

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 16, 2021

Contact: Asian Health Coalition info@asianhealth.org

Chicago, IL – The Center for Asian Health Equity at the University of Chicago Medicine (CAHE) and the Asian Health Coalition (AHC) applaud the formal launch of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AA and NHPIs) and congratulates U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra on their appointments as co-chairs of the Initiative.

"We are pleased to see Ambassador Tai and Secretary Becerra advance a government-wide agenda to advance equity, justice, and opportunity for AA and NHPIs," said Fornessa T. Randal, Co-Director of CAHE, and Executive Director for Asian Health Coalition. "From expanding language access to affirming the importance of data disaggregation, I am encouraged that the Biden Administration is sending this strong message that affirms the importance of this work and the growing influence of AA and NHPI communities," said Dr. Karen E. Kim, MD, MS, Vice Provost for Research, Office of Research and the National Laboratories, Professor of Medicine, Director, Center for Asian Health Equity.

CAHE and AHC will continue its commitment and work to advance health outcomes, equity, and representation in public health research, translational medicine, and community-based programs that strengthen AANHPI, African, and other communities of color.

###

References: <u>White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (WHIAANHPI)</u> <u>HHS.gov</u> <u>UChicago-Center for Asian Health Equity</u> <u>www.asianhealth.org</u>