

**SOM**⊕**S** 

# We Are, Who We Serve!

A network of over 2,600 culturally competent healthcare providers who serve 1.6 million patients in New York's underserved communities.

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Ramon Tallaj, MD

### Dear Members of the Board of Directors, friends, and colleagues,

From its launch in 2014, SOMOS Community Care has pioneered a unique approach to providing superior health care to close to 1 million of the most vulnerable Medicaid patients in New York City. Mandated by New York State's innovative Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program, SOMOS doctors embraced the program's core Value-Based Payment formula, which stipulates that doctors' renumeration is linked to the long-term health outcomes of patients.

The model stands in sharp contrast to—and dramatically outperforms the traditional Medicaid program, which uses the fee-for-service payment formula, without regard for patients' long-term health outcomes. Keeping patients healthier has produced significant savings for New York State taxpayers and increase the wellbeing of the population as well as the providers. SOMOS doctors continue to step up their commitment to more fully practice the medical arts and provide quality, comprehensive care for patients, and are rewarded in the process.

Because of SOMOS's successes in providing COVID-19 testing and vaccines during the pandemic—as well as its overall ability to nimbly respond to health care needs where they pop up—the new mayor of New York, Eric Adams, has called on SOMOS to provide testing, and, as needed, vaccination, at New York City public schools.

A word of gratitude is well-deserved for our network of 2,600 doctors that remain united in a common vision of serving the poorest New York City residents, most of them Hispanic, Asian, African American, and other communities. Our success in the past seven-plus years is significant proof that the healthcare transformation occasioned by the DSRIP program works and is sustainable and should be promoted and implemented by authorizing the new proposed healthcare delivery system transformation in the 1115 waiver both at the federal as well as State government. We are strongly advocating for the renewal of a program that drives transformative, patient-centered health care.

SOMOS has amply demonstrated that the program works—and that taxpayers, doctors, and New York inner-city families alike all benefit in terms, respectively, of savings, remuneration, and better health outcomes. SOMOS is confident that its record builds a strong case for a renewal of the healthcare transformation program in the 1115 waiver.

Ramon Tallaj, MD

SOMOS Founder and Chairman



Henry Chen, MD
SOMOS Founder and President

### Dear Members of the Board of Directors, friends, and colleagues,

SOMOS Community Care doctors form a remarkable, unique community, which brings together a rich variety of cultural backgrounds—Hispanic, Asian American, African American, Eastern European, and others. Their love of medicine brings them together and this community is supported and sustained by the SOMOS Board of Directors, to whom a word of sincere gratitude goes out.

SOMOS doctors are determined to provide their patients—New York City's most vulnerable Medicaid patients—with high-quality, holistic, and comprehensive care. That care goes well beyond strictly medical care; SOMOS doctors are also alert when it comes to patients' behavioral needs, referring them as needed to behavioral care specialists. In addition, thanks to Community Health Workers, who can visit patients' homes, SOMOS doctors are made aware of Social Determinants of Health, social factors—such as poverty, unemployment, lack of access to healthy foods, etc.

These social conditions in the form of stress, for example, can have a significant impact on patients' physical and mental health. SOMOS doctors call upon Community Based Organizations that specialize in various social areas to offer patients tailored care to meet their needs. In the process, SOMOS doctors become intimately aware of the full range of a patient's needs, thus earning the confidence of the people they care for. Thus, health care is humanized, given an interpersonal dimension, an antidote to the anonymity and impersonal nature of traditional Medicaid care.

As such, SOMOS doctors—most of whom are primary care providers come to acquire the status of the family doctor of old, a trusted and respected figure, a community leader who plays an important role in the life of individual families and in the life of the community at large. Patients' reliance on these doctors is enhanced by the fact that many SOMOS doctors live and work in the same neighborhoods as their patients, with whom in most cases they share a cultural and ethnic background.

In the process, SOMOS doctors, with the help of SOMOS staff, turn their practices into Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH), a one-stop portal that gives patients access to all the care they need, whether provided by the primary care doctor or by a specialist to whom they are referred. All along, care provided, and the patients' progress are carefully monitored and recorded by the primary care provider. It is these data that allow the New York State Department of Health to the determine patients' long-term health outcomes and whether their physician has earned the enhanced renumeration according to the Value-Based Payment formula.

Henry Chen, MD

SOMOS Founder and President



Mario J. Paredes
Chief Executive Officer

### Quality health care for the poor—and savings for taxpayers

Since its inception SOMOS Community Care has been demonstrating that it is possible to sharply improve the health spending of Medicaid and produce significant savings for taxpayers. SOMOS has shown that improved care does not need to cost more.

Today, the neediest patients are covered by the Medicaid program, which has been marked by considerable costs, waste and has been highly vulnerable to fraud. Doctors are paid fees for services provided. Such discrete services rarely add up to comprehensive, holistic care that serves patients' best interests. In addition, traditional Medicaid services are decidedly not user-friendly and often present patients with labyrinthine obstacles to accessing care.

The SOMOS holistic, comprehensive model of care, born of DSRIP and driven by the Value-Based Payment formula, offers a powerful alternative. For example, by carefully monitoring health and thus keeping patients out of emergency rooms and hospital beds, SOMOS was able to cut back by more than 25 percent unnecessary visits to the ER and unnecessary hospital stays. This accomplishment saved New York State taxpayers more than \$300M.

