



Dear Friends,

After an exhaustive executive search conducted by Brakeley Search, Alum Rock Counseling Center (ARCC) is excited to announce the retirement of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Steve Eckert, LCSW and the appointment of David Mineta, MSW as our new CEO.

Steve has been exemplary in providing skillful and committed leadership for and with ARCC, and the board is immensely grateful for his dedication and expert guidance. Under his leadership, ARCC has added programs and solidified its internal infrastructure, strengthening its position in the community as a provider of behavioral health and community services. Steve leaves the agency well-positioned for continued growth as ARCC strives to meet the evolving needs of vulnerable populations across Santa Clara County.

ARCC's Board of Directors is delighted to welcome Dave as he takes the helm in leading ARCC into its next chapter of community service. Dave has a long history of service in Santa Clara County, most recently as CEO of Momentum for Health for the past 10 years. Dave led Momentum through exponential growth, always laser-focused on its mission to serve clients and the community.

Both Steve and Dave have served on the Executive Committee, and as President, of the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Contractors Association (SCC BHCA). Both have also served on the Board of Directors at the California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies (CBHA).

Reflecting on this transition, Steve commented, "Given our history of working together, this leadership transition should be seamless."

Dave added, "At this important moment in time, it is essential that the vital services that ARCC provides to families and youth remain readily accessible. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to continue to apply what I have learned in my career to benefit another mental health services agency—a cause that is very close to my heart."

Since 1974, ARCC has worked with low-income, predominantly Latinx (83%) youth and families in some of the most underserved communities throughout Santa Clara County, with a focus on their founding region of East San Jose. In neighborhoods and schools where gangs, substance use, school failure, family violence, and criminal activity can be commonplace, ARCC is committed to providing mental health counseling and educational support to youth and caregivers who otherwise might struggle to afford quality care. Today ARCC serves 5,000+ individuals annually, providing culturally and linguistically sensitive support in homes, in 30+ schools, out in the community, via telehealth, in two drop-in youth wellness centers, and in our clinic located in East San Jose. The agency's overarching goal is to keep high-risk youth safe, in school, and drug- and violence-free.

Dave will formally start as ARCC's new CEO on July 7th. In partnership with the Board of Directors and ARCC's Leadership Team, Steve and Dave will work together to keep the agency running smoothly and to ensure that there is no disruption in services or in carrying out ARCC's mission to heal families and inspire youth to reach their full potential.

On behalf of the ARCC Board of Directors, we wholeheartedly thank Steve for his dedicated eight and a half years of service and look forward to working with Dave to lead the agency into its next chapter.

Sincerely,

Susan Ledezma, ARCC Board President