

Media Advisory Sample



SFCHC SWITCHES ON SOLAR POWER IN HONOR OF NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

City of San Fernando Mayor Celeste Rodriguez, Local Leaders and Community Partners Support Sustainability and Public Health

WHAT

San Fernando Community Health Center (SFCHC) will join with City of San Fernando Mayor Celeste Rodriguez, local leaders and community partners to debut its new solar panel project in celebration of National Health Center Week Stakeholder Appreciation Day on **Thursday, Aug. 8, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.** The theme of this year's national campaign is "Powering Communities Through Caring Connections," focusing on the essential role community health centers play in improving public health and advancing health equity. The event will include remarks, a ceremonial launch of the solar power system using a giant power switch and facility tours. **Excellent interview and photo opportunities.**

WHO

Speakers

- Audrey Simons, SFCHC CEO
- Honorable Celeste Rodriguez, Mayor, City of San Fernando
- Andrew MacCalla, Collective Energy Co. Co-Founder & CEO
- Stella Ursua, GRID Alternatives Director of Community Engagement & Partnerships
- Jeremy Price, GRID Alternatives Installation Basic Training graduate
- Louise McCarthy, Community Center Association of Los Angeles County President & CEO

WHERE

SFCHC Main Campus (outdoor ceremony, followed by indoor facility tours)
732 Mott Street, San Fernando, 91349

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

The solar project was made possible by SFCHC's close partnership with the City of San Fernando, which owns the building that houses the center and provided swift approval for work to commence. The 247-panel, \$298,000 solar installation supports SFCHC's mission to provide comprehensive, compassionate healthcare to the most vulnerable and underserved, while reducing its carbon footprint

and promoting sustainable practices. With an estimated annual production of 169,100 kilowatt-hours, it will eliminate 130 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually – the equivalent of 302,000 vehicle miles driven and the carbon sequestered by 138 acres of forest every year.

The solar project was developed and financed by Collective Energy Co. through an energy services agreement (ESA) with no upfront cost to the center. This funding solution helps non-profit community health centers lower their utility costs, advance environmental sustainability and have the option to install battery storage that provides electricity during power outage emergencies.

Additionally, the non-profit solar installer GRID Alternatives offered hands-on workforce training to community members preparing for jobs in the clean energy sector. A [2022 National Solar Jobs Census](#) shows the U.S. solar industry employs over 260,000 people, creating a pathway out of poverty for thousands of workers who might otherwise experience barriers to entry.

MEDIA CONTACT

Stacy Geere, 661.253.1059 or stacy@thegeeregroup.com

About San Fernando Community Health Center (SFCHC)

Serving patients throughout the San Fernando Valley, SFCHC has been a trusted, patient-centered healthcare home for the community since 1924. Its designation as a federally qualified health center allows it to provide state-of-the art health care services, prevention and education regardless of income, insurance status or ability to pay. For more information, visit <http://www.sfchealthcenter.org/>