



TACHC

Texas Association of Community Health Centers

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

Volume: 9 Issue: 46

November 17, 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS

Funding Cliff Update
TACHC 34th Annual Conference Audio Recordings
Final Call for TACHC Board Committee Volunteers
Legislative Review: 85th Legislative Session Wrap-Up
Congratulations for PCMH Recognition
Congratulations Tejas Health Care!
Happy TACHCiversary
TACHC's Cecile Carson Speaks at NACHC PCA & HCCN Conference
CDC Emergency Partners - Stay Safe After a Disaster
Harvey Relief Grant: Update

UPCOMING EVENTS

UDS Training

POLICY

Family Planning and Healthcare Resources

OUTREACH

Marketplace Weekly Enrollment Snapshot: Week Two

GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

Need a Letter of Support from TACHC?
Does Your Center Need a Nurse Advice Line?

CLINICAL

2017 Immunization Conference
Free Webcast on Innovative Models of Patient Engagement
Demystifying Barriers to Telehealth Use
Free Webcast: Diabetes Quality Improvement Talks: Foundation of Change
New Clinical Directors Training
Health Center Recovery in Puerto Rico
Hurricane Harvey Information for Providers

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Assessment of Health Professionals
Would You Like Us to Help You Recruit?

NEWS

Funding Cliff Update: Send Your Senator a Message to Support Health Centers
Despite our progress with the extension of health center funding in the House (CHAMPIONING HEALTHY

KIDS Act HR 3922), we must continue to keep the advocacy pressure up and the volume high. Act now by sending [your Senators a message](#) asking them to:

1. [Take immediate action to fix the Health Center Funding Cliff.](#)
2. **Make a public statement about their commitment to immediate action to fix the Health Center funding cliff** – they can do so by posting on social media, releasing a public statement or press release, or publishing a Letter to the Editor/Opinion Editorial. Access template materials to share with their Members of Congress on the [HC Advocacy website](#)

TACHC 34th Annual Conference Audio Recordings

Missed a session or not able to attend the TACHC 34th Annual Conference, or simply want to review what you learned? You're in luck! The TACHC 34th Annual Conference audio recordings are ready, and should be available in a format paired with the PowerPoint presentations as early as next week. If you attended the conference, you will be receiving an email with a link to the recordings. If you did not attend, please stand by for further information!

Have you gotten a chance to view photos from the annual conference? Here they are:

- [Conference and Exhibit Hall](#)
- [Awards Luncheon](#)
- [Centering Workshop](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Final Call for TACHC Board Committee Volunteers

Please see [the committee volunteer form](#) to complete and submit if you would like to get more involved in TACHC. TACHC Board Committees may consist of a variety of health center staff and typically meet via conference call quarterly to review a variety of important topics from TACHC's internal audit and compliance program to its external clinical services and advocacy work. They make recommendations to the TACHC Board for action. This call went out repeatedly starting September 30, so please submit your form by close of business November 21st to be considered for appointment. We look forward to your involvement. Please contact [Cecile Carson](#) for further information.

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 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!](#)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations for PCMH Recognition:

- Brownsville Community Health Center for obtaining Level 3 NCQA PCMH Recognition
- United Medical Centers for obtaining Level 2 NCQA PCMH Recognition
- North Texas Area Community Health Centers for obtaining Level 2 NCQA PCMH Recognition

- Community Health Center of Lubbock for obtaining Level 3 NCQA PCMH Recognition

Congratulations Tejas Health Care!

Tejas Health Care celebrated the opening of their new facility last week in Giddings with several members of the community, health center board and staff present. The new facility will offer medical, dental, behavioral health and WIC services bringing access to comprehensive care closer to the Giddings community. TACHC staff, Sonia Lara and RexAnn Shotwell, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony. "The new facility is beautiful and is located in a key area where patients have access to a number of community resources," remarked Shotwell.



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.

[Back to Top](#)



TACHC's Cecile Carson Speaks at NACHC PCA & HCCN Conference

TACHC's Cecile Carson, Esq., Director of Legal Affairs, spoke on responding to Hurricane Harvey at the NACHC PCA & HCCN Conference in Austin on Nov. 14. Tina Wright, Program Manager, Emergency Management and Public Information, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers; Alex Romillo, President and CEO, Health Choice Network, Inc.; and Katia Leon Baranda, Program Development and Policy Manager, Asociación de Salud Primaria de Puerto Rico, Inc. also shared their perspectives from PCAs and HCCNs on Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

CDC Emergency Partners - Stay Safe After a Disaster Recovering in the Aftermath of Hurricanes

The information below can help those faced with recovering in the aftermath of Hurricanes [Harvey](#), [Irma](#), [Maria](#), and Nate.

