

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2016

**GEETA CHAWLA HAS JOINED
HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN (HPSJ)
AS DIRECTOR OF INNOVATION & STRATEGY**



(French Camp, CA) – Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ) has announced that **Geeta Chawla, MBA/MPH**, has joined the organization as its first director of innovation and strategy. Ms. Chawla has over 15 years of senior leadership experience in strategy and management of innovation for the health care sector. Her recent experiences include innovation management within Blue Shield of California’s Health Innovation Technology Group (San Francisco) and business strategy at Kaiser Permanente (Oakland).

“I have been fortunate to lead teams of talented, dedicated professional as we help move 21st century health care in California toward a fourfold aim: (1) optimize provider experience (administrative and clinical); (2) transform patient experience of care (quality and satisfaction); (3) improve health of populations; and (4) reduce per capita costs of health care.” said Ms. Chawla. “I am confident that HPSJ’s leadership in creating innovative services, programs and technology can bring measurable value to our members, as well as providers,” she said. “Beyond this quest for excellence, HPSJ’s unique, decadeslong collaboration within the community made the opportunity to join this team irresistible,” she added.

“HPSJ has long championed efforts to bring newer capacities to our service area, including expanded coverage programs, health information exchanges and telemedicine options, and we’re excited to have Geeta’s experience and passion for exploring and implementing new initiatives on our leadership team,” said HPSJ CEO Amy Shin.

Now celebrating its 20th anniversary, HPSJ is the leading Medi-Cal managed care provider for San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties. With over 345,000 members – more than a third of growth over the last several years since ACA implementation – HPSJ is at the forefront of local health care access and delivery.

Ms. Chawla received her bachelor’s degree in finance from Baruch College (New York) and she earned a combined master’s degree in business administration and public health from the University of California, Berkeley.

(more)

GEETA CHAWLA HAS JOINED
HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN (HPSJ)
AS DIRECTOR OF INNOVATION & STRATEGY
November 30, 2016
Page 2 of 2

More about HPSJ

HPSJ, a not-for-profit health plan, has been serving members and the community since 1996. Located in the heart of California's multicultural Central Valley, HPSJ is the leading Medi-Cal Managed Care provider in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties. HPSJ offers a broad network of providers and works closely with physicians to develop programs and services to ensure quality health care for over 345,000 members – 193,000 are children ages 0 through 18 years old.

HPSJ is currently one of only 12 health plans in California with NCQA Accreditation for a managed care Medi-Cal program. Medicaid is known as Medi-Cal in California. Only 160 Medicaid/HMO plans in the U.S. had this NCQA seal at the time of HPSJ's 2015 Accreditation.



#####

Photo: Geeta Chawla, HPSJ Director of Innovation & Strategy (photo credit: HPSJ, October 2016)
Download at: https://www.hpsj.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Geeta-Chawla_HPSJ-Director-of-Innovation-and-Strategy.zip

NCQA Accreditation Seal: Formats available at –
http://www.hpsj.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/NCQA_accreditation_seal_HPSJ_June.17.2015.zip

Media Contact: David Hurst, vice president, External Affairs, Health Plan of San Joaquin
Phone: 209-461-2241 – dhurst@hpsj.com