The Value-Based Payment model, once more widely adopted at state and federal level, would surely attract more providers to take on new Medicaid patients with the promise of better compensation for better care. Medicaid reform hinges on smart spending—spending that will please fiscal hawks as well as advocates for the most vulnerable members of society alike. SOMOS is showing the way forward. The SOMOS Board of Directors and the network of dedicated SOMOS doctors have earned the gratitude and admiration of SOMOS staff and patients.

It is not just a matter of money, even though, of course, the savings of Medicaid spending is important for the economy. In the end, it is impossible to put a price tag on a patient's dignity but one can show respect by providing carefully calibrated care and attention. That is precisely what SOMOS doctors, supported by SOMOS staff, offer the poorest Medicaid patients in New York City.

The SOMOS record should get a hearing from the city and state's medical establishment, and at the federal level, as many thousands of changed lives eloquently and loudly make the case for a renewal of the Healthcare Delivery System Reform (previously called DSRIP) mandate.

Mario J. Paredes

Chief Executive Officer



### **Introduction**

Two years have passed since DSRIP ended and SOMOS continues to make great strides providing stellar health care services to underserved communities, as a physician-led healthcare organization. While the past two years have been filled with challenges we managed to meet and exceed our goals, while facing major funding cuts and the continuing onslaught of the coronavirus pandemic.

SOMOS is now a well-oiled machine after seven years of operation, and for this reason SOMOS was prepared for the COVID-19 crisis; our providers, partners, and staff were able to quickly respond to former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo's call to action to address the coronavirus pandemic. SOMOS was able to give hope and support through its network of more than 2,600 providers serving more than 650,000 patients, many of whom remain on the front lines as New York City grapples with COVID-19: nurses, transit workers, grocery clerks, delivery men and women, home health aides and sanitation staff.

On March 1, 2020, when the first COVID-19 case was confirmed in Manhattan, SOMOS's Founders, Chairman Dr. Ramon Tallaj and President Dr. Henry Chen immediately launched SOMOS into action. SOMOS physicians and providers were at the New York Stock Exchange testing more than 500 NYSE employees daily until the closure of the trading floor on March 23, 2020. SOMOS set-up one of the city's first Mass coronavirus testing sites in partnership with the State of New York in Queens and another in the Bronx (also in partnership with Montefiore Hospital). So far, SOMOS has tested more than 1 million people for the virus. SOMOS has also been distributing much-needed medical supplies to hospitals including Flushing and Montefiore Hospitals.

SOMOS supported our network providers with free access to Ignite, a telemedicine system that gives SOMOS providers the ability to assess patients' needs remotely, allowing patients to stay home and reduce their risk of infection. Medical Office Protocols and Prevention Guidelines were distributed to all network providers and staff. SOMOS also developed coronavirus educational materials for the public in English, Spanish and Chinese, while coordinating a social media campaign in those languages as well. SOMOS also distributed gave \$100 bonuses to all staff in our network practices who are serving as first responders.

With the assistance of the SOMOS Operations, Compliance, Legal, and Communications teams, we have been able to develop and successfully launch the Bridge—a population health tool that 1,200 of our network providers utilize to manage and monitor their patients' Electronic Medical Records (EMRs). The Bridge has connected practices with the Bronx RHIO, allowing for easy access to EMRs, with SOMOS doctors now receiving notifications of hospital admissions and discharges from (and treatment rendered by) any entity, provider, or practice within the Bronx RHIO system.

The Bridge captures data necessary to assess patients' long-term health outcomes, the criteria for the Value-Based Payment formula. As part of DSRIP's Value-Based Pilot Program, SOMOS implemented with great success six of the 12 VBP pilot contracts in New York State; the NYS Department of Health gave SOMOS the VBP Innovator designation, one of only three healthcare entities to gain that recognition and the only physician-led network to do so.

Applying the VBP formula, SOMOS has reiterated and restored the role of primary care physicians as trusted and culturally competent community leaders who are intimately aware of all their patients' needs—medical, behavioral, and social. The Value-Based Primary Care model holds tremendous promise for the future of healthcare reform in New York and across the nation. Superior, holistic care keeps patients out of emergency rooms and costly hospital beds, which translates into significant savings for taxpayers.

Our leaders are being recognized for their outstanding leadership in healthcare and being asked to assist in the design of a new healthcare system. On February 17, 2022, SOMOS Founder & Chairman Dr. Tallaj was appointed as the co-chairman of New York City's, Mayor Eric Adams COVID-19 Recovery Roundtable and Health Equity Task Force. Dr. Tallaj advises the city's government on comprehensive policies focusing on health equity and healthcare access to help rebuild the city's post-pandemic economy and long-term growth for all New Yorkers.

SOMOS Founder & President, Dr. Henry Chen received a lifetime achievement award from U.S. President Joseph R. Biden for his work in healthcare.

It has been a privilege for SOMOS to serve as a PPS under the DSRIP mandate. Of course, there is still much more work to be done and SOMOS will continue its mission to serve community-based doctors and providers with the support necessary to drive high-quality, patient-centered care for NYC's most vulnerable communities.



SOMOS employees attend the July 21, 2021 Essential Workers Parade in NYC.



