



# TACHC

Texas Association of Community Health Centers

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

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### NEWS

#### Start Planning Now for National Health Center Week!

Now is the time to start planning in earnest for National Health Center Week, which is set for August 13-19. Use the [National Health Center Week website](#) as your go-to resource when planning your activities and to stay current. The website is absolutely invaluable and provides everything you need including:

- [Activities & Events Ideas](#)

- [Public & Civic Support](#)
- [Media Toolkit](#)
- [Social Media Tools](#)
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- [NHCW Webinars and Presentations](#) Remember, start now for success, and post your events [here!](#)

### U.S. Rep. Joe Barton (District 6, Texas) Visits Hope Clinic



U.S. Rep. Joe Barton (District 6, Texas) visited Hope Clinic, formally named the Nell Barton Community Health Center after his late mother, for celebration of the clinic being open one year. Hope Clinic provides health care to Ellis County residents with pay determined on a sliding scale by income. Hope Clinic staff and Barton stand in front of the clinic. See [Ennis Daily News](#) here.

### Congratulations to TACHC Staff Member Anita Mitchell

TACHC would like to congratulate Provider Services Specialist **Anita Mitchell** on her recent accomplishment. Anita has been approved by the American College of Medical Practice Management as a Recertified Medical Staff Recruiter (RCMSR). The RCMSR designation is the highest level of professional recognition in, the Medical Practice Management industry, and has been obtained by only a select number of professionals.




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### We Want to Tell Your Success Stories for National Health Center Week

As we head toward National Health Center Week, 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!

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Remeber Guy Smith from Annual Conference? He's Back!

You asked, we listened! Customer service training is here! The Road to Service Excellence kicked off this week on May 17. Our speaker, Guy Smith, of TACHC Annual Conference in Frisco fame, will continue to lead these all-day customer service trainings in various cities across Texas. The objectives of the training are 1) to identify 3 approaches to breaking your patterns that limit your success, 2) to recognize the importance of prioritizing service standards and 3) to apply 3 tools designed to help you achieve Service Excellence. The first two sessions in San Antonio and Laredo have been incredibly well received. Attendees are feeling "motivated and challenged to think outside the box," and describing Guy as a "fabulous, very interactive speaker that kept everyone involved and alert." Elmo Lopez, CEO of Gateway Community Health Center, urges other leaders to attend after quickly identifying the value of the training for all, but specifically, other CEOs. Don't miss out! There are only three more available locations to attend! [Registration is open for the remaining sessions on the events page of the TACHC website.](#) [View the agenda here.](#) The scheduled trainings are:

- [Lubbock – Tuesday, May 23](#)
- [Tyler – Wednesday, June 14](#)
- [Dallas – Friday, June 16](#)
- [Houston – Tuesday, June 20 \(FULL!\)](#)

Some locations have limited availability, so sign up ASAP! We look forward to seeing you there!

### Financial Trend and Analysis Report Webcast

Please join us on May 31 from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM for the release of the next Financial Trend and Analysis Report (FTA). Sixty health centers provided 2015 audited financials. This allowed TACHC to develop benchmarks for 21 key indicators. During the webcast the most recent report will be unveiled and reviewed. Participating health centers will receive their report which features 25th, 50th and 75th percentile information. The collection of these audits and the development of these reports is to help centers clearly identify what areas of performance they are doing well in. These reports also allow centers to pinpoint opportunities for improvement. [Registration](#) will soon be available on the TACHC web site.

### Save the Date! CEO Institute Coming Soon to Austin

The purpose of the CEO Institute is to provide training, resources and support to help CEOs successfully lead a health center in the ever changing healthcare environment. The training assists in understanding the fiduciary role of the CEO and key health center financial measures. Attendees will also identify and utilize key strategies to ensure a productive CEO/Board working relationship and understand the value of appropriate data in guiding strategic decision-making. Both new CEOs and CEOs looking for a refresher will be able to identify key strategies to achieve high performance at the health center. The training will also provide a face-to-face

networking opportunity to strengthen peer relationships. Join us on June 29 and June 30 at the Kimpton Hotel Van Zandt in Austin, Texas for this unique opportunity. Registration opening soon.

