

# **Exhibit 1**



September 26, 2016

Community Mental Health Leadership

Subject: NAMI Orange County Support for Sovereign Health Mental Health Care

My name is John Leyerle and I am the President of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Orange County. NAMI Orange County is an affiliate of NAMI California and NAMI National. NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. At NAMI we take pride in educating communities about mental illness, advocating for a life of quality and dignity for people with mental illness, and leading the national charge on mental health awareness. In Orange County specifically, NAMI provides signature education programs, support and advocacy for families and their loved ones in their mental health journeys.

It is with the highest regard that NAMI Orange County supports Dr. Tonmoy Sharma, and Sovereign Health Group (Sovereign). Dr. Sharma has demonstrated an unshakable commitment to the ideals that NAMI holds dear, and has fearlessly blazed new trails in providing mental health care programs that have successfully treated hundreds of patients with a mental health condition.

Under the leadership of Dr. Sharma, Sovereign continues to provide the gold standard in mental health treatment for patients in Orange County and throughout the country. We know that Sovereign is accredited by the Joint Commission, the nation's oldest healthcare provider accrediting body. Accreditation by the Joint Commission is stringent and voluntary yet Dr. Sharma seeks the Commission's approval because it comports with the high quality of treatment that Sovereign provides its patients. Further, Sovereign is an Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) training site. Through its national matching program, APPIC matches psychology Postdoctoral trainees with training sites at some of the country's most elite institutions. Because Dr. Sharma ensures that Sovereign provides high quality care that meets APPIC's standards, and is worthy of Joint Commission accreditation, APPIC matches postdoctoral trainees with Sovereign, just as APPIC matches trainees with Harvard Medical School and John Hopkins University, among others.

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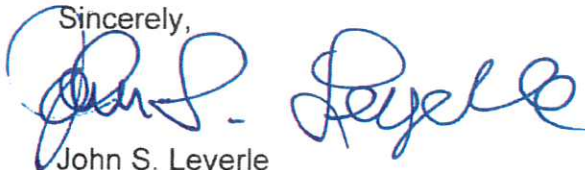
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We also know that Dr. Sharma facilitated Sovereign's partnership with the University of Southern California (USC) to train many of the university's Master of Social Work (MSW) candidates. In much the same way USC entrusts its Graduate Students to Sovereign, NAMI Orange County sees Sovereign as an organization with the responsibility of providing top tier mental health treatment to patients in Orange County and nationally.

NAMI Orange County is proud to be affiliated with Dr. Sharma. Like NAMI, Dr. Sharma's work is rooted in a passion for vulnerable and needy communities. So much so that under his leadership, Sovereign has grown at a stellar rate. For three (3) consecutive years Sovereign has been recognized as one of the country's fastest growing companies by Inc. Magazine. During that same period, Sovereign has remained atop the Orange County Business Journal's list of fastest growing private companies. Sovereign's growth is a clear reflection of Dr. Sharma's vision: more patients treated, more families soothed, and more communities educated about mental health.

It is my hope that this letter clearly highlights Dr. Sharma as the champion of mental healthcare that he has proven to be year after year, patient after patient. In Orange County alone, one in four residents will experience a diagnosable mental illness each year. With leaders like Dr. Sharma on the front line we can properly treat mental illness in Orange County and nationwide. NAMI Orange County is proud to stand beside Dr. Sharma.

Sincerely,



John S. Leyerle  
President  
NAMI Orange County