



June 9, 2020

Congressman Dan Newhouse
402 E. Yakima Ave
Suite #1000
Yakima, WA 98901

Dear Representative Newhouse,

Given the recent changes to healthcare delivery due to COVID-19 and the many changes organizations have made to accommodate the need for social distancing, we rapidly discovered the deficits our patients are facing in accessing the system. Many patients have had negative outcomes due to the inability to access the care they so desperately need.

Community Health of Central Washington (CHCW) realized quickly, the important role telemedicine could play throughout our nation's response to this pandemic. Ensuring access to healthcare providers through this means prevents unnecessary negative outcomes for patients who need care and cannot access it with the current challenges.

These challenges are particularly evident in rural and underserved communities. Increasing access to care for patients in these communities through remote patient monitoring and other telehealth provisions is a goal we should all strive for, not just for a pandemic response.

CHCW commends Representatives Newhouse and Torres-Small for introducing this legislation as a means to potentially remedy or at least soften the blow to our underserved patients. We are grateful that you wish to support this very important endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela Gonzalez", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Angela Gonzalez
Chief Executive Officer