



TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up

The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

September 26, 2014

Issue: 245

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Last Chance: TACHC 31st Annual Conference

Don't miss out on this once-a-year opportunity to attend TACHC's 31st Annual Conference - Westin Galleria Dallas - October 5-8, 2014. **Make Hotel Reservations. Register for the Conference.**

TACHC Financial Boot Camp

TACHC is pleased to announce the second in a two-part series of financial boot camp trainings targeted to Chief Financial Officers and other key financial staff. The session, **Revenue Cycle Management Boot Camp**, is in Austin on November 4-5. You do not have to attend part-one to attend part-two!

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

HRSA Releases Final Sliding Fee Scale

HRSA issued the much anticipated final policy on “Sliding Fee Discount and Related Billing and Collection Program Requirements” (Policy Information Notice #2014-02). The new policy, which applies to grantees and FQHC Look-Alike entities, clarifies various aspects of the sliding fee discount program (SFDP), including development of the Health Center’s fee schedule and sliding fee discount schedule (SFDS); use of multiple SFDS; application of discounts to patient cost sharing amounts and supplies/equipment; cash/prompt pay discounts; discharge of patients due to refusal to pay; and the governing board’s role in establishing and approving the SFDP. **Access the PIN on the HRSA website.**

CLINICAL AFFAIRS

Newly Revised Red Ribbon Week Resources are Now Available

This year’s Red Ribbon Week will be celebrated from October 23 – 31, 2014. Since its beginning in 1985, the Red Ribbon has touched the lives of millions of people around the world and has spread awareness about the dangers of alcohol and other drugs since the first nationwide Red Ribbon Campaign 1988. **Click Here for Drug Free Texas Resources** and **Click Here for the 2014 Healthy Choices Lesson Plan**. **Click here for more information about Red Ribbon Week.**

New Manual for Increasing Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates

The **National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable** has published a manual that provides expert-endorsed recommendations and step- by- step instructions for processes that health centers can implement to increase colorectal cancer screening rates. **View the manual and other colorectal cancer screening resources.**

Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Recommendations

The **Community Preventive Services Task Force** issued **new evidence-based recommendations** on diabetes prevention and control. The Task Force recommends combined diet and physical activity promotion programs for people at increased risk of type 2 diabetes based on strong evidence of effectiveness in reducing new-onset diabetes. **View more information and the Task Force’s recommendations.**

GROUP PURCHASING

Direct Relief PAP Program

Direct Relief has partnered with pharmaceutical manufacturers (AbbVie, Novartis, Johnson & Johnson, and Eli Lilly) to distribute their patient assistance program (PAP) medications more efficiently. The program provides free medications to certified community clinics and health centers through a bulk replacement model for dispensing to qualifying patients. **Click [HERE](#) for more information.**

NEWS

Congratulations to **People's Community Clinic CEO Regina Rogoff** who was named by the **Austin Business Journal as 2014 Non-Profit CEO.**

Congratulations to **CommUnityCare** for receiving **National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) PCMH Level 3 Recognition** for their David Powell and Rosewood Zaragosa centers.

TACHC is happy to welcome Courtney Weaver. Courtney will lead the civic engagement campaign responsible for working with health center leaders, patients and community advocates on critical health policy issues impacting health centers, including closing the coverage gap. Courtney comes to TACHC from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), Medicaid/CHIP Division and has had an array of experiences in advocacy and organizing.

Congrats to **Su Clinica** for **registering 625 new voters** so far this year!

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