



**Commendation in Honor of Gerrie Maccannon, MPA,
OMH-NPA RHEC IX Technical Assistant Liaison**

WHEREAS, the Pacific and Southwest Regional Health Equity Council (PSWRHEC) also known as the Region IX Health Equity Council (RHEC IX) has served as a key partner with the Office of Minority Health – National Partnership for Action (OMH-NPA) to end health disparities; and

WHEREAS, the OMH-NPA has provided RHEC IX with critical support and technical assistance in order to fulfill its important mission in promoting health equity efforts in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, this significant collaboration has included the dedicated leadership and outstanding service of Gerrie Maccannon, MPA, who has ably served as RHEC IX's Technical Assistant Liaison; and

WHEREAS, Gerrie was well prepared for this task given her Bachelor's degree from Howard University and a Master of Public Administration with a specialty in Health Services Administration from the University of Southern California; and

WHEREAS, Gerrie was well qualified for this work given her 38 years of service with the US Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services. Gerrie served as a Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health and the Director of the Office of Minority Health. In this position, Gerrie served as coordinator for the State Minority Health Representatives, where she helped forge the establishment of State Offices of Minority Health in 42 states. Gerrie served as coordinator for the Regional Minority Health Consultants and as HHS liaison to the White House Office for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Gerrie provided expert advice to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health, senior management, and professional staff within the office on various issues related to health policy, health, and well-being of minority and disadvantaged populations; and

WHEREAS, Gerrie also collaborated with several HHS Divisions and external partners in the planning of several national conferences that included the First National Forum on Health Disparity Issues for American Indians and Alaskan Natives (2002); Closing the Disparity Gap for Racial/Ethnic Minority Children: An Investment in Our Future (2004); and the National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health (2006); and

WHEREAS, Gerrie is completing her service as a Consultant to the Office of Minority Health/HHS (through Atlas Research) working on the NPA/HHS Plan activities. She has served



NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION

to End Health Disparities



as TA Coordinator (since 2013) between the FOMH and RHECs V, VII, and IX, providing assistance to these RHECs in developing TA requests; developing strategic timelines and action plans; coordinating meetings between RHEC members, OMH staff and TA providers; and providing timely communications and updates on RHECs activities to OMH and the NPA Implementation Team; and

WHEREAS, the excellent oversight and support of Gerrie Maccannon has resulted in RHEC IX's many successes to educate, organize, and mobilize diverse resources to address social determinants of health; and

WHEREAS, RHEC IX will miss Gerrie's collegiality and collaboration; however, we certainly understand and support her aspiration to embark on new adventures and travels with her husband during retirement; and

WHEREAS, Gerrie Maccannon leaves an important legacy of commitment and dedication to health equity; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that RHEC IX bestows the highest commendation to Gerrie Maccannon for her many years of service to OMH-NPA, RHEC IX members and constituents; and

RESOLVED, that RHEC IX wish her good health, much laughter, and many restful days of enjoying life, family, and friends-- while her work will continue to inspire positive change for many.