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## **GROUP PURCHASING**

### **340B FQHC Late Registration**

The 340B Program will be accepting Health Center registrations beyond the standard two-week registration period (April 1-15). Health centers will be able to register a site that has been verified as implemented and the site status is reflected as "active" in EHBs Form 5B **through June 9**, after which the system will close to prepare for the July 1 start. A similar quarterly registration timeframe will be employed each quarter.

From the close of the two-week standard registration period through the end of the extended quarterly registration period, once a site is "active" in EHBs, the health center will need to contact the 340B call center to request a "one-time registration link." Health centers will be asked to provide the following information to the 340B call center staff when requesting the link:

- Health center name
- Site/clinic name
- Site IDs for all sites
- HRSA/BPHC grant number
- Contact name and email address
- Authorizing official name and email address

The authorizing official (AO) will receive an email message with the one-time registration link from the Office of Pharmacy Affairs. The AO is encouraged to read the email and follow the instructions carefully. Clicking on the link will take the AO directly to the 340B Program registration database and begin the registration process. The one-time link is valid immediately and can be used multiple times within 24 hours. It will expire if not used within 72 hours of being sent.

To reach the 340B call center that is operated by the 340B Prime Vendor Program, please contact: [apexanswers@340bvp.com](mailto:apexanswers@340bvp.com) or 1-888-340-2787 (Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM.-6:00 PM. EDT).

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## **POLICY**

### **Notice to Pharmacies: Mosquito Repellent Benefit**

Texas covers mosquito repellents for the prevention of the Zika virus. The following notice describes claims processing, eligibility, and benefit information specific to the mosquito repellent benefit for the covered programs listed below. The last page of this document contains a prescription template for claims processing. [Details here.](#)

### **Medicaid 1115 Family Planning Waiver**

HHSC is seeking approval to receive federal matching funds for the Healthy Texas Women (HTW) program through a Medicaid 1115 Family Planning Waiver. The state will apply for \$180 million in federal funding and appropriate \$20 million in General Revenue for the 2018/2019 biennium for this purpose. Although overall funding for the women's health program remains the same, there appears to be a significant cut in family planning funding. [The Healthy Texas Women Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver application](#) was released on May 12. HHSC will be taking public comments on the draft application from May 12, 2017 through June 12, 2017. TACHC will be providing comments to the Commission and all members are encouraged to provide comments as well. For more information, please contact [Mary Allen](#).

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## **GOVERNANCE & FINANCE**

### **Patient Targets Identified**

2017 Patient Target Notifications went out earlier this month. Your center's Authorizing Official and Project Director should have received the current patient target through EHB notification on May 8.

If you have any questions about the patient target or did not receive the notification, you must reach out **by May 22**. Please send all questions and concerns to [BPHPatientTargets@hrsa.gov](mailto:BPHPatientTargets@hrsa.gov).

### **FTCA PAL 2017-03: CY 2018 Application Requirements for Coverage**

FTCA PAL 2017-03 contains the instructions for health centers submitting an FTCA application requesting initial deeming; or an annual FTCA redeeming application for deeming coverage for CY 2018 (January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018). The EHB system will be **begin accepting deeming applications on June 23**.

Applications are due **on or before July 24, 2017** in order to be eligible to be deemed for the entirety of CY 2018 without a gap in coverage.

In order to be deemed or redeemed for the upcoming calendar year, applicants must demonstrate via their FTCA deeming application that they meet FTCA requirements for risk management, claims management, QI/QA, and credentialing and privileging. The [FTCA deeming application](#) and [associated attachments](#) have been updated to reflect these aligned requirements

### **Meet HRSA's After-hours Requirement, Save Money and Increase Continuity of Care for Your Patients**

The nurse advice line, TACHC's newest service offered through group purchasing, went live in early March. This after-hours support service allows patients to speak to registered nurses that will follow triage protocols and be directed to appropriate care options. Reduce the number of patients being unnecessarily sent to the ER when they cannot reach your center and meet HRSAs after-hours requirement with ease. The flat monthly rate is based on unduplicated UDS patient counts, not call volume. There are no additional fees for translation services and the number of calls is unlimited. Unlike other advice lines, you can *encourage* your patients to utilize this service when your center doors are closed and ultimately provide more continuity of care. For more information, please contact [Corinne Medina](#) or [Nancy Gilliam](#).

