A Letter from the Editors

Dear Pathways Reader,

It is with immense gratitude and pleasure that we announce the first publication of *Pathways: Stanford Journal of Public Health*!

Nearly four years out since the onset of COVID-19, the world has seen the vital importance of public health demonstrated through our policies of preparedness, values of kindness and empathy, and collective responsibility of promoting health equity and justice. While this pandemic and subsequent health crises have provided us with many special reminders of what is important, one principle should resonate with everyone: we are all interconnected — our health and well-being are intimately linked with those around us. As we embark into the future with hope, let us remember that public health is a crucial conversation that should be prioritized not only during times of crisis, but also in our everyday lives.

In this issue, we are incredibly honored to spotlight the works of Stanford student scholars and contributors beyond campus. From analysis into the U.S. Healthcare system to examining biases within clinical care A.I. systems to featuring the intersection of public art and public health, our published pieces demonstrate the diversity of research and policy proposals that encapsulate health dialogues. We present our articles within three sections of *Pathways*: Exploration & Innovation (showcasing research and tools on current issues and outcomes), Governance (introducing potential and current policy-based approaches to improving health and well-being), and Reflections (sharing personal narratives, stories, and experiences).

The success of our inaugural publication post-pandemic is only possible due to the support and determination of many individuals at Stanford University. Thank you to Professor Grant Miller and Professor Catherine Heaney for serving as exceptional advisors to our Journal. We would like to send our gratitude to Professor John Willinsky for his continued mentorship in ensuring that *Pathways* thrives. Finally, the Journal appreciates our team of peer reviewers, whose committed effort in providing insightful comments allowed our publishing standards to be maintained at the highest degree.

We invite Stanford community members (undergraduate students, graduate students, professors, and faculty), healthcare professionals, policy leaders, and scholars from around the nation to submit your work to our Journal for future publications. *Pathways* is committed to facilitating our central platform to cultivate diverse and broad perspectives that serve as meaningful catalysts of innovation and progress within public health conversations – for the many years to come.

Sincerely,
Pathways 2023 Editorial Team

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