



TUFH 2020 MEXICO DECLARATION

The Network: Towards Unity for Health (TUFH), a non-state actor in official relations with WHO, is an international organization that works with national, state, and community partners to foster equitable community-oriented health services, education and research with the goal of improving health locally and globally.

TUFH members believe that quality and equitable health is a human right. TUFH believes the core values of social accountability, quality, equity, relevance, cost effectiveness and bioethics must frame and guide the health policy process. Our global community works to ensure that those values are at the heart of a health ecosystem, so that it is able to meet present and future priority health needs of society, both individually and collectively. TUFH is committed to promoting and implementing these core values, understanding that this will require significant change at global, regional, national and institutional levels, and involve new ways of thinking by governments, institutions, professions and civil society.

The participants of the VIRTUAL TUFH 2020 conference, co-hosted by Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), collectively endorse the following declaration that was generated from the conference.

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE

Whereas,

1. The world values and the future deserves Universal Health Coverage and Equitable Health Care for ALL;
2. Universal Health Coverage and Equitable Health Care for the disadvantaged, neglected, and minorities is lacking;
3. The voices of marginalized populations including but not limited to First Nations, Elderly, Migrants and Refugees, and people living in remote and rural areas are not adequately represented where health, system and funding decisions are made;
4. Institutions who adopt and implement Social Accountability and Interprofessional Education standards are not the norm;
5. Health Education and Training does not adequately respond to people and society's priority health needs or informed by community input;
6. Supportive Health practitioners (i.e. Community Health Workers) are not adequately recognized or included as a strategy by ministries of health, health systems, or academic training institutions;
7. Non-health sectors are not adequately represented where health, system and funding decisions are made;

8. Climate change is increasingly affecting the environment, health and healthcare;
9. The COVID-19 Pandemic has exposed gaps in Social Justice factors of equity, diversity, and inclusion across all health systems and populations;
10. Global policy recommendations are generally ineffective when they are not developed with and by the communities confronting these complex local realities;
11. There is a lack of acknowledgement that women are vulnerable, particularly in the pandemic, making it necessary to implement and execute interventions that protects them;
12. Primary Health Care (PHC) has been proven as an effective and strategic approach to the development, organization, management and financing of health systems of which the right to health is a core value, along with equity and solidarity, but it is not the norm.

**WE COLLECTIVELY DECLARE WE WILL WORK TOWARDS INCLUSIVENESS,
SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY and INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
STANDARDS AND POLICY CHANGE**

We will work towards INCLUSIVE POLICIES defined by:

1. A global effort of caring for each other by returning humanity to health care including community voices, culture, lived experiences, empathy, and understanding.
2. Improved partnerships and collaborations with global and regional associations and institutions that are aligned in strategies, efforts, and initiatives.
3. Frequent and consistent communication with non-health sectors for the creation of joint priorities of action beyond the health sector.
4. Health-care systems guarantee access to comprehensive services and the introduction of public health criteria that act as the cornerstones for strengthening and transforming systems, in order to move towards universal health.

We will work towards SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION defined by:

1. Collective development of practical solutions to underlying health issues by utilizing TUFH's Partnership Pentagram that is framed within the Sustainable Development Goals and Social Determinants of Health. Creating a health system based upon people's needs that must not only involve the five key players (Policymakers, Academic Institutions, Health Professionals, Communities, Social and Professional Networks), but must do so within the context of where people live and work.
2. Health practitioners (e.g. community health workers) and emerging healthcare professionals are engaged, competently trained, certified, and represented in health workforce policies and practices.
3. Technology advances enhance opportunities for shared education for academics, health workers, and students regionally and around the world.
4. The next generation of health clinicians include competencies that address and are responsive to community needs.

5. To guide the next generation of health workforce including creating greater mentorship opportunities for students.
6. Framing strategies, educational campaigns, and programs to increase public and media awareness, as they are crucial steps in preventing the public weariness towards pandemic outbreaks.

We will work towards POLICY CHANGE defined by:

1. Advocacy to ensure the voice of marginalized populations including but not limited to First Nations, Indigenous, Elderly, Women, Migrants and Refugees, and people living in remote and rural areas are adequately represented at the table where health, system and funding decisions are made.
2. Support for local change agents to adopt and implement global policy recommendations in order to drive communal interests.
3. International understanding for the structural adoption and implementation of Social Accountability where health systems respond to people and society's priority health needs and informed by community input;
4. A global effort that recognizes climate change and its impact on the environment, health, and healthcare.
5. Support Health Institutions to adopt and implement Social Accountability and Interprofessional Standards that will lead to higher rankings in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings which are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and World University Rankings by increasing their ability to attract undergraduates, postgraduates and faculty from all over the planet which is key to its success on the world stage.
6. Strengthening the response capacity of the first level of care, because the response to the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the importance of governments being able to ensure that public health measures are integrated with primary health care strategies, using data and information produced in each setting.

TUFH commits to be a vibrant and effective network of networks that realizes, implements, and assesses the effectiveness of the above actions.