



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



PRESS RELEASE

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HSA DIRECTOR MIMI HALL TO DEPART

Mimi Hall, a tireless advocate for improving the health outcomes of all County residents and who has helped lead Santa Cruz County through the COVID-19 pandemic, is departing County service.

Hall's last day is October 30. She is pursuing other opportunities in the health care field.

"My time with Santa Cruz County has been immensely fulfilling and marks the end of more than two decades of public service in California's local health jurisdictions," Hall said. "I have tremendous gratitude for the opportunity to have served during such a crucial period in history. I'm especially grateful to have led such a wonderful staff, whose dedication during these unprecedented times helped protect the people of Santa Cruz County."

"Leaders rise to the challenge, and Mimi Hall has been an inspiration to our community," County Administrative Officer Carlos Palacios said. "Her focus on equity and using data and science in taking action to protect residents set a high bar. We will miss her greatly."

Since becoming Director of Health Services in 2018, Hall oversaw numerous health care improvements, including clinic renovations and the opening of a new Behavioral Health Center in Watsonville. When COVID-19 arrived in March 2020, Hall immediately began coordinating with the local health care system and community partners to minimize harm, resulting in a pandemic response that limited and in many cases eliminated inequities, while eventually fostering one of the highest county vaccination rates in California.

Hall is the daughter of immigrants who followed her parents' footsteps into the health care field. She began her public health career working to reduce the prevalence of communicable diseases, and previously served as public health director in Sierra, Plumas and Yolo counties.

The County will immediately begin a nationwide recruitment for a replacement.