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APLA Health Unveils New Name, Logo, and Website

Organization expands mission of providing primary medical, dental, and behavioral health care to low-income LGBT people and support services to those living with HIV in Los Angeles County

(Los Angeles, CA; August 1, 2016)—APLA Health is proud to unveil our new name, logo, and [website](#). The new brand brings together both AIDS Project Los Angeles and APLA Health & Wellness under one umbrella and reaffirms our commitment to providing comprehensive medical, dental, and behavioral health care services to low-income LGBT people regardless of their HIV status, as well as support services for those living with HIV. APLA Health now provides 20 different services to more than 14,000 people annually from 15 locations throughout Los Angeles County.

The new APLA Health brand reflects the changing nature of the health care landscape nationally and particularly in California after the Affordable Care Act and the state's Medicaid expansion over the last two years. In that time, the federal Health Resources Services Administration awarded APLA Health two new access point grants to open health centers in Baldwin Hills and Long Beach, and the nonprofit organization radically expanded its scope from providing almost exclusively HIV-focused support services to offering health care to the entire LGBT and other underserved communities.

“Since 1983, we have been committed to delivering care to the people who need us most,” APLA Health Chief Executive Officer Craig E. Thompson says. “Thirty-three years ago, that meant ensuring people with AIDS died with dignity. Today it means much more. It means ensuring that low-income individuals have access to care and tools that allow them to live longer and healthier lives. We also know now that the end of the AIDS epidemic will be driven primarily by health care and support services that ensure individuals are thriving.”

APLA Health focuses on addressing the health disparities the LGBT community, particularly LGBT people of color, experience, including higher rates of depression and anxiety, substance use, and HIV. The organization provides culturally competent medical, dental, and behavioral health care; PrEP counseling and management; health education and HIV prevention; and STD screening and treatment. APLA Health also reaffirms its commitment to providing life-

sustaining assistance to those living with HIV, including housing support services, benefits counseling, home health care, and the Vance North Necessities of Life Program food pantries, which operate from eight locations throughout the County.

“Our mission is to achieve health care equity and promote well-being for the LGBT and other underserved communities and people living with and affected by HIV,” Thompson adds. “We would not be able to do this without the community’s continued support through events such as AIDS Walk Los Angeles, Art Project Los Angeles, as well as our sustaining donors. The support is not only inspiring, it is critical to every one of our patients.”

Learn more about APLA Health by visiting the new website: www.aplahealth.org. You can also visit the organization on Facebook at www.facebook.com/APLAHealth and Twitter at www.twitter.com/aplatweets.

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APLA Health’s mission is to achieve health care equity and promote well-being for the LGBT and other underserved communities and people living with and affected by HIV. We are a nonprofit, federally qualified health center serving more than 14,000 people annually. We provide 20 different services from 15 locations throughout Los Angeles County, including: medical, dental, and behavioral health care; PrEP counseling and management; health education and HIV prevention; and STD screening and treatment. For people living with HIV, we offer housing support; benefits counseling; home health care; and the Vance North Necessities of Life Program food pantries; among several other critically needed services. Additionally, we are leaders in advocating for policy and legislation that positively impacts the LGBT and HIV communities, provide capacity-building assistance to health departments across the country, and conduct community-based research on issues affecting the communities we serve. For more information, please visit us at aplahealth.org.