

Pima County Interfaith Civic Education Organization

November 30, 2020

Dear Chairman Valadez and fellow Members of the Board of Supervisors,

We are writing on behalf of Pima County Interfaith Civic Education Organization (PCICEO) to urge you to vote in favor of the Resolution Declaring Racial and Ethnic Health Inequities and Income Inequality to be Public Health Crisis.

For over 30 years, PCICEO has been fighting against racial and income inequalities in Pima County. In 1997, PCICEO joined forces with the business community, faith community, and local Government to create a program that would lead low-income families to living wages, closing the economic gap. PCICEO has also advocated for quality public education, just immigrant treatment, and access to healthcare among other needs.

During this COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen that the most affected have been our low-income communities. We need to improve these communities and create a plan to protect the most vulnerable. We believe this resolution will benefit the community as it plans to address the need for health access for every family despite their race. It will also support the investment on economic development projects and more job opportunities. It will continue the development and support of workforce development and job trainings. These are key elements needed to lead our community into a better economy after the pandemic.

Therefore, PCICEO urges the Board of Supervisors to vote in favor of this resolution and together, we will work to protect the most vulnerable citizens in our county.

Respectfully,

Clara Dupnik

PCICEO Treasurer

Ernie Lujan

PCICEO Board President

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