



## **Remarks on the Kern Family Foundation's Transformational Investment to Advance Caring and Character in Medicine**

Given by Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD, on June 23, 2022

Good morning, on behalf of my colleagues at the Kern National Network's seven founding members, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Kern family and Foundation for this extraordinary opportunity to continue our important work.

Jim, since our first meeting in 2012, you and your colleagues have been such thoughtful partners, from sharing your wisdom, to connecting us with your extensive network of experts from whom we have learned so much. Your partnership has been essential to our success.

This support and collaboration has allowed the KNN to advance character, caring, practical wisdom and human flourishing in medicine by catalyzing transformative initiatives, connecting and convening stakeholders across the health ecosystem, and influencing policy and systems change.

Going forward, strong partnerships will remain the bedrock of the KNN's work as a bridging network: supporting open inquiry and diversity of thought, and building a culture strengthened by differences and connected by trust.

In closing, I extend my appreciation to the KNN founding members for the outstanding work that led us to today. You are amazing leaders and dear friends, and I look forward to celebrating with you at the KNN national conference in Milwaukee this fall. We are honored to work with you as we build on our integrated framework, expand our membership and create a movement across the health ecosystem toward flourishing.

To build upon a quote from American author Margaret Wheatley,

*Through these relationships, we will develop the new knowledge, practices, courage, and commitment that lead to broad-based change, and ultimately, human flourishing.*

Thank you. ■