



Proclamation

Honoring Admiral Rachel L. Levine, MD

For Distinguished Service and Leadership in Advancing Public Health and Health Equity

January 15, 2025

WHEREAS, Admiral Rachel Levine has served with extraordinary dedication and distinction as the Assistant Secretary for Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, leading initiatives that have transformed the landscape of public health in the United States;

WHEREAS, Admiral Levine, appointed by President Joseph R. Biden and confirmed by the United States Senate as the first openly transgender four-star officer in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, has broken barriers and served as an inspiring role model for diversity, inclusion, and representation in public service;

WHEREAS, through her tireless efforts, Admiral Levine has championed health equity, addressing disparities and promoting access to quality healthcare for all communities, particularly underserved populations;

WHEREAS, Admiral Levine has advanced impactful policies to help end the HIV epidemic and improve access to HIV prevention and care, including making HIV screening and treatment more affordable and accessible across the lifespan and addressing barriers to organ transplantation for people living with HIV;

WHEREAS, Admiral Levine has been instrumental in responding to major public health challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, advancing the nation's understanding of emerging health threats and fostering resilience in the healthcare system;

WHEREAS, Admiral Levine has demonstrated exceptional leadership in advocating for policies and programs that expand access to affirming mental and behavioral health services and combat substance use disparities;

WHEREAS, Admiral Levine's unwavering commitment to science-driven policies and compassionate healthcare delivery has earned her the admiration and gratitude of colleagues, public health professionals, and the American people;

WHEREAS, the Whitman-Walker family includes Whitman-Walker Health, a Federally Qualified Health Center that proudly serves diverse patients and communities across the Greater Washington, D.C. area; the Institute for Health Research and Policy at Whitman-Walker, which fosters healthier communities and advances health equity for all through person-centered research and evidence-based policy; and Whitman-Walker Health System, which generates innovative and entrepreneurial initiatives in support of these missions;

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker has declared 2025 as "The Year of the Institute" to celebrate the strategic integration of health policy expertise and scientific acumen that Admiral Levine's transformative and authentic leadership has embodied;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this **15th day of January 2025**, that we, Whitman-Walker, do hereby honor and commend Admiral Rachel L. Levine for advancing public health and health equity initiatives that benefit the patients and communities in the Greater Washington, D.C. region and beyond which Whitman-Walker has served for more than 50 years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize Admiral Levine's legacy as a visionary leader and a steadfast advocate for public health, whose work will continue to inspire and guide future generations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heather Aaron'.

Dr. Heather Aaron
Whitman-Walker Health System

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kellan Baker'.

Dr. Kellan Baker
The Institute for Health Research
and Policy at Whitman-Walker

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Naseema Shafi'.

Naseema Shafi
Whitman-Walker Health