SOMOS President Dr. Henry Chen (far right) receives the U.S. Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award from President Joseph R. Biden.



SOMOS Chairman Dr. Ramon Tallaj (right) meets with Pope at the Vatican to discuss a mission to Haiti in 2022.





SOMOS Leadership attends the 2022 Festival of Biologics in Switzerland. Pictured Left to Right (Chief Operating Officer Lidia Virgil, Chief of Staff Alexandro Damiron, Chief Executive Officer Mario J. Paredes, Vice President of Communications Anel Pla, Chairman Dr. Ramon Tallaj, Ramon Tallaj Jr., Chief Medical Officer Dr. Yomaris Peña, SOMOS President Dr. Henry Chen.



SOMOS Partners attend the Business of Primary Care panel at the SOMOS VII Annual Medical Symposium in 2021.



Left to right: SOMOS Board Member Dr. David Zhang, second from right SOMOS President Dr. Henry Chen, Empire City Laboratories COO Michael Nisan at the 2021 SOMOS VII Medical Symposium in the Dominican Republic.





SOMOS volunteers rally at Quisqueya Plaza in Manhattan at the first Clean Up Day of the Basket In Anti-Litter Campaign on September 12, 2022.



Left to Right: SOMOS Chairman Dr. Tallaj, Former NBA player Luis Felipe Lopez, Ramon Tallaj Jr.



SOMOS Basket In Clean Up Day volunteers proudly show off their efforts of cleaning up the neighborhood.



Center SOMOS Chairman Dr. Ramon Tallaj distributes Thanksgiving meals in Dyker Heights, November 2020.

At SOMOS, we understand that lack of education and low levels of health literacy make patient self-management much more difficult and lead to poor compliance rates with medical directives. This is particularly true when it comes to COVID-19. However, SOMOS has been able to engage and reach out to our patients and communities at large thanks to our doctors' cultural closeness to their communities.

Since the start of the pandemic SOMOS has been on the frontlines actively calling global attention to the disproportionate health, social, and economic impact of COVID-19 in communities of color escalating with illness and mortality rates in New York's inner cities. During its darkest days, SOMOS was responsible for the operation of 125 trilingual driving and walking COVID-19 testing sites in English, Spanish and Chinese testing over 1.5 million people nationally.

Despite the challenges SOMOS fed and served 2 million meals to their hungry, food-insecure neighbors while providing accessible healthcare to the high-risk immigrant populations including the undocumented during a period of extreme medical crisis.

SOMOS donated \$500,000 in seed funding for the Mayoral Fund to provide economic relief to small businesses in the Bronx through grants.

The network's 2,600 Latino, Asian, and Black community doctors have operated over 70 trilingual testing sites nationwide and assisted with the administration of over 1 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to seniors, municipal workers, healthcare workers, and vulnerable communities of color across nearly 200 vaccine sites in local landmarks like Yankee Stadium, the city's most iconic subway stations, churches, schools, public parks, and public housing to ensure equity on behalf of the underserved populations who too often fall through the cracks of traditional healthcare systems. COVID-19 testing, and vaccination are the most

effective measures against COVID-19. SOMOS played a major role in the return of full time in-person learning for NYC's K-12 students. During this COVID-19 pandemic SOMOS has managed 1,000 COVID-19 testing sites at local NYC schools. SOMOS has taken extensive measures to ensure that its patients receive high quality care that is conveniently located in their communities with extended hours that work with their schedules.

SOMOS's telemedicine platform was introduced and adopted by physicians whose patients didn't feel comfortable coming into the doctor's office and/or whose chronic illnesses required an alternative approach such as HTN control, Diabetes, Mental Health.

On April 28th, 2021, under Dr. Tallaj's leadership, SOMOS became the first primary care network in New York City to receive the COVID-19 vaccines doses directly to their medical offices, making SOMOS primary care providers a critical component in reaching populations less likely to get vaccinated and who would prefer to get vaccinated in their doctor's office. Many would soon learn communities of color considered their personal doctor as the most trusted source of information on the vaccine.

SOMOS has developed new forms of patient outreach and health education around COVID-19 and more, including creating websites specific and easy to use for each service designed to access information on testing, vaccination sites, appointments, and have access to reports. At the same time SOMOS is also refocusing its efforts to employ an even more expansive preventative health care strategy.

COVID-19 has become more manageable due to local, national, and global vaccination efforts, which made it possible for SOMOS to successfully pivot its focus and efforts to align with its new COVID-19 initiatives and achieve strategic benchmarks for preventative care. These efforts have ensured that SOMOS continues to be recognized as a leading healthcare leader in the industry while amplifying

the impact of SOMOS's healthcare and prevention programs for our underserved communities.

This year SOMOS has returned to its roots by providing Health Fairs within the communities it serves delivering invaluable health education in addition to health screenings. SOMOS has notably added Mental Health screenings to its routine Cardiovascular and Diabetic health screenings in response COVID-19 pandemic as physicians reported an increase for a need of mental health interventions. Anyone in the community that attends can receive these services free of charge and get brief intervention and referral to a SOMOS provider as necessary.

Once COVID-19 vaccines became available younger children and teens SOMOS saw the opportunity to provide COVID-19 vaccines to the children of the communities it serves but also to get those children back on their routine vaccination schedules.

