

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 15, 2021

Contact: Tiffany Wilkinson  
Manager, Grants & Contracts  
Tiffanyw@aachc.org | 602.218.3919

## **Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers Engages Local Funders to Match Direct Relief Grant in Support of Arizona's Health Centers**

The Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers (AACHC) recently received \$10,000 from The Martin & Hildegard Gluck Foundation in support of Arizona's health centers as they continue advancing COVID-19 response efforts across the state. This gift was in response to AACHC seeking to match a \$250,000 Direct Relief grant through local sources.

The Martin & Hildegard Gluck Foundation is affiliated with the Tucson Foundations. Direct Relief is a humanitarian aid organization, active in all 50 states and more than 80 countries, with a mission to improve the health and lives of people affected by poverty or emergencies.

"This funding is critical to our health centers as they continue playing a pivotal role in COVID-19 response while upholding their mission to provide primary health care to medically underserved communities," said Shawn Frick, AACHC Chief Executive Officer. "We look forward to partnering with other Arizona-based funders to ensure the needs of our state's most vulnerable individuals continue to be met during this difficult time."

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Arizona's health centers have provided testing for 162,872 individuals, of whom 28,661 (18%) tested positive. Arizona's health centers are serving on the front lines of the pandemic by providing COVID testing, operating testing sites throughout the state, performing community outreach and education, and now administering vaccinations, all while maintaining access to critically needed in-person and virtual primary care services.

The funding from Direct Relief and The Martin & Hildegard Gluck Foundation will help our health centers address needs brought on by COVID-19 such as securing remote monitoring devices, including pulse oximetry and home oxygen equipment, for uninsured and underserved patients to avoid the need for emergency room care or hospitalizations; addressing telehealth technology enhancements to support the expansion of virtual care; and hiring additional workforce to expand COVID-19 testing and vaccinations.

If your foundation is interested in contributing funds to support Arizona's health centers, please contact us. For more information about AACHC and our health centers, visit [aachc.org](http://aachc.org).

###

The Arizona Alliance For Community Health Centers (AACHC) is the Primary Care Association for the state of Arizona. AACHC provides training and technical assistance to Arizona's health centers in support of their mission to deliver comprehensive, culturally competent, high-quality primary health care services to all Arizonans. AACHC represents Arizona's health centers who serve low-income, vulnerable, and underserved patients in rural and urban communities across the state. Arizona's health centers serve more than 740,000 patients annually, which represents over 10% of the state's population. Health centers provide primary care services including medical, dental, behavioral health, and pharmacy.