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December 8, 2025

To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to express CUMAC's strong support for RWJBarnabas Health (RWJBH) and the renewal of State-appropriated funds to RWJBH in the FY 2027 New Jersey State Budget. CUMAC is one of New Jersey's largest anti-hunger and anti-poverty organizations, serving tens of thousands of individuals each year through food access, wraparound services, and trauma-informed care. For more than four decades, our mission has centered on addressing food insecurity and the social determinants of health that disproportionately affect vulnerable families in Passaic County and across northern New Jersey.

State-appropriated funds play a vital role in enabling RWJBH to support community-based organizations like CUMAC—partners who are on the front lines every day addressing barriers to health, food access, and long-term stability.

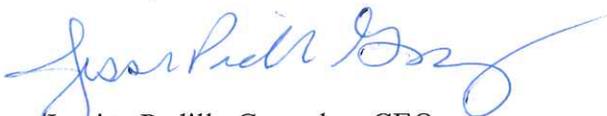
Our mission is deeply aligned with RWJBH's commitment to building healthier, more equitable communities. As an anchor institution, RWJBH has consistently demonstrated its dedication to addressing the underlying drivers of poor health outcomes, particularly in high-need neighborhoods. Their new partnership has strengthened our ability to meet rising demand and advance holistic solutions for the families we serve.

Through our ongoing collaboration, RWJBH has recently supported CUMAC's year-round food security programs by providing funding that directly enhances the quality and reach of our services. RWJBH expertise, community engagement infrastructure, and ability to mobilize resources have allowed CUMAC to strengthen our programming and better address the root causes of food insecurity. The continuation of State-appropriated funds to RWJBH is critical: without these funds, RWJBH's capacity to support community partners like CUMAC would be significantly diminished.

A reduction in this investment would directly affect our ability to reach families in need, limit access to fresh and nutritious foods, and hinder collective efforts to improve health outcomes across New Jersey.

We are sincerely grateful for our partnership with RWJBarnabas Health and deeply appreciate their ongoing commitment to strengthening and sustaining healthier communities throughout the state.

Sincerely,



Jessica Padilla Gonzalez, CEO