



TACHC
Texas Association of Community Health Centers

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

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NEWS



TACHC's Policy and Research Associate Mary Allen, Civic Engagement Director Courtney Weaver, and Executive Director/General Counsel José E. Camacho delivering a webcast preparing TACHC members for next week's NACHC P & I Forum.

Heading to the NACHC P & I Forum: A Pivotal Time in Health Care

As we head to the [NACHC P & I Forum](#) in Washington, DC, and the American Health Care Act is being voted on, make no mistake: this is a pivotal time in health care. More than ever, we need to get the message across to legislators that health centers are a superb model of delivering comprehensive health services to the medically underserved at a fraction of the cost of other health care models. In fact, it has been calculated that on average, it costs only \$764 a year to provide a patient with a full suite of health care services, including medical, dental, behavioral, substance abuse and vision. TACHC staff held a webcast on Thursday, March 23 to help prepare you for the NACHC P & I Forum and your visits to the Capitol. The webcast was especially helpful in reviewing the contents of the packets you'll be receiving. If you were unable to attend, [here is a link to the webcast!](#) Use the links below to access any document you may need for the NACHC P & I Forum

- [NACHC P & I Documents](#)
- [Congressional District Fact Sheets](#)
- [Congressional District Maps](#)

Registration Now Open for the 2017 National Latino HIV and Hepatitis C Conference

Registration is now open for the [2017 National Latino HIV and Hepatitis C Conference](#) to be held **May 22 – 24** on beautiful South Padre Island, Texas. Your local host Valley AIDS Council and its Westbrook Clinics, are honored to be partnering with South Central AIDS Education Training Center, Denver Prevention Training Center, Doctors Hospital at Renaissance, HIV Connection among others on this ground-breaking event.

We Want to Tell Your Story—Request for Anecdotes

Staff at TACHC are hard at work preparing for the legislative session, and we want to tell your story! Stories resonate with people, and are one of the most compelling ways to communicate. We are seeking anecdotes and success stories that highlight the quality care that you provide every day.

We want to hear your success stories that highlight integrated services, care coordination, and excellent clinical outcomes. Stories that include patient names and pictures are the best, but make sure to get patient consent before sending personal information. However, we would love to hear anonymous stories as well. Please help TACHC to educate policymakers about the outstanding work that you are doing and email [Brom Hoban](#) or [Corinne Medina](#) with your best stories!

UPCOMING EVENTS



TACHC Clinical Conference – Putting the "U" in Value

April 20-22, 2017

Sheraton Georgetown Texas Hotel & Conference Center
1101 Woodlawn Avenue, Georgetown, TX 78628

TACHC's Clinical Conference April 20-22 in Georgetown (Austin area)

TACHC's Clinical Conference will be held April 20-22, 2017 at the Sheraton Georgetown Texas Hotel & Conference Center in Georgetown, TX. This annual conference which is open to all clinical staff provides a mix of innovative concepts along with practical skills-based trainings. This year's theme is "Putting the 'U' in Value." We will be discussing the value of staff and treating them as your most important resource, the value that health centers bring towards patients and their communities, and the current move towards value-based care. The **full agenda** is now available and the group hotel rate closes Monday, March 27. For more information, agenda, or to register, [please click here](#).

PCMH Bootcamp • April 19, 2017 →

REGISTER NOW!

PCMH Bootcamp Registration is Now Open

The **TACHC PCMH Bootcamp 1** will be held on April 19, 2017 at the Sheraton Georgetown Texas Hotel & Conference Center, 1101 Woodlawn Avenue, Georgetown, TX 78628. During this session, participants will receive a PCMH 2017 overview, understand the purpose of team huddles and apply the structure and strategy of team huddles, identify PCMH development issues and strategies at peer health centers, apply learned concepts, identify strategies for furthering PCMH development at the health center and identify immediate next steps and responsibilities amongst the team. Additionally, teams will learn to optimize their PCMH Team and have breakout Sessions for Peer Documentation Review. TACHC HCCN members are eligible for travel reimbursement for one Onsite Group Learning Session (up to \$150 each for up to 4 team members for travel and up to \$150 each for up to 4 team members for lodging).

