



TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up

The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

January 8, 2016

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UPCOMING EVENTS

CFO Data Driven Decision Making, January 12-13, San Antonio

For more information and to register. This training is designed for those who

have some knowledge and context of a community health center finance department program and the typical day to day decisions that are made by finance department personnel. It is optimum to have a minimum of 6 months experience in order to get the most out of the training, but all are welcome.

GOVERNANCE and FINANCE

HRSA Oral Health Service Expansion Grant Funding Available

This HRSA Oral Health Service expansion funding is available to applicants from existing Health Center Program award recipients funded under section 330(e), (g), (h) and/or (i) of the Public Health Service Act. HRSA expects to award 285 grants totaling \$100,000,000. The deadline to apply is January 19, 2016. **More information available here.**

CLINICAL AFFAIRS

TACHC Now Offers LPC Continuing Education Credits

TACHC is pleased to announce that they have been approved by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors to grant Licensed Professional Counselor, LPC, Continuing Education Credits at appropriate TACHC hosted trainings. For more information contact **Verne LaGrega**, Clinical Care Coordinator.

UDS is Coming

It's that time of year again! All FQHCs are required to complete their **HRSA UDS Reporting by February 15, 2016**. If you have any questions about your reporting, please contact TACHC at **billingcoding@tachc.org**. Shortly after February 15, you will receive an email from Nancy Gilliam requesting a copy of your submitted report with instructions on how to download your report. Please get your report submitted to her as soon as you can after receiving the email. TACHC uses this information as we prepare materials for the legislative visits that are part of NACHC's Policy and Issues conference in March.

Applications Request: Advancing Oral Health Equity Learning Collaborative

The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS), in partnership with the DataQuest Foundation, is now accepting applications for the three-month learning collaborative on Advancing Oral Health Equity. Up to five organizations will be selected to receive technical assistance and to participate in a series of three interactive webinars focused on applying an oral health equity framework to current and/or future programs to improve oral health care access, quality and outcomes for Medicaid-enrolled adults. Applications are due to CHCS by 4pm CT, Tuesday, January 12, 2016. For more information, contact **June Glover** or **Stacey Chazin**.

Germ Roundup!

DSHS has added the HPV9 vaccine to the **Adult Safety Net** formulary and has added a MenB vaccine to the **Vaccines for Children** formulary. The CDC is offering a series of webcasts about HPV prevention – the next one will be on January 14th at 3pm Central. There is a manufacturer delay for Pentacel through the Vaccines for Children program and DSHS has recommendations on the **program's website** for how to adjust the recommended schedules. And finally, flu season is here, which means that DSHS is producing **weekly reports on influenza activity**, complete with maps. Oh, and don't forget to wash your hands – computer keyboards are germmy places!

GROUP PURCHASING

Office of Pharmacy Affairs Registration Window Is Here

The next window to register both a clinic site and a retail pharmacy **to be eligible for 340B pricing is January 1-15**. This is also the window if you want to add a new retail pharmacy to contract with for pharmacy services (“bill to/ship to”). When registering in this window of time, the new site will be eligible for 340B pricing effective April 1st.

The registration process occurs electronically via the **OPA website**. *Remember that you cannot register a site to be eligible for 340B pricing till it is listed in the EHB. It is critical for any and all clinic sites that are listed in the EHB to also be listed in the database in order for patients seen at the clinic sites to fill their prescriptions with 340B.* If you have any questions, please contact **Lynn Ford**.

TACHC Endorses 340Basics for Pharmacy Administrative Services

The OPA registration window is open through January 15. If your health center wants to either start or expand its contracts with retail pharmacies by registering during this window, TACHC recommends using **340Basics**. TACHC and 340Basics partner together for a pharmacy administrative service that is efficient and cost-effective for both the health center and the patients. 340Basics can help find retail pharmacies to contract with if needed. If your health center is interested in using the TACHC/340Basics program, please contact **Lynn Ford** to take advantage of the quickly approaching registration window. For more information about the program: **www.340Basics.com/340Better**.

340B Coalition Now Has a Website

The 340B Coalition now has a website: **<http://340bcoalition.org>**. The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) is a member of the coalition. The website has information about 340B, stories, resources and various upcoming events.

OUTREACH

Outreach and Enrollment Update

The **latest CMS snapshot** of total Marketplace enrollment in Texas as of November 1- December 24, 2015 is about 1.1 million.

Certified Application Counselors (CACs) using the TACHC online reporting tool reported over 25,000 assists since the start of open enrollment November 1, 2015. Open enrollment ends January 31, 2016. The **top three challenges** shared by CACs are the rise in health plan premiums, difficulty retrieving passwords from the Marketplace and a decrease in the number of PPO plans available causing many consumers to resort to HMO plans with fewer providers and specialists.

Template Media Release for Clarifying Marketplace Open Enrollment Confusion

TACHC developed a **template media release** clarifying confusion about the actual dates and deadlines for the Health Insurance Marketplace 2016 Open Enrollment period. We are hearing reports from health centers that consumers are concerned that the Marketplace closed, and they no longer can enroll. Contact **Andrea Abel** or **Sonia Lara** for more information.

NEWS

Congratulations to **Coastal Health and Wellness** dentist **Dr. Beverly Foster** who recently was named by the Texas Academy of General Dentistry as one of 17 finalists for the state's Dentist of the Year Award!

TACHC is hiring a **Policy & Research Coordinator** and a **Database Developer**. **View more information or apply.**

Don't miss out. Follow TACHC on **facebook** and **twitter**.

Send **NEWS** about your health center to be considered for inclusion in the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up to TACHC Communications Director **Andrea Abel**.

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