

Health Plan of San Joaquin welcomes new CEO

Bringing long experience as a California Nonprofit Medi-Cal Plan leader

Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ) has announced that Michael Schrader has joined the organization as Chief Executive Officer. CEO Schrader has extensive managed care executive experience, including Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) and Medicare for Dual Eligible Individuals (Special Needs Plan – SNP, and Cal MediConnect). He comes to HPSJ from CalOptima (Orange County, CA), where he served over seven years as chief executive officer at the publicly funded health care plan. While at CalOptima, he oversaw the doubling of membership under the Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansion, multiple years of top Medi-Cal plan ratings for quality, and innovations such as creation of the first health plan-based PACE Center in California – an outlet that is part of the national Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly.

Schrader said: "I look forward to collaborating with our members, providers, commission, and community organizations to ensure that Health Plan of San Joaquin, as a public agency, remains responsive to the health care needs of our diverse community,"

As he assumes leadership during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, Schrader, who has a track record of supporting employee engagement and career development, said "I appreciate coming to HPSJ where a well-positioned, dedicated staff is rising to the occasion. Most of them working remotely and without missing a beat to serve our members, providers, and community."

He has a deep, career-spanning commitment to nonprofit, high quality health care that expands access for vulnerable communities. Previously, Schrader was the chief operating officer at both Boston Medical Center (BMC) HealthNet Plan (a Medicaid program operating in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, with a commercial plan in New Hampshire) and CenCal Health, a Medi-Cal plan based in Santa Barbara.

A resident of Tracy, Schrader holds a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from University of Arizona and an M.B.A from University of California, Los Angeles. Before entering the health care field, he was an aerospace engineer at Vandenberg Air Force Base. He currently is chair of Local Health Plans of California; LHPC

is a statewide association that represents all 16 local, nonprofit health plans (including HPSJ) that provide access to critical and comprehensive services for low-income populations enrolled in California's Medi-Cal program.

Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ) wants members, providers, and our community to continue to stay safe. The following is offered in that spirit of support. Stay informed. Our knowledge of the Novel Corona virus is still limited. It may continue to cause problems until there is a safe and effective vaccine.

There is good news. We effectively flattened the curve by physical distancing, and other safety means. Now California counties are entering Phase 2, using what we know to carefully guide reopening the economy.

Have realistic expectations. Vaccines take time; there may be waves of infection, so for months to come we may have to practice physical distancing, frequent handwashing, coughing in the crook of your arm, wearing a face covering when in public, and other preventive measures. Talk to your doctor for your regular health needs. They are adjusting their practices to



keep patients safe, take care of yourself so you can stay healthy and take care of your family.

HPSJ staff are working safely, taking all precautions recommended by local and state public health authorities. In this way, we are still here for our members providing information, access to health care, and support, for our providers offering practical assistance as we remain open for business with no interruptions, and for our diverse, vulnerable community where we continue our long-tradition of collaboration. At www.hpsj.com/coronavirus/ we continue to offer reliable, health-related information and resources for help during this chaotic time.