

February 21, 2023

City of Milwaukee Board of Health's Statement on  
Kirsten Johnson's Resignation as Health Commissioner

The City of Milwaukee Board of Health would like to thank Kirsten Johnson for her service to the Milwaukee community over the past 2 years as Health Commissioner of the Milwaukee Health Department (MHD). Ms. Johnson began her appointment during a critical time during the COVID-19 pandemic, which included heading up on the critical rollout of Milwaukee's COVID-19 testing and vaccine response and continuing the foundational improvements needed at MHD. Under the leadership of Commissioner Johnson, the MHD Team assessed, maintained and furthered the focus of MHD on racial equity using their collective wealth of experience by committing to the reduction of health disparities, improvement of data collection, and directly addressing MHD's role in resolving the Milwaukee lead crisis.

The City of Milwaukee Board of Health is committed to supporting and working closely with Interim Health Commissioner Tyler Weber and MHD staff to sustain the high-quality services and community-driven MHD initiatives, while the City of Milwaukee and Mayor Johnson identifies and appoints the next Health Commissioner. We appreciate Interim Commissioner Weber's service to Milwaukee in this position and acknowledge the skills and thoughtfulness he brings to this additional role.

As the governing body of the City of Milwaukee Health Department, we congratulate Commissioner Kirsten Johnson on her appointment as the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Secretary and thank her for her service to our Milwaukee community. We all benefited greatly from her leadership, expertise, and passion for public health.

Yours in Health,

Caroline Gomez-Tom, MSW – Chair  
Ruthie Weatherly – Vice Chair  
Bria Grant – Board Member  
Ian B.K. Martin, MD, MBA – Board Member  
Julia Means, RN – Board Member  
Ericka Sinclair, MS, MPH – Board Member  
Wujie Zhang, PhD – Board Member  
Alderwoman JoCasta Zamarripa – Board Member