

**City of San Pablo Receives RWJF Culture of Health Prize
For Efforts to Improve Health and Well-Being**
*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Recognizes San Pablo for
Transforming Community Health*

San Pablo, Calif., (September 19, 2017) The City of San Pablo is one of eight winners of the 2017 RWJF Culture of Health Prize awarded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). The Prize honors communities for their unwavering efforts to ensure all residents have the opportunity to live healthier lives.

San Pablo is being nationally recognized for pursuing innovative ideas and bringing partners together to rally around a shared vision of health. Chosen from more than 200 applicant communities across the country, San Pablo's award winning efforts include the creation of job training programs, construction of a community center, establishment of a Youth Commission, and expanding entrepreneurship support through the San Pablo Economic Development Corporation.

“We are proud to have been selected as a RWJF Culture of Health Prize winner. This award will give San Pablo EDC the opportunity to advance health equity policy for our community,” said San Pablo EDC General Manager Leslay Choy. “By making health a priority and emphasizing inclusiveness, we are working towards making San Pablo a city where a better tomorrow for families and businesses is an obtainable reality.”

“For the past five years, RWJF Culture of Health Prize communities have inspired hope across the country. We welcome these new eight Prize communities who are forging partnerships to improve health for their residents,” said Richard Besser, MD, RWJF president and CEO. “There are now 35 prize-winning communities across the country that are thinking big, building on their strengths, and engaging residents as equal partners to tackle the problems that they see.”

San Pablo will receive a \$25,000 cash prize, join a network of Prize-winning communities and have their inspiring accomplishments shared throughout the nation. The other seven winning communities are: Algoma, Wisconsin; Allen County, Kansas; Chelsea, Massachusetts; Garrett County, Maryland; Richmond, Virginia; Seneca Nation of Indians in western New York; and Vicksburg, Mississippi.

To become an RWJF Culture of Health Prize winner, San Pablo had to demonstrate how it excelled in the following six criteria:

- • Defining health in the broadest possible terms.
- • Committing to sustainable systems changes and policy-oriented long-term solutions.
- • Cultivating a shared and deeply-held belief in the importance of equal opportunity for health.
- • Harnessing the collective power of leaders, partners, and community members.
- • Securing and making the most of available resources.
- • Measuring and sharing progress and results.

“Through our community efforts, San Pablo has become a regional model for how to strengthen the overall health of a community,” said Matt Rodriguez, city manager, City of San Pablo. “Winning a RWJF Culture of Health Prize will help our efforts to continue integrating national best practice models into our community, and signifies we are moving our city in the right direction.”

San Pablo will join this year’s other Prize winning communities at the Culture of Health Prize Celebration and Learning Event at Robert Wood Johnson Foundation headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey on October 11-12.

Learn more about San Pablo’s work, as well as this year’s other Prize winners through a collection videos, photos, and more at www.rwjf.org/Prize.

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About the City of San Pablo

Located in West Contra Costa County off Interstate 80, San Pablo is minutes away from the Bay Area cultural centers of Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco, and is nestled between the cities of Pinole, Richmond, El Cerrito, and Hercules. Historically one of the oldest Spanish settlements in the region, the city has become a thriving residential and business community with a population of about 30,000 in an area of approximately three square miles. San Pablo's diverse community, affordability, and access to the entire Bay Area region are advantages that are found in this "City of New Directions." In 2014, the National Civic League named the City of San Pablo an All-America City for its outstanding civic accomplishments in improving community health, strengthening neighborhood safety, and bolstering its local economy. For more information, visit www.sanpabloca.gov.

About San Pablo Economic Development Corporation

The role of the San Pablo EDC is to develop, diversify, and stabilize the local economy through education and training of businesses and the workforce. San Pablo EDC is working to strengthen the city’s local economy and provide quality jobs to local workers. At the same time, the San Pablo EDC helps create dynamic partnerships and programs to help train the local workforce and prepare them for jobs in industries that are stable or growing in the local region. For more information, visit www.sanpabloedc.org.

About the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

For more than 40 years the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has worked to improve health and health care. We are working with others to build a national Culture of Health enabling everyone in America to live longer, healthier lives. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org Follow the Foundation on Twitter at www.rwjf.org/twitter or on Facebook at www.rwjf.org/facebook.

About the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute

The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute advances health and well-being for all by developing and evaluating interventions and promoting evidence-based approaches to policy and practice at the local, state, and national levels. The Institute works across the full spectrum of factors that contribute to health. A focal point for health and health care dialogue within the

University of Wisconsin-Madison and beyond, and a convener of stakeholders, the Institute promotes an exchange of expertise between those in academia and those in the policy and practice arena. The Institute leads the work on the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps and the RWJF Culture of Health Prize. For more information, visit <http://uwphi.pophealth.wisc.edu>.