- Updated information regarding children and mold exposure,
- Added messages on [solid waste](#) and debris removal,
- Expanded information on [rodent control](#),
- New messages on [rabies](#),
- [Help](#) for people experiencing depression or suicidal thoughts,
- Updated resources for people with cancer and diabetes, and

- Updated information on the [Strategic National Stockpile](#).

[View the full CDC Bulletin Here](#)

Harvey Relief Grant: Update

TACHC has completed the review and processing of all applications. All applicants will receive notice of eligibility or ineligibility in the mail to the address provided on their application. TACHC would like to again thank the generous donors who made this possible and the applicants for their patience throughout this process. We ask for your continued patience as checks and notices go out. If you have not received notice by the first week of December, please reach out to our offices at 512-329-5959.

[Back to Top](#)

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](#).

[Back to Top](#)

POLICY

Family Planning and Healthcare Resources

HHSC has developed outreach materials for healthcare providers and other stakeholders to help educate women about the state's women's health programs. Available materials include general program information and health topic fact sheets and can be ordered [here](#). Additionally, HHSC has created a [library](#) of social media videos for organizations to share on their own social media platforms. For more information, please email mallen@tachc.org

Health Center Funding Cliff (see above)

OUTREACH

Marketplace Weekly Enrollment Snapshot (Week Two)

In [week two](#) of open enrollment, 876,788 consumers selected a plan in the Marketplace totaling over 1.4 million consumers and surpassing last year's figures in the first two weeks. More detailed reports from CMS that look at plan selections across the Marketplace, including both states using the HealthCare.gov platform and State-based Marketplaces using their own enrollment platforms are expected to be available in the upcoming weeks.

A promotional banner for ACA sign-up. The top bar is blue with white text: "ACA Sign-Up Nov. 1 - Dec. 15!" on the left and "#GETCOVERED" on the right. The main background is green with a white border containing the text: "NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?" in large white letters, "Most people get financial help to pay for coverage!" in smaller green letters, and "Sign up for 2018 health insurance Nov. 1 - Dec. 15" in white. The bottom bar is blue with white text: "Get ready to enroll at Healthcare.gov!" and a small logo on the left.

[Back to Top](#)

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](#).

[Back to Top](#)

CLINICAL

2017 Immunization Conference

The Texas Immunization Conference is coming up on November 28-30, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency San Antonio Riverwalk. You can register for the conference, find more information, and book a hotel room at [TexasImmunizationConference.com](#). The Texas Department of State Health Services will have a TISWG meeting after the Texas Immunization Conference from 12:00-2:30 PM on November 30, 2017. If you can come in person please RSVP [here](#), but if you are unable to be there we will have a [webinar that you can sign up for here](#). The Immunization Unit would like to use this TISWG to explore whether childcare facilities should have an annual flu vaccine requirement for children 6-59 months of age. Additionally, we will be discussing DSHS's *streptococcus pneumoniae* plan as part of the recent legislative initiative. If you have any stakeholders or colleagues that would find this information helpful, please share this with them. Please contact Linc Allen at Linc.Allen@dshs.texas.gov if you have any further questions

Free Webcast on Innovative Models of Patient Engagement

The Center for Care Innovations will host a webcast on Tuesday, November 28 at 10:00 AM 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!](#)

Demystifying Barriers to Telehealth Use

HITEQ is hosting a webinar **Tuesday, November 28 at 2:00 PM CST**. This webinar will discuss the current state of telehealth use by health centers and the barriers to implementation and use. We will introduce participants to the national and regional Telehealth Resource Centers (TRCs) and provide information about how to access their resources and technical assistance. [Click Here for More Information or to Register](#)

Free Webcast: Diabetes Quality Improvement Talks: Foundation of Change

On Tuesday, December 5, from 1:00 PM-2:30 PM CST, the BPHC is launching a series of interactive webinars aimed at quality improvement of diabetes care at HRSA-supported health centers. We invite health centers and Health Center Program strategic partners to join us to learn more about BPHC's diabetes quality improvement strategy and hear promising practices from health centers. [Join the webinar the day of the session](#) then Call-In: 888-603-9609 and use Passcode: 818 4117. CME/CE will be available.

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](#).

Health Center Recovery in Puerto Rico

In the weeks since Hurricane Maria ravaged Puerto Rico, the island has struggled to recover from unprecedented devastation. Community health centers, which serve as medical homes for more than one in ten of the island's residents, have been at the front lines, serving a critical role as first responders to a humanitarian and public health crisis. A new report by the Geiger Gibson/[RCHN Community Health Foundation](#) Research Collaborative at the Milken Institute School of Public Health details how one month after the hurricane, 83 of Puerto Rico's 93 community health center sites are open, but care is anything but routine. The full report is available here: [Puerto Rico's Community Health Centers: Struggling to Recover in the Wake of Hurricane Maria](#)

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](#).
[Back to Top](#)

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

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