

## ***A Letter from the Editors***

Dear *Pathways* Reader,

We are proud to announce the newest publication *Pathways: Stanford Journal of Public Health*.

This issue brings together innovative research and reflection by authors from leading academic institutions, tracing public health through the communities it most often fails to reach. The articles move across geography and circumstance, from Gaza to the Bay Area, from meatpacking floors to social media feeds, each examining how systems of care are shaped by the social, political, and economic forces that surround them. Across each piece, a common question emerges of not just how we improve public health, but for whom, and at what cost.

Articles in this issue are organized into three sections: **Health**, discussing recent innovations on healthcare challenges, **Governance**, examining policy-based approaches to improving well-being, and **Reflection**, sharing personal experiences navigating health-related challenges.

We are also excited to launch our **Community** section, spotlighting health organizations and nonprofits serving the Bay Area. In this inaugural feature, we turn to Ronald McDonald House Charities Bay Area, where we tell the story of the Alvarez family, whose caring for their 5-year-old daughter Melanie is a window into what it means to find shelter, support, and community in a family's most uncertain moments, following a pineoblastoma diagnosis.

We thank Professor Grant Miller for serving as a continued advisor to *Pathways* since its inception. We also thank Professor John Willinsky for his technical mentorship in maintaining our journal's online presence.

We invite Stanford scholars (students, researchers, professors) and all healthcare professionals, policy leaders, and scholars to submit their work to *Pathways*. We stay committed to providing a central source of public health research that showcases meaningful conversations in.

Sincerely,  
*Pathways 2026 Editorial Team*

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