In the summer of 2021, SOMOS launched an educational/promotional campaign, "SOMOS HEROES" ("WE ARE HEROES") in collaboration with Marvel Entertainment, about the importance of getting vaccinated. The campaign kicked off with commercials based on the Summer Olympics, which aired on Telemundo and NBC. Latino, Asian, and Black primary care physicians educated the public on vaccinations and expand outreach in New York City. The campaign included the distribution of a limited edition comic book, AVENGERS: WE ARE RESILIENT, poster series, as well as in-person events, to encourage families to learn about the vaccine. SOMOS distributed comic books at vaccination pop-up sites to promote vaccinations.

SOMOS has continued this momentum in 2022 by partnering with strategic key partners that will be able to provide resources SOMOS needs to expand its mission to provide health care to the most vulnerable amongst underserved populations including immigrants and children.

New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced on August 14, 2022, that the NYC Office of Immigrant Affairs Commissioner Manuel Castro at Port Authority would work with SOMOS Community Care's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Yomaris Peña to lead SOMOS's network of healthcare workers to provide free physical examinations and medical evaluations for hundreds of immigrants, sick families and children who have crossed the Southern boarders and have endure harsh conditions as buses continue to approach Port Authority daily from Texas.

On August 17th, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul partnered with SOMOS Community Care in launching a New York City back-to-school vaccination effort.

The statewide #VaxToSchool campaign aims to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates among school-aged children and will offer information to parents, and 3 million COVID tests will be sent to schools. As part

of the campaign, SOMOS Community Care will be providing COVID vaccines at SOMOS medical practices throughout the city.

SOMOS also teamed up with Univision for the Copa Univision Youth Soccer tournament on August 20, 2022, as part of the We Can Do This COVID-19 vaccination campaign. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' COVID-19 public education campaign, which is a national initiative to increase public confidence in and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines for children. The Campaign relies on a vast network of partner organizations and trusted messengers, like SOMOS, to share lifesaving information among at-risk and underserved populations. SOMOS is also partnering with Telemundo for the 'Este es mi Año Escolar' (This is My School Year campaign).

SOMOS is also working with the City of New York to administer vaccines in the educational system.

SOMOS's educational outreach has been recognized by leading national organizations such as the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Arts and Sciences (NATAS.) This year the video presentation, DOCTOR TALLAJ: The Hispanic Physician Who Faced COVID-19 in New York has been nominated for a NY Emmy. SOMOS Founder and Chairman gives a compelling account of how he led SOMOS through the pandemic and mobilized a physician network to holistically address the needs of SOMOS communities through medical, economic, and social aide.

In 2021, The Academy awarded two prestigious EMMY statuettes to SOMOS Community Care and Dr. Ramon Tallaj, as Executive Producer of two outstanding video presentations that focused on informing and inspiring our underserved communities.

"SOMOS Kidz," an original multi-language animated series where three kids who live and go to school in the same New York neighborhood learn about social distancing, in-person learning, and how to be safe and protect themselves and others during the COVID-19 pandemic. The educational series produced by SOMOS won the Emmy Award in the category of "Children/Youth (12 and under) - Short form Content" (up to 10 minutes)

"The Graffiti Artist Who Became a Doctor" won SOMOS's second Emmy® Award in the category of Human Interest. SOMOS Community Care produced this documentary with the collaboration of the global network Aleteia. The Graffiti Artist Who Became a Doctor" tells the story of Dr. Juan Tapia-Mendoza in an interview-documentary format, who was born in the Dominican Republic and grew up in the harsh streets of New York City, where he becomes part of the known gang the "Savage Nomads" and where street art brings him recognition and fame under the graffiti tag of "C.A.T. 87". His experience inspired him to become a pediatrician beloved by his community and founder of Pediatrics 2000, his practice in the very heart of Washington Heights. Dr. Tapia has been pivotal in SOMOS's campaign to get children and youth vaccinated against COVID-19.







On August 25, 2021 SOMOS launched We Are Resilient COVID-19 Vaccination Awareness campaign in partnership with Marvel to encourage COVID-19 vaccinations for children.



SOMOS distributes turkeys to families in need in November 2021.

SOMOS's educational and informational campaign about COVID-19 has encompassed a series of pivotal webinars on various topics related to the pandemic and its impact on underserved communities. It included subjects such as vaccinations, the importance of primary care, mental health, women and children's health. Developed in Spanish and English, this series was shown on all SOMOS social media platforms to a great audience and even better reception. Among the distinguished panelists were Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston, and Jason Helgerson, former New York's Medicaid Director and Executive Director for New York's Medicaid Redesign Team.

Most recently, SOMOS Community Care also participated in the New York City initiative in which patients that were vaccinated at SOMOS physicians' offices received a \$100 vaccine incentive after obtaining their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Expanding the incentive to include doctors' offices in the SOMOS network – concentrated in communities like Washington Heights, the South Bronx, Corona, Flushing, and Sunset Park – which increased vaccine equity among communities of color.

SOMOS's work on the frontlines against the pandemic has been gathered and assembled in booklet format. SOMOS on the Frontline: Our

Doctors Fight Against the COVID-19 Pandemic, this seminal work is available in three languages (English, Spanish, Chinese).

