December 31, 2021

Foundation for the Advancement of Health Education

c/o Dr. Robert Backburn, Policy and System Efforts for Advancing Health Education and Promotion Award

To Whom it May Concern,

I have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Whitney Garney since 2014, which dates back to prior to her achieving tenure at Department of Health and Kinesiology at Texas A&M University, and thereafter. Dr. Garney was and continues to be instrumental in providing senior evaluation guidance, leadership and serving as principal investigator for our evaluation activities including, the design and implementation of multiple evaluation plans we pursued the adoption and implement of policy, system and environmental (PSE) improvements across multiple priority areas: tobacco, nutrition and physical activity, hypertension, and the Million Hearts® Collaboration over the past seven (7) years.

Dr. Garney’s evaluation activities with the American Heart Association have been instrumental in our ability to track and monitor program performance in addition to analyzing our projected impact for PSE changes implemented as well as evaluating our collaboration and partnership efforts as we pursued local and/or national PSE changes.

The scope of her evaluation activities has included system-based modelling, inter-organizational network survey, performance measure monitoring based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention performance measure guidance for projections of reach/impact. She has conducted evaluation trainings for our staff and presented her evaluation findings to American Heart Association senior leadership.

Dr. Garney has presented the evaluation findings at conferences such as the American Heart Association’s EPI/Lifestyle, American Public Health Association, Society of Public Health Educators, and Center for Disease Control and Prevention Best Practices Convenings.

Additionally, Dr. Garney has provided strategic guidance and primary publication writer as the American Heart Association and Texas A&M University sought to publish the findings of our PSE activities and impact. Her leadership in all the above noted areas elevated her within the American Heart Association to become a fellow with the Association.

Sincerely,



Laura King

Director of Public Health, Principal Investigator for Heart REACH; iHeart REACH COVID-19 and Flu/Influenza Supplement; and the California Tobacco End Game Center for Organizing and Engagement

Enclosure

cc: Sonya Panjwani, MPH | Senior Research Associate

Laboratory for Community Health Evaluation and Systems Science (CHESS), Department of Health and Kinesiology | Texas A&M University