



TACHC
Texas Association of Community Health Centers

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

Volume: 9 Issue: 45

November 10, 2017

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NEWS

Welcome TACHC 2017-2018 Board of Directors



Celeste Harrison



Marcie Mir



Bill Schlessinger

On October 30, during TACHC's Annual Conference, TACHC members elected their new Board of Directors for 2017-2018. We would like to welcome TACHC's newest Board Members, **Celeste Harrison**, **Marcie Mir** and **Bill Schlessinger** (*pictured above*), all of whom are serving their first term on the Board. Membership also elected a new Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. The 2017-2018 Executive Committee is: **Lucy Ramirez-Torres** (Nuestra Clínica del Valle) as President, **Cam Kleibrink** (Frontera Healthcare Network) as Vice President, **Sherry Hill**, MPA (AccelHealth) as Secretary and **Michelle Carter**, MPA-HCA (Community Health Service Agency, Inc.) as Treasurer. To see the full list of TACHC Board Members, click [here](#)

TACHC Affiliate Boards of Directors

During TACHC's Annual Conference, TACHC Affiliates met and conducted Board elections for their respective 2017-2018 Boards. The Community Health Insurance Agency (CHIA) and Corporation for the Development of Community Health Centers (CDCHC) each met and elected executive officers. In addition, the TACHC Purchasing Group (TACHC PG) Membership met and elected new board representatives and executive officers from within the new membership. To see the full list of Affiliates and their Boards of Directors, click [here](#)

Funding Cliff Update: CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS Act Passes House; Now on to Senate

The CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS Act (HR 3922) passed the House on Friday, November 3. The final bill that was passed was an amended version of the CHAMPION Act (HR 3922) that combined it with the HEALTH KIDS Act (HR 3921). [View explainer video here.](#)

"CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS" Act

Top-line Summary of CHAMPIONING HEALTH KIDS Act (HR 3922)

- Extended funding for two years for:
 - Community Health Center Fund
 - National Health Service Corps
 - Teaching Health Center Program
- Extended funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program for five years
- Extended Childhood Obesity Demonstration Project for five years
- Delayed cuts to the DSH program under Medicaid by two years
- Increased Medicaid funding for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands

At this point, we need to shift our attention hard to the Senate, where it will face major challenges. It's important

that the Senate makes fixing the health center funding cliff and CHIP a priority NOW, and not wait any longer to pass final legislation. Please use the below resources for scheduling local district meetings and/or writing letters for Sen. Cornyn and Sen. Cruz or their staff.

- [TACHC Statewide Fact Sheet](#)
- [NACHC Funding Cliff Infographic](#)
- [Senator Cornyn Offices](#)
- [Senator Cruz Offices](#)
- [Talking Points: Conversations with Senators on CHC Funding Cliff](#)
- [TEMPLATE Letter to Senators – Cliff Fix](#)

Legislative Review

85th Legislative Session Wrap-Up: Guide for Community Health Centers Available

If you did not obtain a copy of the TACHC Legislative Review 85th Legislative Session Wrap-Up: Guide for Community Health Centers at the recent TACHC Annual Conference, you're in luck. [You can access the PDF here!](#) The newsletter-style document focuses legislation concerning funding for priority programs and expanding access to health care coverage for Texans and outlines what happened in each priority area. You'll also find summaries of additional legislation TACHC followed throughout the regular session and special session that will have an impact on health centers and the health care environment in Texas. [View the Legislative Wrap-Up Here!](#)

Happy TACHCiversary to the Following:

Lee Davila, November 13, 17 years at TACHC, Lisa Allen, November 1st, 16 years at TACHC and RexAnn Shotwell, November 16, 5 years at TACHC. Congratulations to all of you, and TACHC thanks you for your hard work and dedication.

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Harvey Disaster Relief Grant Applications: UPDATE

TACHC has collected, reviewed and processed all applications for the Harvey Relief Fund. Submissions were received from the staff of 15 different health centers impacted by Hurricane Harvey; the vast majority of which have been deemed eligible. Thanks to generous donations, TACHC was able to grant assistance to every eligible individual who applied. Each of these applicants has or will receive a letter and check for up to \$1,000.00 in the mail.

We did not anticipate such a large response and truly appreciate applicants' patience throughout this process. We ask for your continued patience as checks are still being sent.

TACHC would like to thank every individual and organization that donated to the Harvey Relief Fund. The warmest appreciation goes out to:

- Alexander Hasha, Unknown
- Andrea Martin, Colorado
- Angela R. Rose, Colorado
- Annette Kowal, Colorado
- Camille Goldstein, Unknown
- Catherine Abrams, Unknown
- Center for Family Health, Mississippi
- Chris Butterfield, Unknown
- Colleen Meiman, DC
- Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), Colorado
- Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States (CHAMPS), Colorado
- Corinne Medina, Texas
- Jon Ell Ashbrook, Colorado
- Jonie Sarme, Unknown
- Julie Hulstein, Colorado
- Karen Thompson, Unknown
- Kathleen Morrow, Texas
- Kathryn Wells, Unknown
- Kay Roth, Colorado
- Kersten Lausch, Unknown
- Kristin S. Laux, Colorado
- Lee Davila, Texas
- Maria Tamez, Texas
- McOmber Enterprise LLC, Hawaii
- Mountain Family Health Centers, Colorado
- Oak Orchard Community Health Center,