In addition, SOMOS has begun to present its culturally competent, value-based approach to health care on a global platform to the pharmaceutical industry. SOMOS is determined to ensure that healthcare equity be extended beyond health care services and into prescribed medication as well. This agenda has been at the core of SOMOS presentations in internationally renowned events such as the Festival of Biologics 2021 (European Antibody Congress, World Immunotherapy Congress, World Biosimilar Congress & Clinical Trials World) in Basel, Switzerland. In 2022 SOMOS presented its work to the Festival of Biologics in San Diego and the World Vaccine Congress in Washington D.C.

The pandemic has taught us that if we do not ensure that everyone regardless of their socioeconomic status has access to medication to treat and prevent disease we can expect more frequent health emergencies that will wreak havoc on our communities and economies.



SOMOS employee helping a man schedule a medical appointment at the Mental Wealth Block Party on June 10, 2022.



Community Health Worker assists man with finding a SOMOS physician.



SOMOS employee prepares to vaccinate woman against COVID-19.



Center: SOMOS Chairman Dr. Ramon Tallaj speaking with physicians at a COVID-19 vaccination site.



Center: SOMOS Community Care Chief Operating Officer Lidia Virgil leads a team in St. Petersburg, Florida.



Left: SOMOS President Dr. Henry Chen demonstrates how to read a COVID-19 test.



SOMOS team member administering a COVID-19 vaccine at Copa Univision.



SOMOS employees distribute Back-to-School giveaways at Copa Univision.



 ${\sf Center: SOMOS\ Community\ Care\ Chief\ Medical\ Officer\ Dr.\ Yomaris\ Pe\~{n}a\ with\ SOMOS\ employees\ at\ Copa\ Univision.}}$ 



SOMOS continues to diligently work to ensure that up-to-date, innovative technology is utilized to integrate its physician network post DSRIP. Our network of primary care physicians (PCPs) remains connected to Optimus Health Analytics, which supports technology and information security; this framework helps drive projects such as Bronx RHIO, our population health platform facilitated by our partner, the Garage and our patients use of the MiSOMOS app. These connections have enabled SOMOS to build a network that can respond and adapt in real-time to the changing needs of our physicians and patients. Below is a timeline of major accomplishments for 2021 and 2022.



SOMOS Community Care Technology Infrastructure milestones (2021-2022).

As COVID-19 remains a global health emergency, our primary focus is still centered on providing seamless IT support to our network providers so that they have access to the technology needed to properly manage COVID-19 diagnosis and treatment. Two of our key COVID-19 accomplishments this year have been:

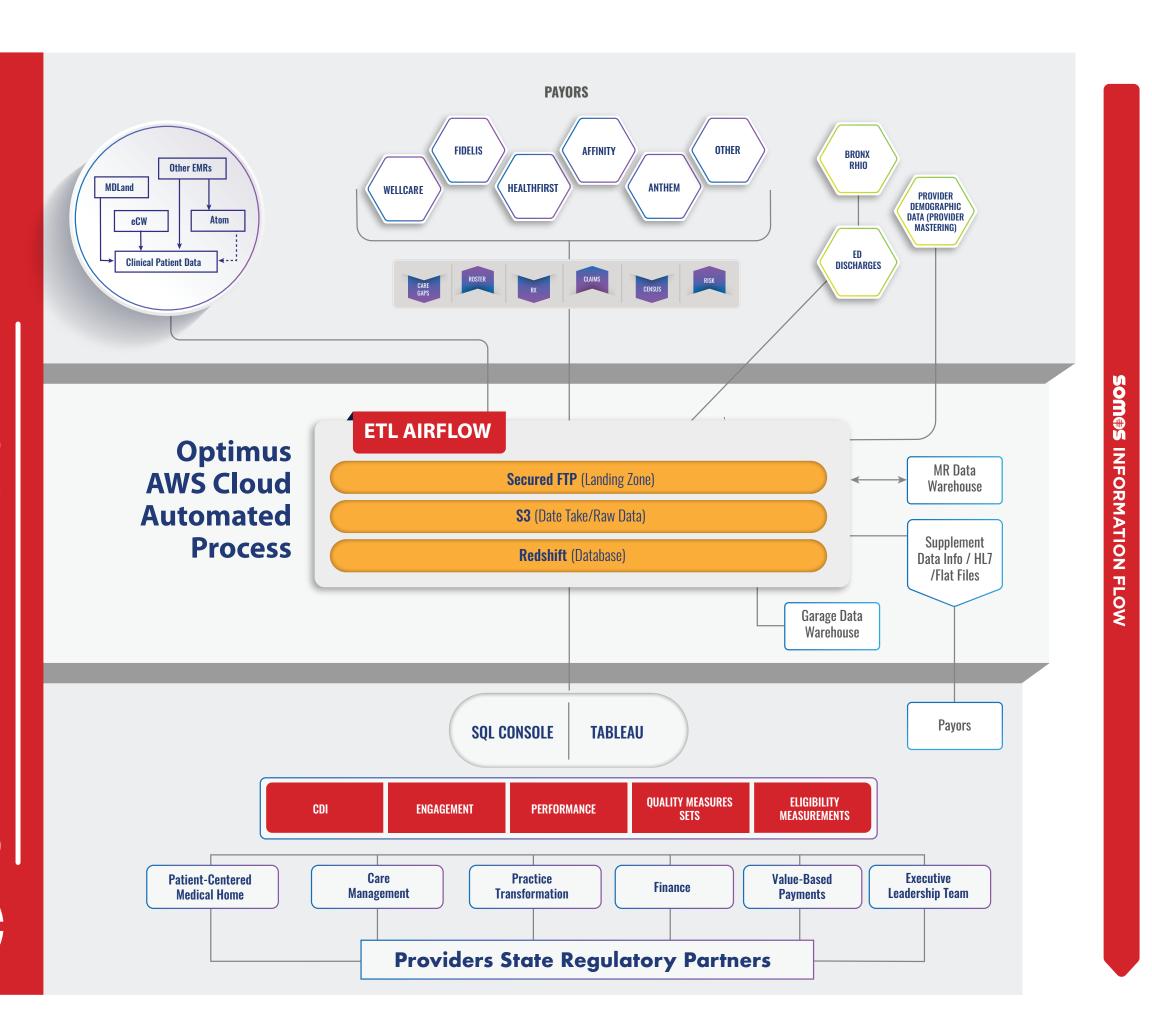
■ The development of a COVID-19 testing platform that has streamlined many gaps including testing in NYC public, charter, and private schools. To date, SOMOS has provided over 650,000 COVID-19 tests to NYC students.

