April 10, 2019

The National Academies report on *Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture, and Consequences in Academic Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (2018)*, which found that between 20 and 50 percent of women students and more than 50 percent of women faculty and staff experienced sexually harassing behavior while in academia, stands as compelling evidence that change is needed in academic medicine.

The mission of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is to create hope and build healthier futures for children.

As a pediatric academic medical center, individuals come to Children’s Hospital Los Angeles from across the nation and around the world because they want to join us in this mission. It is up to organizations like ours to provide an environment in which every person can practice medicine in a setting free of sexual harassment and gender discrimination. This starts with actively creating diverse, inclusive and respectful environments.

To advance efforts to prevent and effectively respond to sexual harassment, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is joining other institutions and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to form an Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education. This Action Collaborative will facilitate partnerships and joint action on addressing and preventing sexual harassment. Together, with the other institutional members of the Action Collaborative, we aim to achieve targeted, collective action toward evidence-based policies and practices at the individual and systems levels for addressing and preventing all forms of sexual harassment and promoting a culture of civility and respect by:

- Raising awareness about sexual harassment and how it occurs, the consequences of sexual harassment, and the organizational characteristics and recommended approaches that can prevent it.
- Sharing and elevating evidence-based institutional policies and strategies to reduce and prevent sexual harassment.
- Contributing to setting the research agenda and gathering and applying research results across institutions.
- Developing a standard for measuring progress toward reducing and preventing sexual harassment in higher education.

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles shares the commitment of other Founding Members to support the goals of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education.