



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Local Clinic Provides Video Visits with Doctors**

**(Patterson, CA)** — Del Puerto Health Center, a part of the local Del Puerto Health Care District, has begun providing live video visits for patients with their healthcare providers. This is a new tool provides safe access and continuity of care for patients at home.

The Health Center received a \$100,000 grant from Health Net, California's largest Medi-Cal managed care plan, and used the funds to purchase hardware, provide training/technical assistance, and engage a Telehealth Coordinator, Jose Vigil.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Del Puerto has provided phone consultations for existing patients and beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup> could provide those visits where the patient and doctor can see each other via video. "At a time when social distancing is critical, telehealth protects providers and patients," said Vigil.

"Telehealth allows us to connect with our patients in their home, evaluate signs and symptoms of COVID-19, direct testing, treatment, and care, educate, and triage those who need to go to the hospital," said CEO Karin Hennings. "Telehealth allows our patients to see and speak with their healthcare provider, which will also assist to decrease anxiety in this difficult time."

Currently telehealth visits are available to established patients only. The clinic follows all CDC guidelines, including temperature screening and wearing masks, to provide safe in-person visits. Patients can call (209) 892-9100 for more information.

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Del Puerto Health Care District has been serving the community since 1950. The Del Puerto Health Care District Board has positioned the District to ensure that all aspects of the health continuum are considered for the communities of west Stanislaus County. We provide healthcare to the communities of Patterson, Westly, Grayson, Crows Landing and the surrounding rural areas. The District provides services through Patterson District Ambulance and the Del Puerto Health Center. More information is available at <https://www.dphealth.org>.