

EastValley

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

March 24, 2026

Dear Colleagues and Community Partners,

On behalf of the East Valley Community Health Center Board of Directors, I have some exciting news to share!

As you may know, Alicia Mardini will be retiring from her role as our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at the end of June. Alicia has led our organization from its early days to create the comprehensive program we have today. I have had the honor of serving on the Board of Directors with Alicia for half of her 46 years as our CEO. She oversaw the establishment of all our health center locations and the tremendous growth in our services to the community. She has always demonstrated her passion for the well-being of the communities we serve and her support for the East Valley team. The board is very grateful for her service!

It is with great enthusiasm that I share that the Board has appointed Lelenia Ramirez to serve as our next CEO. Lelenia is no stranger to East Valley, having spent more than 15 years with the organization in a variety of leadership roles, most recently serving as Chief Operating Officer. During her tenure, she played a key role in strengthening operations, expanding services, and supporting the organization's growth in service to the community.

Following her time at East Valley, Lelenia joined Facktor, a healthcare consulting firm, where she has spent the past five years, most recently as a Partner. In this role, she has worked with community health centers across the country to advance patient access, strengthen clinical and operational performance, and support long-term organizational growth and sustainability. She has also served in multiple interim executive leadership roles, supporting organizations through periods of transition and transformation. This combination of deep institutional knowledge and national experience uniquely positions Lelenia to lead East Valley into its next chapter. She brings a strong commitment to patient-centered care and community impact, values that closely align with East Valley's mission.

Alicia will continue serving as our CEO until June 30th. Lelenia will assume the role of CEO on July 1st. Lelenia will be joining the East Valley team on May 18th to prepare for her new role and learn from Alicia. From July 1st until the end of the year, Alicia will serve in an advisory role. We are confident that this will lead to a seamless transition.

No one can fill Alicia's shoes! We look forward to Lelenia bringing her own shoes....and leading us to carry out our mission and achieve amazing results for those we serve! Please join me in thanking and celebrating Alicia for all she has done....and in welcoming Lelenia back to the East Valley Community Health Center family!



Doran J. Barnes
Board of Directors Chair

OUR MISSION:

To provide access to excellent health care while engaging and empowering our patients, employees, and partners to improve their well-being and the health of our communities.