



**Northeast Valley  
Health Corporation**  
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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **NEVHC PROMOTES STAFF PHYSICIAN TO MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF ADULT MEDICINE**

*San Fernando, CA* – A family medicine physician at Northeast Valley Health Corporation’s (NEVHC) Sun Valley Health Center has been promoted to serve as the nonprofit organization’s Medical Director of Adult Medicine.

In her new position, Dr. Alicia Lwin oversees the adult medicine providers at NEVHC’s 14 health centers in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys. In 2016, these sites served 33,700 adult patients. In addition to her new administrative duties, she will spend half of her time continuing to see patients at Sun Valley Health Center.

“I am extremely happy to have Dr. Lwin join me in our corporate office to lead our medical providers who serve our adult population,” said Dr. Christine Park, NEVHC Chief Medical Officer. “Dr. Lwin is an extraordinary physician whose leadership skills will serve us well. She is well-respected by staff and has the experience to bring positive changes.”

Dr. Lwin, who received her Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Pomona College, is a

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graduate of Keck School of Medicine at the USC. She completed her residency training at the University of California, San Francisco in 2010. Prior to joining NEVHC in August 2016, she worked at two other community clinics in California and Philadelphia.

“It is an honor to be appointed to this position,” Dr. Lwin said. “I definitely welcome the challenge. I feel it’s created an excitement in me that I hope to channel to the staff.”

As the daughter of an anesthesiologist, the seeds to become a doctor were planted early in her life. But Dr. Lwin didn’t fully commit to medicine until she spent a post-graduate year at the National Institutes of Health and realized that research and being in a laboratory all day did not suit her. She loves interacting with people, both adults and children, so she chose to specialize in family medicine. Her medical training in economically challenged areas of Los Angeles convinced her to devote her career to community health centers. Her fluency in Spanish and Burmese have been helpful.

“I just grew to love caring for the medically underserved,” Dr. Lwin said. “It has its challenges, like when a patient has to figure out whether to put food on the table or pay for medicine. But it also comes with a lot of joy.”

Dr. Lwin knows that the biggest challenge in her new job is recruiting and retaining adult medicine providers. She said one way she plans to recruit more providers is to work with area medical schools to have their students and residents do their rotations at NEVHC health centers. Currently, NEVHC only has such a program for pediatrics. As for retaining providers, she believes her full-time experience at Sun Valley Health Center before her promotion puts her in an ideal position to understand what providers do and need each day.

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“I’ve been in the front lines, and I will continue to be there,” Dr. Lwin said. “Ideas have to come from the providers. What is working and what is not? I need their feedback so that we will know how to solve the deficiencies.

“I plan to keep the lines of communication open,” she added. “Transparency and communication will lead to success.”

Born in England and raised in Diamond Bar, Dr. Lwin, 36, returned to Los Angeles from Philadelphia with her family last year after her husband was hired as a bio-chemistry professor at California State University, Northridge. They live in Burbank with their 3-year-old and 5-month-old daughters.

NEVHC, a nonprofit, federally funded community health center serving the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys, provides health care in communities with a known shortage of health professionals to care for local residents. Since 1973, NEVHC has reduced barriers to care and improved health outcomes for all patients by providing safe, quality health care with comprehensive medical, dental, behavioral health, nutritional counseling and health education services.

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