The PCMH Bootcamp will be held the day before the **TACHC Clinical Conference**. If you want to attend both, then you will need to make a separate registrations.

Complimentary Employment Law Briefings Set for Corpus Christi, McAllen

Ms. Lara C. de Leon has extended the personal invitation to our TACHC membership for two briefings on matters of FMLA/ ADA issues, minimizing employer risk in wrongful termination claims, and the impact of the recent election regarding employment law. Members may recall Ms. de Leon as TACHC's CPI presenter from November 2016. She will be presenting at both briefings in April and there is no cost for attending either event. The briefings will take place in Corpus Christi on April 5, and McAllen on April 6. [Registration & details here](#). Questions? Contact Terri Nugent at of Ogletree Deakins 210) 277-3625 or terri.nugent@ogletree.com

GROUP PURCHASING

Henry Schein's Healthy Lifestyles Healthy Communities Grant

The online invitation for applications for the Healthy Lifestyles Healthy Communities 2017 Program partners is now live. All CHCs that are NACHC members have received the invitation for grant applications direct from NACHC on January 30, 2017. The process is designed to help the Henry Schein Cares Teams determine which CHC partners will be awarded a grant of \$5,000 plus \$5,000 in medical/dental supplies to support the

screening program on the day of the health screening event.

The application for submitting a request can be found [HERE](#). The deadline for applications is April 7, 2017. For more questions, please contact [Andrea Hight](#) or [Lynn Ford](#).

St. David's Foundation Announces Opportunity Grant

St. David's Foundation has launched Opportunity Grants to provide financial support for new approaches to improving community health. We know that many factors outside of the healthcare system affect how healthy we are, and we seek proposals that include innovative, transformative ideas for making Central Texas the healthiest community in the world. The Foundation defines health broadly, and will consider proposals that address any aspect of improving physical or mental health and wellness, particularly among individuals facing health disparities in our community. Opportunity Grants are intended to support short-term projects that have the potential to lead to long-term, transformative impact, and may include (though not limited to) research, planning, or testing of new models. Opportunity Grants are *not* intended to support ongoing operations or scaling up of existing programs. [Details and application here.](#)

POLICY

Bill of the Week: March 24, 2017

Senator Sylvia R. Garcia (*pictured at right*) of Houston filed [SB 1161](#), which allows for unmarried mothers who are minors to consent to examination or medical treatment, other than abortion, related to family planning. This bill also allows for automatic enrollment into the Healthy Texas Women program for women aging out of Medicaid or CHIP. This continuity of care will play an important role in creating better health outcomes for Texas women. Email [Mary Allen](#) with any questions.



Updates for the NACHC 2017 Policy & Issues Forum

- The NACHC Policy & Issues Forum will be held March 29-April 1, 2017 in Washington, D.C. at the Marriott Wardman Park hotel. [Click here for more information](#)
- The State Delegation dinner has been scheduled from 5:45 - 8:00 PM on Wednesday, March 29 in room Washington 4.
- We need to know which state legislators have sent funding cliff letters to Congress. If you know your state Representative or Senator sent a letter, please forward a copy to mallen@tachc.org. Additionally, many centers still have not filled out feedback forms from the state P&I. A link to the [survey can be found here.](#)

Veterans Interest Group Meeting at NACHC P & I Forum

There will be a "Veterans Interest Group" meeting for March 31. The [attached flyer](#) provides information about the Interest Group meeting.



Act Now: Bilirakis-Green House Letter Now Circulating

Similarly to 2015 and 2016, Reps. Gus Bilirakis (FL) and our own Gene Green of Houston are taking the lead on supporting health center funding. A "dear colleague letter" is now circulating, and the deadline to sign on is March 31. With that deadline fast approaching we are asking that you **ACT NOW** by emailing, tweeting, posting or calling your Representative(s) to ask them to support your Health Center by co-signing the Bilirakis-Green Health Center Letter. Last year, Health Center Advocates confirmed 308 co-signers in the

House and 62 co-signers in the Senate – an exceptional show of bi-partisan support for Health Centers. **This year our goal is to increase letter co-signers to 315 in the House and 65 in the Senate.** The number of letter co-signers will have a direct impact on our success in securing Program funding for fiscal year 2018 – we are counting on YOU, our advocates to help us reach our goal!

