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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Althing Clinic Expands Services to Provide Comprehensive Health Care and Access for Karen and Karenni Speakers in Austin, Minnesota

AUSTIN, MN – January 10, 2024 – Althing Clinic, a leading healthcare provider in Austin, Minnesota, is thrilled to announce a significant expansion of its services to cater to the diverse needs of the community, with a special focus on offering comprehensive health services and improved access for Karen and Karenni speakers.

With a commitment to inclusivity and ensuring healthcare services are equally accessible to all residents, Althing Clinic has recognized the importance of addressing the unique linguistic and cultural requirements of the Karen and Karenni communities in Southeast Minnesota. This expansion marks a milestone in the clinic's mission to provide quality healthcare that is both culturally sensitive and responsive to the diverse needs of the community it serves.

Key highlights of the expanded services include:

- **Dedicated Language Access:** Althing Clinic is proud to offer language support for Karen and Karenni speakers, ensuring that language barriers do not hinder access to vital healthcare services. The clinic has implemented full coverage on its cutting edge Phrazer/Kitsune technology and engaged bilingual staff to facilitate clear communication between healthcare providers and patients.
- **Culturally Competent Care:** The expanded services include a focus on culturally competent care that respects and embraces the traditions and values of the Karen and Karenni communities. This approach ensures that patients feel understood, respected, and receive care that aligns with their cultural background.
- **Comprehensive Health Services:** Althing Clinic has enhanced its medical offerings to provide a wide range of services, including convenience care, preventive care, chronic disease management, women's health, pediatrics, mental health support, and more. This comprehensive approach aims to address the holistic health needs of the community.
- **Community Outreach Programs:** In addition to clinical services, Althing Clinic is launching community outreach programs to raise awareness about health and wellness within the Karen and Karenni communities. These initiatives will focus on education, prevention, and early intervention to promote health and overall well-being.

Dr. Asma Khan, Medical Director of Althing Clinic, expressed enthusiasm about the expansion, stating, "We are excited to be able to provide enhanced services to our Karen and Karenni neighbors. Our goal is to create a healthcare environment that is welcoming, accessible, and responsive to the unique needs of every individual in our community."

Althing Clinic invites the community to celebrate this expansion and encourages Karen and Karenni speakers to take advantage of the newly available services. The clinic remains steadfast in its commitment to delivering modernized, affordable, compassionate, high-quality healthcare to all residents of the region.

About Althing

Althing *creates innovative solutions* that lead to equity, access, and modernization of healthcare *in rural communities*. Althing's commitment to access is highlighted in its clinic, school district and home health solutions. Whether serving *diverse populations* or proactively bringing health services to the community, Althing holds to its principles: equity, quality, access, and value. To learn more about Althing visit althingmodel.com and subscribe to <u>https://www.youtube.com/@althing7525/videos</u>

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