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Changes in store for SONNET

By [John Steiner, MD, MPH](#)

Greetings loyal readers,

Changes are under way for SONNET in 2020 and I want to share them with you.

First, we welcome SONNET's new executive sponsor [Anand Shah, MD, MS](#), vice president of Social Health at Kaiser Permanente (KP). We look forward to working closely with Dr. Shah as we continue to position SONNET in ways that help execute his vision for social health in KP. We also extend our sincere gratitude to [Loel Solomon, PhD](#), whose vision helped establish our network in 2017. Dr. Solomon moved to the faculty of The Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine, where his passion for serving those with social needs will benefit the school in many ways.

Next, working with Dr. Shah, we restructured SONNET's [Steering Committee](#). The team's new focus will be to provide expertise that supports the design and evaluation of KP's social needs interventions, in addition to continuing our mission to share what we learn since we can make

significant contributions. Areas of expertise are intervention design, measurement of social needs, intervention outcomes, staff and community engagement, advanced analytics, and community-based evaluation. We welcome [Stephanie Fitzpatrick, PhD](#), an investigator in KP's Northwest region and [Cheryl Kelly, PhD, MPH, MA](#), an evaluation investigator from the Colorado region. Dr. Kelly is also a co-principal investigator for the Thrive Local National Evaluation so she will provide an essential connection to that evaluation. We are enormously grateful to Rachel Gold, PhD, MPH, Julie Schmittziel, PhD, and Adam Sharp, MD, MSc, for their service on the SONNET steering committee from 2017-2020, and their many other contributions to SONNET.

If your work, department, or region could benefit from [consultation](#) on specific projects or in any of these methodological areas, please reach out by emailing sonnet@kp.org. We are here to help – and it is best to engage us as early in your process as possible.

Finally, SONNET is planning for a director change in 2021. I'll be stepping down as SONNET director this December. To prepare for the transition, we'll release a Request for Applications (RFA) to KP's researchers and evaluators who may be interested in the position and in moving the administrative core to their local region. The RFA will be released soon. We plan to start onboarding the new director in the spring/summer of 2020.

We'll keep you updated on these and other changes.

Thanks,

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