

**MEDIA ALERT**  
**Tuesday, July 14, 2015**

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**New Report Links Federal Hospital Uncompensated Care Funding Renewal  
to Larger Issue of Addressing the State's Uninsured**

*1115 waiver renewal should complement coverage for low-income Texans rather than substitute for the State's inaction to provide access to sustainable health coverage to low-wage earning Texans*

**Austin, TX – July 14, 2015** – The Texas Association of Community Health Centers (TACHC) and the Texas Academy of Family Physicians (TAFP) are releasing a report, *Uncompensated Care and the Coverage Gap: The Role of the 1115 Transformation Waiver in Texas*.

The report provides specifics on the waiver and its original purpose. In addition, it contains policy recommendations on the larger issue of the State of Texas moving forward to create a sustainable plan to reduce the state's rate of uninsured, the highest in the nation.

Release of the report coincides with public meetings July 13-24 throughout Texas seeking input on the state's request to the federal government to renew funding for the state's 1115 Transformation Waiver, which provides funding for hospital uncompensated care and innovative health care delivery projects. The current 5-year Texas 1115 Waiver expires September 30, 2016 and is valued at \$29 billion. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is seeking public input until August 5, 2015 and must submit its proposal to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) by September 30, 2015.

- **The report is available now at [www.tachc.org](http://www.tachc.org).**
- TACHC Executive Director José E. Camacho and TAFP CEO/EVP Tom Banning are available for interviews.
- Community Health Center CEOs throughout the state are available for interviews. Community Health Center CEOs are scheduled to provide public comment at Texas Health & Human Services Commission Public Meetings July 13-24. Full schedule of public meetings available at <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/waiver-renewal.shtml>. Contact Andrea Abel or Russ Rhea to arrange interviews.
- B-roll, stills available of patients and providers at community health centers.

**About TACHC**

The Texas Association of Community Health Centers is a private, non-profit membership association that represents Texas safety-net health care providers. Texas community health centers, also called Federally Qualified Health Centers, serve more than 1.1 million people at over 350 sites in 118 counties. [www.tachc.org](http://www.tachc.org)

**About TAFP**

The Texas Academy of Family Physicians is a private, not for profit membership organization dedicated to uniting the family doctors of Texas through advocacy, education, and member services. Representing over 8,000 family physicians, residents and medical student throughout Texas, TAFP empowers their members to provide a medical home for patients of all ages. [www.tafp.org](http://www.tafp.org)

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