



Dear Team,

At SLV Health, we believe excellence in healthcare begins with the foundation of belonging in our healthcare system. Belonging is about creating an inclusive and supportive environment inside the organization. It means that every staff member, patient, and community member feels valued, respected, and empowered in their interactions with us. Belonging extends across every aspect of our organization. We value and celebrate differences and similarities. Belonging provides a bridge to our ultimate goal of health equity at San Luis Valley Health.

Health equity is about providing care that is accessible to all, while also tailored to the unique needs of each patient. Through our shared belonging and inclusion at San Luis Valley Health, we will address existing disparities in healthcare outcomes across all our patients. Our goal is for our organization to be fair, equitable, and supportive for our workforce, our community, and our patients.

To fulfill this commitment, we have implemented initiatives to increase belonging in our organization. They include a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, where we are identifying gaps and opportunities along with actions to address those gaps. Our team provides incredible care to our diverse patient population. Our goal is to enhance the great work you already do, ensuring that all individuals, both employees and patients, feel the utmost value and respect, when working here or receiving care. Look for more information about this initiative through The Pulse and staff meetings in the coming months.

Thank you for the care and compassion you provide to our patients and your support for this initiative. We look forward to working with all of you to improve belonging in our organization and improving health equity across the San Luis Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carmelo A. Hernández'.

Carmelo A. Hernández, MD
Chief Medical Officer, San Luis Valley Health

Your Trusted Partner in Health
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