Testing Inception Thru July 2022		
DOE - # of tests	653,889	
SOMOS CC - # of Tests	874	
Charter - # of Tests	3,221	
Total # of tests:	657,984	
# DOE Schools Tested	912	

 SOMOS has built vaccination websites that allow patients to schedule, check-in, cancel, and reschedule appointments for COVID-19 testing and vaccination in multiple languages.

All data entered via these platforms is submitted to New York City's immunization registry.

Our improvements to our network connectivity have enabled SOMOS to provide the technological and analytical support our physicians have been -health information in the form of in-patient and ED alerts, patient history, predictive insights, and coding, as well as documentation to support and ensure the latest information is available for and on each patient.



**Data Source** 

**Data Brokers** 

External Partners

IT Systems & Infrastructure

Data Types

**Data Aggregation** 

Data Normalization/ Transformation

CORE SYSTEMS

Analytics / Reporting / Ad-hoc Query

Decision Support Reports

**Internal Consumers** 

**External Consumers** 

#### **Population Health**

SOMOS remains committed to a culturally competent 360o approach to healthcare to manage Population Health and improve the quality of the care patients receive and performance of our providers and practices through access to enhanced technology designed for healthcare management.

The Garage Bridge platform 5.2 launched in the third quarter of 2021. As of October 2021, sixty Innovator practices have been trained to utilize this platform. The Analytics teams provide continuous support to tackle quality and performance initiatives for Innovator, VBP, and other legacy contracts.

Tableau dashboard display reporting was implemented so that SOMOS's practice transformation teams and providers have a secure place to view and manage key data, metrics, and memberships. The Bridge platform has made it possible for SOMOS Practice Transformation Teams to thoroughly analyze the data and metrics to improve the support they provide to network members.

Data continues to flow from MCOs, from quality to utilization, to assist with reporting at all levels.

As of March 2022, 412 practices have been integrated into the Bridge platform. This is part of SOMOS's plan to expand payer contracts such as Fidelis, EmblemHealth, SOMOS ACO track, etc.

#### Today this data set is comprised of the following:

- 8 TB of total data
- 3.2M total patients with data (clinical or financial)
- 18B total records
- 32M total claims (financial data)
- 55K physicians in claims (ordering patterns and care coordination insights)

#### **Bronx RHIO**

The Bronx RHIO continues to connect practices to satisfy PCMH requirements. SOMOS PMCH renewal requirement is now annual as opposed to every 3 years.

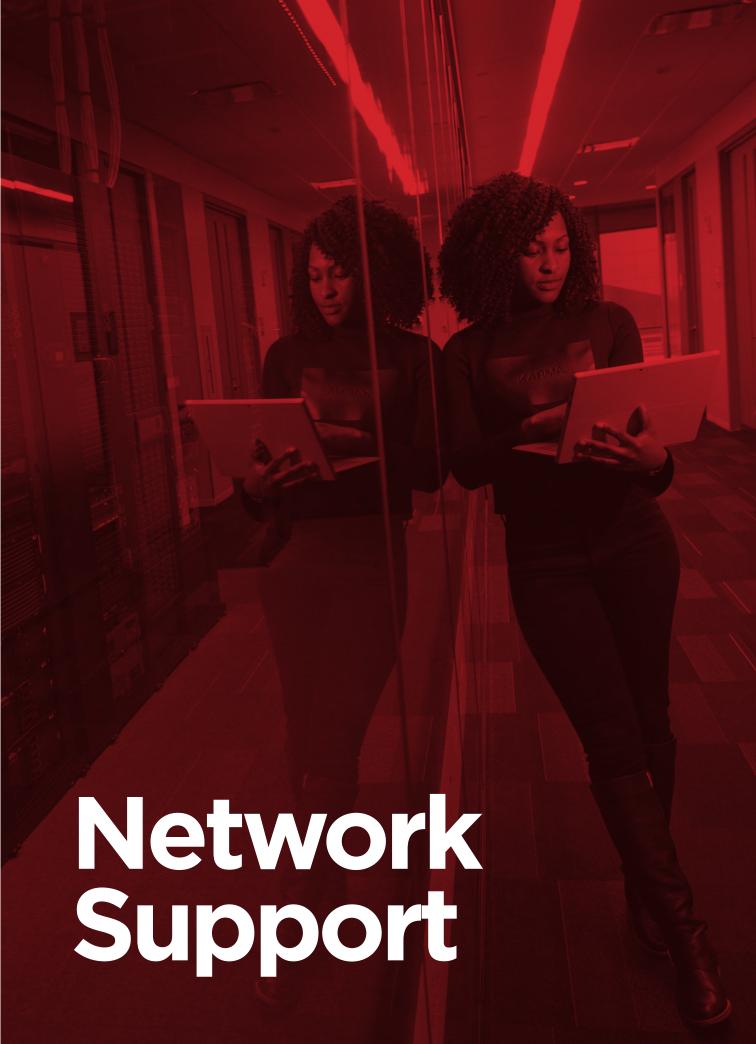
# **Information Security** and Infrastructure

