Equity Statement for 22q Texas, Inc.

At 22q Texas, Inc., we are committed to equity, inclusion, and diversity in all aspects of our mission and operations. We recognize that every individual, regardless of their 22q11 chromosome difference or any other characteristic, deserves respect, understanding, and equal access to opportunities and resources. Our organization is dedicated to fostering an environment where everyone feels valued, heard, and empowered.

We believe in the inherent worth of every person and understand that the journey of living with 22q11 chromosome differences is unique for each individual and family. We are committed to dismantling barriers, both visible and invisible, that may impede the full participation and engagement of individuals with 22q11 chromosome differences within our community.

To uphold these principles, we strive to:

- 1. **Provide Inclusive Support:** We offer support, resources, and a safe space that embraces the diverse experiences, needs, and perspectives of individuals and families living with 22q11 chromosome differences. Our support groups, social events, and educational programs are designed to be inclusive and welcoming to all.
- 2. **Promote Awareness and Understanding:** We are dedicated to increasing public awareness and understanding about 22q11 chromosome differences. By fostering awareness, we aim to reduce stigma and foster a more inclusive society.
- 3. **Advocate for Access:** We work to improve the provision of services and supports for people with 22q11 chromosome differences. We advocate for equitable access to quality medical care, education, employment opportunities, and community resources, regardless of individual differences.
- 4. **Ensure Quality Education and Treatment:** We provide educational resources and support to parents, educators, medical professionals and others to ensure that individuals with 22q11 chromosome differences receive appropriate and up-to-date medical and therapeutic treatment, as well as a quality education that prepares them for their long-term health and wellness.
- 5. **Foster Enrichment and Empowerment:** We actively promote the development of programs that enrich the lives of individuals with 22q11 chromosome differences. By offering opportunities for skill building, personal growth, and social engagement, we empower individuals to achieve their full potential.

In alignment with our commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion, we reject any form of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or any other characteristic. We are united in our pursuit of creating a supportive and accepting community where all members are embraced and celebrated.

As we move forward, we pledge to continuously assess and improve our practices to ensure that our organization remains a beacon of equity and inclusivity for all individuals and families touched by 22q11 chromosome differences.