- Daniel Diaz, Texas
- Diana Shaw, Hawaii
- Direct Relief, California
- Donald Thompson (StayWell Health Care), Connecticut
- Emilia (Mimi) Garcia, Texas
- Eric Frank, Unknown
- Hannaway & Johnson, Colorado
- Henry Schein Cares Foundation, New York
- Holly Kingsbury, Unknown
- Jana Bosse, Arizona
- Jim Gideon, Texas
- New York
- Polly E. Anderson, Colorado
- Rachel Steinberg, Colorado
- Ralph Silber, California
- Rebecca Rice, Wisconsin
- Sheri Buser, Unknown
- Stefanie Lindeman, Unknown
- Su Clinica, Texas
- Taylor Miranda, Unknown
- Valerie L. Steinmetz, Colorado
- Various anonymous donors

With your generosity, we were able to grant assistance to nearly 250 health center staff in 16 counties. **THANK YOU** for your support of Texas FQHCs and the staff that make their mission possible.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

UDS Training

UDS Training is set for December 7 at the Hilton Austin Airport, 9515 Hotel Drive, in Austin. [Click here for information.](#)

November 15 hotel reservation deadline!

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POLICY

Health Center Funding Cliff (see above)

OUTREACH

Marketplace Weekly Enrollment Snapshot

Week one of open enrollment began and already 2.5 million users have visited the healthcare.gov platform. Over 601,000 consumers selected a Marketplace plan for coverage in 2018. With just 5 weeks to go, CACs in community health centers continue to meet shoppers at the front lines. Read more about week one [here](#).

ACA Sign-Up Nov. 1 - Dec. 15! #GETCOVERED

NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?

Most people get financial help to pay for coverage!

Sign up for 2018 health insurance
Nov. 1 - Dec. 15

Get ready to enroll at Healthcare.gov!

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GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

Need a Letter of Support from TACHC?

If you would like to request a Letter of Support, signed by TACHC Executive Director, José Camacho, please email [Corinne Medina](#) along with the project abstract. Once the request and abstract have been received, please allow 2-3 business days for turnaround.

Does Your Center Need a Nurse Advice Line?

If you haven't heard, TACHC recently began offering a Nurse Advice Line through the Group Purchasing program. Following Schmitt-Thompson support protocols, a registered nurse, licensed in the state of Texas, will triage callers when your center doors are closed. This after-hours support service is helping centers significantly alleviate their on-call provider schedules. For some, the nurse advice line is replacing it completely. The service is available 24/7/365, and includes free translation services and unlimited calls. If you would like additional information, please contact [Corinne Medina](#) or [Nancy Gilliam](#).

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CLINICAL

Clinical Best Practices for Improving the Oral Health of Individuals with Substance Use Disorders Webinar

BHW, BPHC, and SAMHSA are hosting a webinar that will identify ways that oral health and behavioral health professionals and safety net health care systems can integrate oral health into the care of patients with substance use disorders. The webinar is set for Thursday, Nov. 16, 2:00-3:30 p.m. [View the webinar the day of the session](#)

Free Webcast on Innovative Models of Patient Engagement

The Center for Care Innovations will host a webcast on Tuesday, November 28 at 10:00 a.m. CST on innovative models of patient engagement. Hosted in partnership with the [UCSF Center for Excellence in Primary Care \(CEPC\)](#), with support from [Blue Shield of California Foundation](#), this webinar is part of an ongoing series on patient engagement. It follows the success of our [Facilitating Care Integration](#) webinar series. [Register now!](#)

New Clinical Directors Training

Oklahoma Primary Care Association (OKPCA) is excited to partner with NACHC to host the New Clinical Directors Training in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma December 8-9, 2017. While the content of this training is designed for *new* Clinical/Medical Directors, it is open to *ALL* Clinical/Medical Directors. For more information about the training, please visit [OKPCA's website](#). There are a limited number of seats available. [REGISTER](#).

Military Culture Training Curriculum Available

A partnership between VA and DoD produced a [Military Culture Training Curriculum for health care professionals](#), which may further assist health centers' professionals in providing culturally competent care to their veteran populations. In addition to the Military Culture Training Curriculum, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has numerous other course offerings available for clinicians and public health providers focusing on topics such as Military Culture in Primary Care and PTSD Military Culture. [Learn more about VHA TRAIN](#).

Hurricane Harvey Information for Providers

Texas Health and Human Services has shared and updated the [Hurricane Harvey Information for Providers FAQ](#). Additional resources can also be found [here](#).
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RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Assessment of Health Professionals

With the support of HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care, the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved is fielding a short assessment to gather information on health centers' current experiences with health professions training activities in order to identify potential areas for resources, training, and technical assistance. This assessment takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and should be completed by all health centers regardless of whether or not they are currently training health professions students or residents. Please preview the questions and complete the [assessment online](#). Contact [Allison Abayasekara](#) VP, Training & Programs. Phone: 703-562-8820

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 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

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