fund

# WE CONNECT VITAL SERVICES WITH URGENT NEEDS



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS SERVICE AREAS

### LEGEND

-  ACCESS TO HEALTH/DENTAL CARE
-  BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
-  ECONOMIC SECURITY
-  SOCIAL SUPPORT
-  FOOD



The map above indicates areas in East and Central Costa County where healthcare and wellness services were previously lacking and where the CHF has played a role in supporting community partners that provide those vital services. In the last year alone, CHF-supported community partners have delivered these services to an estimated 247,000 people, out of a total population of approximately 381,000. We have been especially focused on the shaded areas, which represent people most in need of health and wellness services; the darker the shading, the greater the need.

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The goal is to create a foundation of well-being at the individual level that leads to a connected school culture and climate where everyone feels safe, welcomed, valued, and believed in.

— MLP

## Briana Rodriguez Comes Home to Support Antioch Youth

Because mindfulness can be an important strategy for addressing mental health and behavioral challenges in children, the CHF has been instrumental in helping Mindful Life Project (MLP) expand to schools in East and Central Contra Costa County. Briana Rodriguez, who became a mindfulness coach for MLP in 2021, spent the school year working with students at the Antioch elementary school she once attended. This is her story.

Over time, the students realized I was a trustworthy adult, someone who grew up and lives in this community.

My family and I emigrated from Mexico to Antioch in 1998, looking for opportunities. My educational trajectory began at Marsh Elementary, Park Middle School and Antioch High School. I knew I would go to college but wasn't sure how I would get there. My high school counselors and teachers paved a way. I graduated from Sonoma State with a dual major in Psychology and Chicano/Latino Studies and studied the effects of micro-aggressions on women of color. This helped me embrace my identity as a queer Latina immigrant woman. Then I went to Fresno State where I got my masters in 2021, in higher education administration and leadership. I almost went back to college counseling, but decided to explore opportunities in my home community.

A friend introduced me to MLP where I found inspiring people doing great work. When [Executive Director] JG [Larochette] asked if I wanted to work at Marsh, it was a chance to serve the community that set the foundation of my educational trajectory.

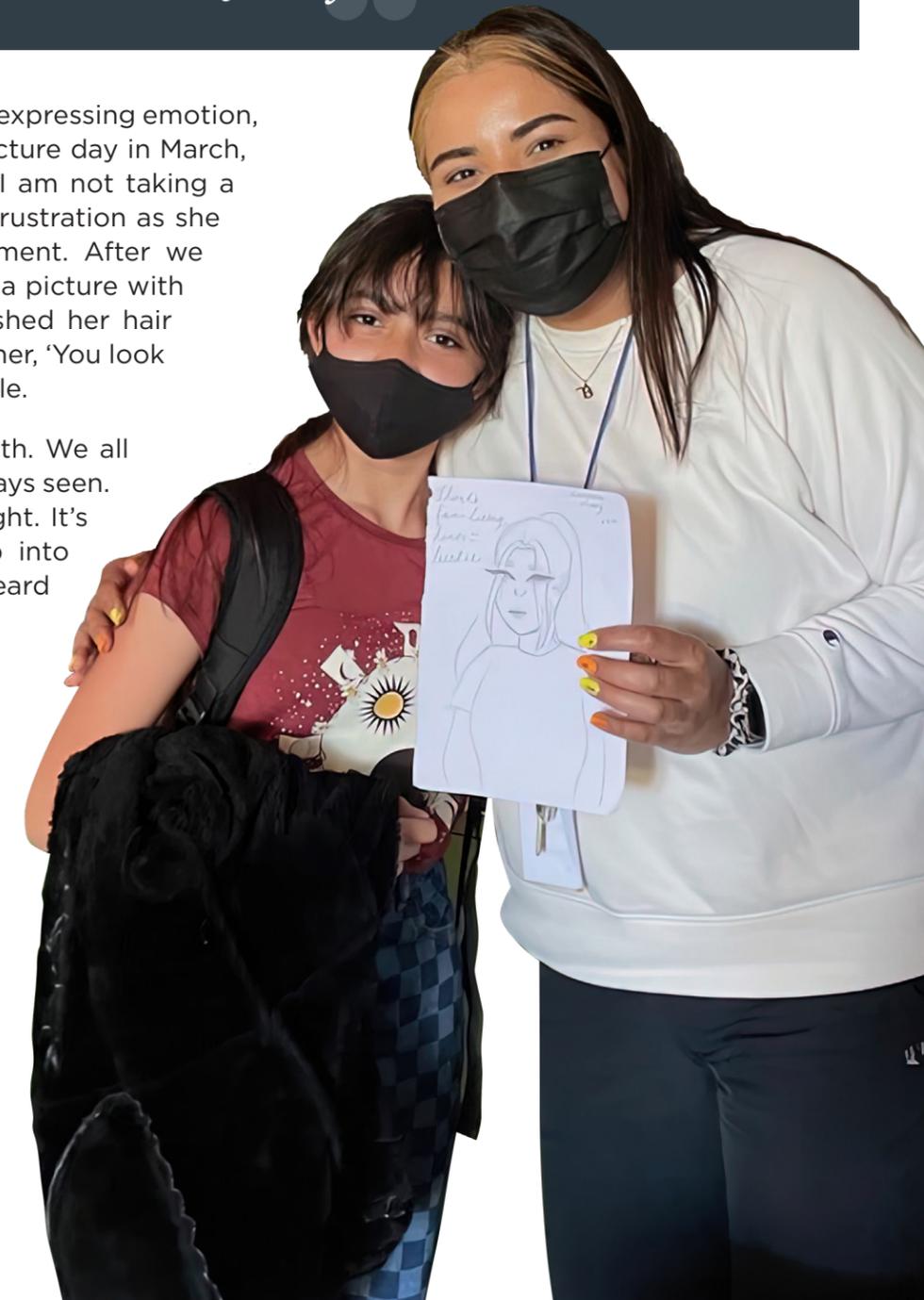
Over time, the students realized I was a trustworthy adult, someone who grew up and lives in this community. Marsh students have many talents, but don't always feel seen and heard. With mindfulness, they've found many different ways to use their voices. We do a lot of different things - art, music, movement, dance - because we're always looking for another way to communicate.



*It was a chance to serve the community that set the foundation of my educational trajectory.*

One student was having a hard time expressing emotion, always hiding behind her hair. By picture day in March, we'd broken the ice, but she said, 'I am not taking a picture.' I listened and noticed her frustration as she tried to express anger and resentment. After we talked it out, I told her I would take a picture with her and got a little smile. She brushed her hair and asked if she looked good. I told her, 'You look beautiful,' and she got this huge smile.

Now I see myself working with youth. We all have so many layers that are not always seen. And these students are so full of light. It's moving to see how they can step into their voices when they feel seen, heard and loved.



# 2022 COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERS

## ACCESS TO CARE

### Dental Care for Uninsured Adults



### Veteran Health Navigation



### African American Family Wellness Center



## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

### Survivors of Human Trafficking



### Direct Service Mindfulness



### Mental Health Stigma Reduction



### Pittsburg Mental Health Roundtable



## ECONOMIC SECURITY

### Healthcare Careers Pathway



### Pittsburg Family Harvest Farm - Transitional Age Foster Youth



## SOCIAL SUPPORT

### East Contra Costa Senior Outreach Initiative



### Seniors & Adults with Disabilities Network



## FOOD

### Hot Meal Delivery Program



## RACIAL EQUITY & INCLUSION

### Planning Support



### Board/Staff Training



## COVID-19 RESPONSE

### Essential Worker Fund

