



**SOUTH BAY FAMILY HEALTH CARE AND VENICE FAMILY CLINIC
ANNOUNCE MERGER AGREEMENT TO UNITE TWO INFLUENTIAL
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO
COMPREHENSIVE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED**

Torrance – (February 19, 2021) South Bay Family Health Care and Venice Family Clinic, leaders in providing comprehensive primary health care to people in need, today announced that the board of directors of both nonprofit organizations have agreed to merge. The two community health centers will join forces later this year to create one unified organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of their patients and the community.

Each organization has been an anchor in its community for more than 50 years. This decision comes after thoughtful research and planning by both organizations to determine how it would work and how it would affect the patients, staff and communities of each.

“We will be stronger together, which will result in better, more comprehensive care for our patients,” says Jann Hamilton Lee, CEO of South Bay Family Health Care. “From years of collaborating, we know that our organizations are aligned in mission, values, and culture, and share a profound commitment to delivering care with compassion, dignity and respect.”

Patients of both health centers can expect the same high quality care they currently enjoy, both during the transition and after the merger is complete. The unified organization will bring an expanded set of vital programs and services to patients by leveraging the unique and complementary expertise of each entity.

For example, South Bay is one of a few sites in Los Angeles County that offers CenteringPregnancy™ and CenteringParenting™, a patient-centered approach that is proven to yield better outcomes for prenatal patients and to reduce racial disparities in preterm births. Venice Family Clinic is a pioneer in serving the distinct needs of people experiencing homelessness and is a local leader in street medicine, which brings health care directly to people who currently lack housing.

“South Bay Family Health Care and Venice Family Clinic have built strong legacies of finding innovative ways to care and advocate for our patients, regardless of their ability to pay or immigration status,” said Elizabeth Benson Forer, CEO at Venice Family Clinic. “Joining forces

presents many opportunities for us to grow as we learn from each other and make an even greater impact on the lives of the people we serve.”

In total, the two organizations currently serve 45,000 patients in neighboring service areas, with some current areas of overlap. The combined organization will provide care to a contiguous service area that stretches from Los Angeles County’s South Bay to the Santa Monica Mountains. Over time, the goal is to expand within that service area to provide quality health care to others whose need for health care remains unmet.

Completing the merger is subject to customary closing conditions, including securing necessary regulatory approvals.

About South Bay Family Health Care

South Bay Family Health Care (SBFHC) is a leading community clinic system that offers high-quality, low- and no-cost health care to economically disadvantaged and uninsured populations in Los Angeles County’s South Bay and Harbor Gateway communities. Since its founding more than 50 years ago, operating out of a small storefront in Manhattan Beach, to expanding to provide comprehensive health care at three full life cycle primary care clinics in Redondo Beach, Gardena, and Inglewood, an OB/GYN and Pediatric Clinic in Inglewood and a school-based Health Center in Carson. South Bay Family Care’s full range of health services are delivered in a culturally competent, warm and supportive environment. These services include general medical care, chronic disease management, women’s health, prenatal care, pediatric care, dental care, behavioral health, and on-site dispensaries and lab services. For more information, visit sbfhc.org. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

About Venice Family Clinic

Venice Family Clinic is a leader in providing comprehensive, high-quality primary health care to people in need. Over the past 50 years, the Clinic has grown from a small storefront operation into one of Los Angeles’ leading community health centers, providing care to 27,000 people annually through 14 sites in Venice, Santa Monica, Mar Vista, Inglewood, Culver City and Hawthorne. The Clinic provides integrated care by creating a one-stop health system that offers multiple services, often at the same locations and same time as primary care appointments. These services include dental care, substance use treatment, mental health services, vision services, child development services, health education, prescription medications, domestic violence counseling, HIV services, street medicine for people experiencing homelessness and health insurance enrollment. For more information, visit VeniceFamilyClinic.org. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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