



TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up

The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

May 2, 2014

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UPCOMING EVENTS

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP: Voter Registration Webinar

Join TACHC and Community Health Vote's Marc Wetherhorn 11am-12:30pm, Wednesday, May 7th for a webinar to learn community health centers' role in voter registration, do's and don'ts for non-profits, how to get started, and tools to expand your current voter registration program.

Voter registration is an integral part of the ACA enrollment process and other coverage programs. Learn ways to make voter registration part of your outreach services. For those of you who attended TACHC's March 1-2 Civic Engagement

Workshop, we mentioned this upcoming webinar during the workshop. **REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR.** Contact **TACHC's Andrea Abel** with questions.

National Women's Health Week

National Women's Health Week (NWHW) will be celebrated May 11-17, 2014. National Women's Health Week is an annual observance to encourage women to make their health a priority and take simple steps for a safer and healthier life. Click **HERE** for a NWHW fact sheet. Visit the **women's health website** where women can take a pledge to become a "Well Woman" and find other resources.

CFO Grants Management Boot Camp Training scheduled for May 20 & 21, 2014

TACHC is pleased to announce the first in a two-part series of financial boot camp trainings targeted to Chief Financial Officers and other key financial staff. The first session, Grants Management Boot Camp, is in Houston, May 20-21. **CLICK HERE FOR DRAFT AGENDA.** Please note that registration is limited to 25 participants, so individual center staff participation will be limited to CFO and one other person. If interest is high enough, we will consider adding a second Grants Management Boot Camp, so please inform Daniel Diaz of the total number of staff your center wants to attend the Grants Management Boot Camp. **TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE.** For more information please contact **Daniel Diaz** or **Nancy Gilliam**.

ATTENTION: Outreach & Enrollment Staff!

Please join us June 12-13th for an opportunity to unite with outreach and enrollment staff in FQHCs across the state. In this two-day training you will have the opportunity to share best practices and lessons learned during the first open enrollment period. TACHC will provide any federal and state policy updates, a special train-the-trainer session to help educate patients, friends, and family for how to understand and use their insurance, and how and when to file an exemption. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend break-out sessions on various topics such as assisting immigrant families in the Marketplace, a review of HRSA reporting requirements and TACHC online reporting tool, and a review of the basics for helping consumers understand eligibility and enrollment in the Marketplace. A tentative agenda is available. Space is limited, so please **REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE** as soon as possible and make plans to join us.

TACHC has a block of sleeping rooms reserved at a rate of \$179/night for single or double occupancy. Call the hotel at 512-832-4197 to make your reservation by Wednesday, May 21, 2014. For more information contact **Sonia Lara**.

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

HRSA O/E Grant Funds: Allowable Uses

CLICK HERE to read an important message on allowable uses of HRSA O/E grant funds from TACHC Executive Director Jose Camacho.

CLINICAL AFFAIRS

Merck's Vaccine Patient Assistance Program (see [Group Purchasing](#))

POLICY

What's YOUR Center's Priority Issue?

TACHC needs your help! As we prepare the TACHC legislative agenda for the 2015 state legislative session, we need your input on what state-level issues are important to your center. Please take a moment and let us know what your center's priority issues are by taking **THIS 3-QUESTION SURVEY** (multiple responses per center are fine). **Please respond by Friday, May 16th.** Contact **Shelby Massey** with questions.

GROUP PURCHASING

Merck's Vaccine Patient Assistance Program

Merck has a Patient Assistant Program for vaccines. These are their adult vaccines, since anyone 18 years and younger would qualify for VFC. Here are the 3 very simple qualifications for the program:

1. The patient resides in the US (does not have to be a US citizen) and is 19 years of age or older.
2. The patient does not have health insurance or coverage for vaccines.
3. The patient cannot afford to pay for their vaccines.

The vaccines covered under the program are:

1. Gardasil
2. MMR
3. Pneumovax 23
4. Recombivax HB
5. Vaqta
6. Varivax
7. Zostavax

The application for the program can be found **HERE** and then click on "Merck Vaccine Patient Assistance Program" link. An overview of the program is here as well as the Application/Enrollment Form in English and Spanish. The form must be faxed to Merck while the patient is at the health center. A response of approval or denial will be returned within minutes. A replenishment vaccine will

be forwarded to the health center shortly thereafter. For more questions, call 800.293.3881.

OUTREACH

HRSA O/E Grant Funds: Allowable Uses (See **Governance & Finance)**

Community Partner Program Certification Changes

HHSC will be making a few notable changes to the Community Partner Program certification of YourTexasBenefits.com personnel that will strengthen protections for applicants, clients, and the program. Program changes are expected later this summer and more information is forthcoming. Contact **RexAnn Shotwell** with questions.

NEWS

Happy TACHCiversary Sonia Lara (5 years), Mell Rosandich (1 year), and Matt Shirley (1 year)!

CLICK HERE to **SUBSCRIBE** to the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up.

If you would like to **UNSUBSCRIBE**, contact **Danielle Ramos**.

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