



# TACHC

Texas Association of Community Health Centers

## WEEKLY WRAP-UP

Volume: 9 Issue: 21

May 26, 2017

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### NEWS

President Trump's FY18 Budget Proposal: What Could It Mean For Health Centers?  
Start Planning Now for National Health Center Week!  
We Want to Tell Your Success Stories for National Health Center Week  
MACRA and FQHCs

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Financial Trend and Analysis Report Webcast  
Remember Guy Smith from Annual Conference? He's Back!  
Coming Soon! 2017 TACHC Salary & Benefits Survey  
Save the Date! CEO Institute Coming Soon to Austin  
TACHC Annual Conference • October 29 - November 1, 2017 • La Cantera Resort & Spa • San Antonio, Texas

#### GROUP PURCHASING

340B FQHC Late Registration

#### POLICY

Governor Abbott Signs "Sanctuary City" Bill  
Medicaid 1115 Family Planning Waiver

#### GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

FTCA PAL 2017-03: CY 2018 Application Requirements for Coverage  
Meet HRSA's After-hours Requirement, Save Money and Increase Continuity of Care for your Patients

#### CLINICAL

Mumps Cases Reported  
Save the Date: 13th Annual Women & HIV International Clinical Conference (WHICC)

#### RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Is Your Site Eligible to Recruit NHSC Clinicians?  
Would You Like us to Help You Recruit?

#### NEWS

##### **President Trump's FY18 Budget Proposal: What Could It Mean For Health Centers?**

On Tuesday, President Trump released his [FY18 budget proposal](#), which reflects the administration's priorities for federal spending in the upcoming fiscal year. The President's budget is a blueprint for national priorities, which is then submitted to Congress. Ultimately, it will be Congress that makes the final budget decisions during the appropriations process. [Read the full story here.](#)

##### **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](#)
- [Finding Sponsors](#)
- [Fact Sheets](#)
- [Materiales En Español](#)
- [NHCW Webinars and Presentations](#) Remember, start now for success, and post your events [here!](#)



### **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!

### **MACRA and FQHCs**

NACHC has produced a brief overview and [FAQ](#) of MACRA, the Quality Payment Program and MIPS applicability to FQHCs. Currently, FQHCs are not subject to MIPS and their payment methodology will not change unless they bill Medicare Part B separately and outside of the FQHC PPS rate. Please contact [Ramona Whittington](#) if you have additional questions.

[Back to Top](#)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### 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 which allows TACHC to develop benchmarks for 21 key indicators. During the webcast the most recent report will be reviewed and participating health centers will receive their report which features 25th, 50th and 75th percentile information. This webcast is FREE! [Click Here for Registration](#)



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

You asked, we listened! Customer service training is here! The Road to Service Excellence kicked off 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 three sessions 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 is only one more available location 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:

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



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### Save the Date! CEO Institute Set for June 29 in Austin

The purpose of the CEO Development Training would be to provide training, resources and support to help new CEOs, or existing CEOs that would like a refresher, successfully lead a health center in the ever changing healthcare environment. The training would assist CEOs to understand the fiduciary role of the CEO, understand key health center financial measures, identify and utilize key strategies to ensure a productive CEO/Board working relationship, identify appropriate data to guide strategic decision-making and identify key strategies to achieve high performance at the health center. The training will also provide a face-to-face networking opportunity for the CEOs in order to strengthen peer relationships. [View the details here.](#) (Hotel reservation deadline is June 14)

[Back to Top](#)

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**TACHC Annual Conference • October 29-November 1, 2017  
La Cantera Resort & Spa • San Antonio, Texas • Save the Date!**



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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: [apexusanswers@340bpvp.com](mailto:apexusanswers@340bpvp.com) or 1-888-340-2787 (Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM.-6:00 PM. EDT).

**Back to Top**

## POLICY

### Governor Abbott Signs "Sanctuary City" Bill

On May 7, 2017, Governor Abbott signed SB 4, the “sanctuary city” bill into law. This legislation will go into effect on September 1, 2017. Please take a moment to [view this memorandum](#) regarding the changes that SB4 makes to local enforcement of immigration laws, and the impact this bill will have on our health centers and patients. We will keep you updated as more information and resources become available. If you have any immediate questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to [Mary Allen](#).

### 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](#).

[Back to Top](#)

## GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

### 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](#).

[Back to Top](#)

### **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)

#### **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)

[Back to Top](#)

### **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](#).