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## **CLINICAL**

### **Mumps Cases Reported**

There has been an uptick in mumps cases reported in recent weeks. DSHS released [this Health Advisory](#) last month regarding mumps, and we recently received word from a health center that they have seen four cases in the last two weeks alone. Please read the advisory for more information regarding diagnosis, testing, reporting, infection control, and vaccination, and please let us know here at TACHC if you have seen any cases. Please visit this [CDC Mumps page](#) for more resources and additional information. For more information please contact Christina Brito- Tigerina at [cbtigerina@tachc.org](mailto:cbtigerina@tachc.org)

### **Project ECHO for Depression and Alcohol Use Disorder**

TMF Health Quality Institute is sponsoring a Project ECHO collaboration for which they are recruiting primary care practices throughout Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri. It's a great way for clinicians and their office staff to get advice and learn from behavioral health experts. This edition of Project ECHO will focus on Depression and Alcohol Use Disorder. Once a week on Wednesday morning from 12:00 -1:00 PM, the primary care practices will meet with the Project ECHO Subject Matter Expert team at the UT Dell Medical School in Austin via webcam. The session will consist of a didactic material presentation and then a review of cases (which providers will submit ahead of time) in a sort of "virtual rounding." We are recruiting now for Cohort 2, which begins on **May 24** and runs for 12 consecutive weeks. Physicians and NPs (in Texas) can gain 10 CME credits for participation. [Information Page Participation Agreement](#)

### **Save the Date: 13th Annual Women & HIV International Clinical Conference (WHICC)**

Sponsored by the South Central AIDS Education and Training Center (SCAETC), the event will be held on

**Friday June 9, 2017 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM and Saturday June 10, 2017 9:00 AM– 3:00 PM. Key topics include:** HIV in pregnancy, assisted reproduction for people with HIV and Hep C, STDs, and PrEP in women, disparities in women with HIV: migrants, Hispanic, and African Americans and retention in care/access to care issues including substance abuse in women with HIV. [Click Here for Abstract Submission and Registration information.](#) For questions please call Elyse Malanowski (214) 590-1650 or e-mail: [Elyse.Malanowski@phhs.org](mailto:Elyse.Malanowski@phhs.org)



### **May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

According to the UDS in 2015, there were over 7.2 million mental health related visits at HRSA-funded health centers, a 29% increase from 2013. This increase also coincided with a 33% increase in the number of health center patients seeking mental health services between 2013 and 2015. In response to increased need, between 2013 and 2015, health centers increased their capacity to meet the growing demand for mental health services by increasing the number of mental health providers by about 36% (including psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, and other licensed mental health providers). Health centers looking for resources and strategies to incorporate behavioral health into primary health care and other child-serving systems like child welfare and education should [view SAMHSA's list of behavioral health integration resources](#). For more information and mental health resources, visit [MentalHealth.gov](http://MentalHealth.gov) or [SAMHSA](http://SAMHSA).

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### **RECRUITMENT & RETENTION**

#### **Is Your Site Eligible to Recruit NHSC Clinicians?**

Did you know that BPHC-funded Community Health Centers and FQHC Look-alikes are auto-approved for the **NHSC? There's no application to submit or waiting time for approval.** After BPHC approves your site's scope, reach out to your Bureau of Health Workforce [Division of Regional Operations \(DRO\) point of contact](#). Interested sites should read the [2017 NHSC Site Reference Guide](#) for program requirements, as well as the [NHSC Sliding Fee Discount Program Information Package](#).

#### **Would You Like us to Help You Recruit?**

**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.**

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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](mailto:aalvarez@tachc.org). To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).