This year our primary focus was on providing seamless IT support to our network during the pandemic. SOMOS passed its 4th annual Audit – undergoing plan of action and milestones review. We continue to manage various tools requested by the enterprise, including SmartSheets for operations and Python products for infrastructure.

Vulnerability Systems Scanning Toolkit implementation was utilized to identify any weaknesses in the system.

Provided IT Support and supported COVID-19 vaccination and testing programs throughout the pandemic.

The Security Information Event Management (SIEM) was successfully deployed in the first quarter of 2022. SIEM has increased the streamlining of InfoSec processes. SOMOS will continue maintenance of vulnerability scanning, cloud configuration, and enhanced anti-virus protection to further reduce the risk of information and data being compromised.



#### **PCMH**

The Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model is an approach to delivering high-quality, cost-effective primary care. Using a patient-centered, culturally appropriate, and team-based approach, the PCMH model coordinates patient care across the health system under the Value-Based Payment Model (VBP).

PCMH accreditation by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) signifies that a provider has become an advanced primary care practice. This designation means that the practice has undergone a transformation in quality and safety enhancement and has established a foundation for coordination across the continuum of care. In addition to overall better quality of care for patients, practices that achieve Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Recognition may benefit in multiple ways, including Improved efficiency and lower practice costs.

PCMH guidelines can be used to help streamline care coordination and care management in addition to financial incentives.

Examples of PCMH interventions within the practice setting include team-based care, the use of facilitation and coaching to develop skills, and disease registries that allow the provider to see patients not just as individuals but as part of a larger population with common needs and concerns.

SOMOS Community Care has adopted and offered complete support to its member practices by contracting with companies like Insight Management to ensure our practices reach NCQA Level 3 PCMH Certification. Insight Management takes a hands-on approach from the initial gap analysis to the submission of the application to NCQA. As of August 2022, a total of <u>309</u> SOMOS medical practices have been PCMH certified.

In addition, one of the requirements for a practice to become PCMH accredited by NCQA with the guidance and help of Insight Management, Patient record data must be centrally shared with the BronxRHIO or Statewide Health Information Network for NY (SHINNY). The Bronx RHIO helps authorized health care providers securely access and share medical records. Providers are doctors, nurses, health-care workers, hospitals, and clinics. To become an authorized user, a provider must be a member of a Bronx RHIO Participant Organization and complete training in the use of the RHIO System. SOMOS also provides guidance and technical connectivity to our network providers.

### **Mitigating Risks**

At SOMOS we take an active approach to mitigating risks at every level of our operations and digital platforms. Our Compliance and Legal teams collaborate with

all SOMOS's departments to ensure that SOMOS's operations are in compliance with all necessary legal, regulatory requirements while minimizing risk of loss to our providers, Corporation, and all other stakeholders, including HIPAA.

Our Standard Operating Procedures are updated annually to ensure that the goals are being met for our Tier I and Tier II Management Frameworks. These frameworks analyze and summarize departmental risk strategies, risk identification, risk management, risk reporting and monitoring, and risk governance to ensure that they are in tandem with SOMOS's organizational missions, goals, and risk thresholds.

With the continuing COVID-19 epidemic, we diligently worked with vendors to successfully prepare Agreements and MOUs that permitted SOMOS to work alongside various entities and governmental agencies in supporting the patients and communities we serve with COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, education, provision of PPE and food distribution.

As always SOMOS is looking to the future and requested Services including those necessary to ensure and promote the sustainability of Value-Based Payment (VBP).

# Financial Outlook & Sustainability

SOMOS's Finance Department continues to manage the DSRIP proceeds earned by SOMOS to ensure the adequacy of financial resources to further the legacy goals of DSRIP to move forward to a fully Value-Based Payment system while providing financial support to SOMOS network physicians in our pursuit to build a sustainable network to serve our underserved communities of New Yorkers. SOMOS provides varied financial support to our physicians through funds flow distributions, PCMH certification to PCPs, which leads to added PCMH bonus payout from the health plans, and quality bonus advance payments from SOMOS IPA to encourage continued clinical improvement and outcomes to the lives we serve by participation in the SOMOS Innovator program.

