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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UCLA PROFESSOR OF PEDIATRICS JOINS NEVHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

San Fernando, CA – Northeast Valley Health Corporation (NEVHC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Paul J. Chung, a UCLA professor, to serve on its Board of Directors.

Dr. Chung, a professor of pediatrics and health policy management, has been teaching at UCLA since 2010. He brings years of experience as a pediatric physician and a public health researcher.

“I have always had a deep interest in public health and health policy and, particularly, in providing service for vulnerable populations,” said Dr. Chung. “I can research, write and teach all I want about it. But at some point, you have to get in the game.”

A graduate of Harvard Medical School, Dr. Chung completed his pediatric residency training at UCLA School of Medicine. He then attended the University of Chicago where he received a Masters of Science in Health Studies through the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program. In addition to his professorship at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and at UCLA School of Public Health, Dr. Chung is the Division Chief of General Pediatrics at UCLA and a senior natural

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scientist at RAND Health.

“We are very fortunate to have someone as knowledgeable and dedicated as Dr. Chung on our Board of Directors,” said NEVHC CEO Kim Wyard. “He understands and supports the vision of community health centers. He has committed his career to specifically helping the population that we serve on a daily basis. His contributions as a board member will definitely benefit our patients.”

Since 1973, NEVHC has been providing medical, dental and behavioral health care in communities with a known shortage of health professionals to care for local residents, including some of the most vulnerable who are medically underinsured or uninsured. Today, the nonprofit organization has 14 healthcare centers serving the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys. A new site in the Newhall area of Santa Clarita Valley is scheduled to open in mid-2017.

In addition to supervising UCLA medical students, residents, and fellows, Dr. Chung spends much of his time researching childhood determinants of adult health, focusing on the correlations between what happens in childhood and one’s health as an adult. For him, pediatric health care needs to go well beyond traditional clinical services; what are often categorized as social issues – family economic security, education, and social inclusion/exclusion – must be given the same or greater priority. Dr. Chung sees in NEVHC the same passion for helping children.

“I am incredibly impressed with NEVHC,” said Dr. Chung. “From top to bottom, everyone is focused on and committed to helping children and families. The quality of community health centers in the country can vary. But NEVHC is one institution that consistently shows it is committed to

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providing top-quality care. It’s truly fantastic, and I’m excited to be able to contribute to the vision.”

Dr. Chung and his wife, a physician at Kaiser Permanente in Panorama City, live with their two daughters in the San Fernando Valley.

As a federally funded community health center, NEVHC’s policy-setting Board of Directors is required to have 51 percent of its directors be patients of its health center. The remaining 49 percent of the members are local professionals. All members are volunteers.

Dr. Chung joins the board that is led by Kurt Cabrera-Miller, chairperson; Ted Bradpiece, vice chairperson; Maria Angie Pacheco, treasurer; and Shannon Lund, secretary. The other members are Dr. Michael R. Cousineau, Jihnhee Kim, Sonia Mariscal, Anthony Pena, Eli Perdido, Melissa Schmidt, Mark Stokes, Dr. Juan F. Vargas and Cittlaly Vasquez.

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