As healthcare undergoes significant transformation, hospitals and health systems are focused on providing the leadership necessary to ensure the health and well-being of every Connecticut resident. The four key aspirations for healthcare in Connecticut will be met when: individuals, communities, and the economy are healthy; quality and patient safety are paramount and patients are engaged in their care; providers, payers, community partners, and policy leaders are aligned; and healthcare financing is sustainable and linked to outcomes.

**Improve the Health of Our Communities**

**Building Blocks:**
- Reduce healthcare disparities and improve health equity
  - Address social determinants of health and reduce the disparities that lead to poor clinical outcomes
  - Support community partnerships that advocate for population health priorities, especially those that target improving social determinants of health
  - Foster care continuity through the use of technology and best practices
- Advocate for policies that improve women’s and children’s health
- Strengthen behavioral healthcare for children and adults
  - Improve access by establishing reimbursement rates that better approximate the cost of care and are sufficient to recruit and retain providers of these services
  - Adjust the Medicaid State Plan and implement 1115 waivers or amendments, as appropriate, to provide reimbursement for services
  - Implement integrated service delivery models including medical, psychiatric, social, and residential needs by funding high-risk navigators for community care teams, recovery coaches, and intensive case managers
  - Support the creation of community-based psychiatric assessment centers with the capacity to evaluate and stabilize patients in a behavioral health crisis, to improve access to care at the optimal level of care
  - Support funding of services to achieve a seamless integration of treatment for individuals of all ages experiencing developmental and behavioral health disorders
  - Improve access to care by matching available resources to evolving needs across the continuum
  - Advocate for access to care and treatment for children and adults with substance use issues

**Enhance Quality and Safety**

**Building Blocks:**
- Coordinate federal and state requirements, as well as align regulatory oversight, through evidence-based practices and approaches that improve care
- Protect and strengthen the hospital infrastructure in Connecticut by ensuring a level playing field in care delivery through Certificate of Need and other regulations that recognize hospitals' unique role in the delivery system, and by preparing for new competitive entrants into the healthcare system
Enhance statewide commitment to high quality care with zero events of avoidable harm, and satisfied, activated, and engaged patients; promote worker satisfaction and engagement through the cultivation of safe and supportive workplaces

Support efforts to improve public health, including initiatives to ensure all individuals who are medically able are vaccinated, and reduce smoking and vaping

Advocate for patients to receive advanced therapies in care settings close to home

Shape a Sustainable Performance-Based Reimbursement System

**Building Blocks:**

- Support care delivery models that are integrated, focused on optimal patient outcomes, and appropriately financed.
- Support efforts to ensure a strong commercial health insurance market in Connecticut
- Support Connecticut’s current surprise billing law that protects patients from surprise billing and allows providers and insurers to negotiate payment rates for services provided after the patient is protected

Promote Transparency

**Building Blocks:**

- Support efforts that provide communities and patients with access to meaningful quality and pricing data

Ensure a Workforce for the Future

**Building Blocks:**

- Stabilize Connecticut’s medical malpractice liability environment
- Allow healthcare professionals to work to the full extent of their education and training
- Support scope of practice initiatives including the use of telehealth, which will provide hospitals with flexibility in providing care and improving quality and patient safety
- Ensure hospitals have the ability to manage human resources appropriately to meet ever-changing patient care needs
- Develop and sustain a robust, highly trained, and culturally competent healthcare workforce, and strengthen the health careers pipeline to ensure that Connecticut has the workforce necessary to meet the needs of a rapidly changing healthcare system

*Approved by the CHA Board of Trustees at its February 14, 2020 meeting*