SOMOS rose to the occasion in our fight against the COVID-19 pandemic when called upon by the NYS DOH. In addition to our commitment to having doctors and health care workers available, we established community testing sites during the challenging time of the pandemic. SOMOS also committed over \$25M of financial resources in the fight against COVID-19 in the absence of confirmed reimbursement assurances from the DOH. The financial resources were distributed in widespread areas of urgent need during the pandemic. These included

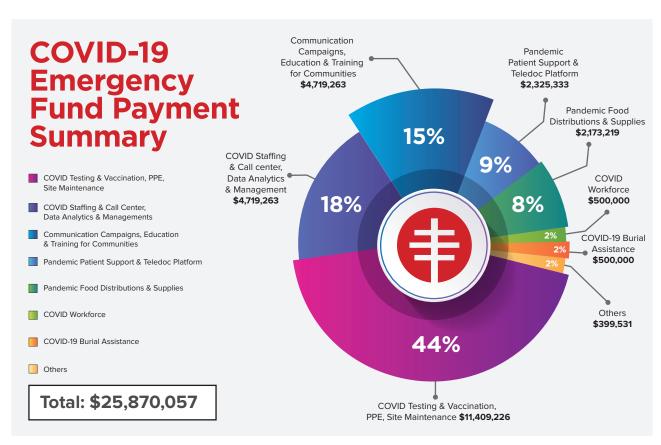
but were not limited to (1) procurement of much-needed PPE equipment, (2) establishment of testing sites in our communities, (3) building call centers and Teledoc platforms, (4) creating communication campaigns to educate our communities and the general public, (5) purchase and distribution of food to feed hundreds of thousands in underserved communities and (6) creation and maintenance of vaccination sites broadly in NYC and the boroughs.

In recognition of the need for additional financial resources, the finance team secured other financial resources for SOMOS through participation in the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Employee Retention Credit Program (ERC), which yielded over \$7M funding to further our cause.

### **Funding Operational Support to the SOMOS Network**

From the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, SOMOS stepped up our efforts and took on additional responsibilities in supporting our Operations colleagues. Finance's accountability has greatly relieved the burden of our frontline colleagues, as well as our partners so that they could focus on helping our patients and our fellow New Yorkers in their time of need.

- Finance supported NYC's COVID-19 school testing initiatives by coordinating with Operations to track COVID-19 school testing accounts receivable billing and claimable expenses, thus enabling SOMOS to commit over \$24 million to date to fight against COVID-19, providing impromptu analysis on demand and in-time payments to our valuable partner Physicians of the Future (dba Rapid Care Solutions).
- SOMOS's Finance team took on the role of COVID-19 Vaccine and Community Testing billing and tracking to New York State and New York City with a service value of over \$100 million.
- Finance diligently performed the accounts payable functions post-DSRIP, supporting the annual audit by providing financial information and analysis.
- SOMOS continues to disperse and manage Value-Based payment incentives to over 500 practices in our network and support providers participating in VBP arrangements, including but not limited to providing analysis and statements to assist in PCMH certification.



COVID-19 Emergency Fund Payment Summary (2020-2022).



SOMOS continues to build upon its success from the DSRIP era as being the only physician-led IPA to succeed in implementing six of the 12 VBP pilot programs in New York State and receive the NYS Department of Health's VBP Innovator designation. With one advanced Level 2 and two Level 3 VBP contracts, SOMOS is one of only three healthcare entities to gain the Innovator designation.

As a result of SOMOS's exemplary leadership SOMOS's mission for healthcare equity has enabled SOMOS to accomplish the following:

- Form a cohesive network from nearly 700 independent practices
- Engage over 2 million patients through its Chronic Disease Management programs
- Provide more than 300K doses of COVID-19 vaccines (as of July 2022)
- Serve as an emergency health care model in underserved communities

The COVID-19 pandemic and other health emergencies such as measles and Monkeypox have demonstrated that the need for primary care physicians to be at the helm of developing the policies to transform the publicly funded healthcare system.

Our holistic approach to medicine addresses the social determinants of health care that are typically overlooked by traditional healthcare systems. We have enhanced partnerships with diagnostic providers such as pharmacies, radiology department and pharmaceuticals that have led the way for better outcomes.

Our continued success proves that SOMOS has indeed began laying the foundation for the success of the long-term transformation of the healthcare system to ensure health equity for all.

### **Key Relationships**

















## **Board of Directors**



Ramon Tallaj, M.D.



Henry Chen, M.D.



**Oscar Fukilman** 



David Zhang M.D.



Victor Peralta, M.D.



Francisco Rosario, M.D.



**Stephen Rosenthal** 



Ming Zhu, M.D.



**Bruce Flanz** 



**Rocco Papandrea** 



Luisa Perez, M.D.



**Karen Louie** 



Carmen Garcia-Albarran, M.D.

# **Executive** Leadership



**Mario J. Paredes** 



**Alexandro Damiron** Chief of Staff and Executive Vice President of Operations



**Lidia Virgil** 



**Tracey Lin** 



Yomaris Peña, M.D.



**Dean Carilli** 



**Gloria Wong** 



Liz Webb



**Jimmy Ha** 



**Anel Pla** 

A network of more than 2,600 healthcare providers who serve more than 700,000 NYC Medicaid beneficiaries. The SOMOS network provides culturally competent care to patients located in some of NYC's most vulnerable communities and immigrant neighborhoods of New York.



# **SOM**⊕**S**

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