



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Community Health Commission of Missouri

*November 1, 2024*



Dear Community Health Commission of Missouri Team, Partners, and Stakeholders,

One year ago, I stepped into the role of Interim CEO at the Community Health Commission of Missouri (CHCM), during a time of both incredible opportunity and significant change. Over the past year, we have united around a renewed commitment to health equity, fostering partnerships and innovations that empower communities across Missouri.

Reflecting on our achievements together, I am proud of the foundational work we have laid. In the first months, we focused on building relationships with impacted communities, engaging partners, and assessing our internal processes. Through your support, we navigated the complexities of our merger, restructured our team to align with strategic goals, and implemented a comprehensive roadmap that now guides our work.

Notably, we have strengthened data-sharing initiatives through partnerships with the Missouri Hospital Association and the Regional Data Alliance. Together, we're advancing a more transparent and community-centered Access to Care reporting process that responds directly to community feedback. Our team has also launched pilot projects, including participatory budgeting initiatives and equity-centered, trauma-informed capacity building initiatives, that are already making an impact in communities statewide. Through each of these, we prioritize community voices, ensuring that those most affected by health disparities drive the solutions we create.

As we move forward, our goals include deepening relationships with both community and strategic partners, expanding our participatory data projects, and building policies that reflect our commitment to equity-centered, trauma-informed care.

Thank you for your dedication and shared vision. I look forward to the continued growth and transformation we will achieve together for the health and well-being of our communities.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Rawlins".

Riisa Rawlins,  
CEO of the Community Health Commission of Missouri