Healthy Texas Women Contract Renewal Notice

On March 7, HHSC sent out contract renewal packets for the upcoming State Fiscal Years (September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018 & September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019). Contracts went out early this year because HHSC will be updating its contracting system over the summer and their software will not be working during that time. All contracts must be fully executed by June 1 in order to ensure timely payments beginning September 1, 2017. Please review, complete the related documents, and return the documents to HHSC as soon as possible. The contract amendment is in the final stages of completion and will be sent soon for signature. The anticipated contract not-to-exceed amount is based on your center's last executed contract on file. Please be advised that funding for your center's contract is subject to the appropriation of funds. Upon official notification of the 2018-2019 final legislative appropriations, HHSC, in its sole discretion, may adjust the contract award accordingly. If you have any questions or have concerns regarding the requested return date of contract documents, please contact Healthy Texas Women Program at HTWContracts@hhsc.state.tx.us or Mary Allen at TACHC at mallen@tachc.org.

GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

H-1B Premium Processing Suspension

US Citizenship and Immigration Services has announced that beginning on **April 3**, it will suspend for up to six months premium processing on all H-1B petitions. In the past we understand it has taken 4-6 months to process an H-1B petition without premium status. Therefore, prospective employers of J-1 physicians are encouraged to immediately file, if possible, their H-1B petitions to take advantage of premium processing, which as noted above, will terminate on April 3, 2017.

Please let [Anita Mitchell](#) at TACHC know if you currently employ individuals with J-1 or H-1B visas (or plan to) and therefore need more information.

CLINICAL

How to Get Your EHR to Match Reality for UDS Measures on Depression

The event is hosted by SAMHSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions. • Tuesday, March 28, 2:00-3:00 PM. [Register here](#)

Community Health Workers and their Role in the Health Care Team in the Prevention and Control of Hypertension

(Trabajadores de Salud Comunitaria y su rol en el equipo de Atención de Salud en la Prevención y Control de Hipertensión)

The event is hosted by Migrant Clinicians Network, a BPHC-funded NCA. • Wednesday, April 5, 1:00-2:00 PM. (Español) • Wednesday, April 12, 1-2 p.m. (English) [Register here](#)

Improving Oral Health Using Telehealth-Connected Teams: Opportunities for Health Centers

The event is hosted by the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA), a BPHC-funded NCA. • Monday, April 10, Noon-1 p.m. [Register here](#)

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Here are the tools and materials that have been made available as part of building CRC awareness this month:

- **CDC Learning Opportunity: Screening for Colorectal Cancer: Optimizing Quality (CME)**
This continuing education activity provides guidance and tools for clinicians on the optimal ways to implement screening for colorectal cancer to help ensure that patients receive maximum benefit. There are two versions of this course: one for [primary care providers](#) and one for [clinicians who perform colonoscopy](#). [Continuing education](#) is available for both versions.

- **CDC's [Screen for Life campaign](#)** has new and updated materials for you to use in March and throughout the year. You can find them on the new **[Resource Toolkit](#)** for quick one-stop shopping. Many thanks to our colleagues at CDC for their work on these resources!
- **[Colorectal Cancer Facts and Figures](#)**

[Henry Schein's Healthy Lifestyles Healthy Communities Grant \(See Above\)](#)

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

TACHC Upcoming Recruiting Events:

- A.T. Still University Dental Recruitment Fair – St. Louis, MO (3/28/17 – 3/31/17)
- PracticeMATCH – Dallas, TX (3/29/17 – 3/30/17)

Does your center have openings for clinical providers or executive management that you would like us to help you recruit for? **[Complete the TACHC online position profile](#)**. Contact **[Danielle Ramos, TACHC Recruitment Dept. Program Assistant](#)** for more information.

Did you know that the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up is available to ALL TACHC members and ALL your staff? **[Share this link with your health center staff to sign up for the Wrap!](#)**

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 Wrap Editor **[Brom Hoban](#)**.

Sign up to receive the **[TACHC Weekly Wrap Up!](#)**

TACHC · United States

This email was sent to aalvarez@tachc.org. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).