



TACHC

Texas Association of Community Health Centers

TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up Volume: 9 Issue: 7

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NEWS

Texas Community Health Center Day at the Capitol Momentum Continues

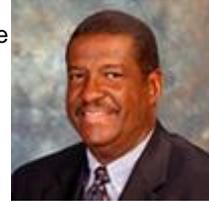
TACHC members left Austin energized after Texas Community Health Center Day at the Capitol, which took place on January 31, the second day of TACHC's Policy & Issues Forum. About 175 community health center leaders and staff attended, with 90 visits to Texas legislators at the Capitol. The momentum continues with [TACHC's Community Health Center Day at the Capitol video](#). Please share it!

What are Block Grants, and How Might They Affect Community Health Centers?

What are block grants? And would they be harmful for community health centers? Since its creation in 1965, Medicaid has been an open-ended entitlement. If more people become eligible because of a recession, or if costs go up because of the use of expensive new medicines, states receive more federal money. Block grants, currently being proposed at the Federal level, would change that by capping the amount each state gets, potentially resulting in cuts to critical services for our most vulnerable populations, including children of low income families, people with disabilities, and seniors. [Watch TACHC's short informational video to learn more.](#)

Stan McKee to Receive NACHC Grassroots MVP Award

Stan McKee (*pictured at right*), Senior Manager for Customer Relations at Oncor, and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors at Community Health Service Agency, Inc. will be receiving the NACHC Grassroots MVP Award. The award is given in recognition for his outstanding efforts to ensure that members of Congress actively supported Health Centers and for his tireless work to establish and expand grassroots advocacy efforts at Community Health Service Agency, Inc. If you are going to the NACHC 2017 Policy & Issues Forum, please help celebrate McKee's recognition by attending the award presentation during the Healthcare Leadership Reception and Awards, Thursday evening, March 30, 6:30 PM-9:00 PM at the Newseum. [View the full NACHC 2017 Policy & Issues Forum schedule here.](#)



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!



Project Vida Health Center to be Recognized at Capitol

TACHC's Community Development Specialist Nancy Gilliam (*pictured above*) led the way during a strategic planning session at Project Vida Health Center in El Paso. Project Vida Health Center will be recognized during "El Paso Days" in the Texas Legislature in Austin at the State Capitol on February 22. Resolutions recognizing completion of Project Vida's 25 years of comprehensive service, 1991-2016, will be read on Wednesday, February 22, 10:00 AM., in the Texas House of Representatives; and at 11:00 AM. in the Texas Senate. No formal invitation is needed.

Urgent: Short National Health Center Survey on Potential Impacts of ACA Repeal

NACHC has collaborated with the George Washington University and the RCHN Foundation to rapidly develop and field a national survey of health centers that would document the potential impacts of an ACA repeal on health centers and their patients. This short survey was just fielded to all health centers, and CEOs should have received an email invitation to participate. Please take the time to complete this survey as soon as possible so we can collect this vital information. The full survey can be previewed [here](#). If you think you should have received the survey and did not, please email ggprogram@gwu.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration Open for Medicare and Texas Medicaid FQHC Cost Reporting Webinar!

The Medicare FQHC cost report and the Texas Medicaid crosswalk are documents that are oftentimes confusing and misunderstood by health center management teams. This FREE webinar, held on February 24 at 9:00 AM, will help participants gain a better understanding of the new Medicare FQHC cost report form (Form CMS-224-14) released by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) during April 2016. In addition, participants will gain a better understanding of the Texas Medicaid FQHC crosswalk. It is important for health center management teams to understand the cost reporting issues of significance that drive the calculation of this crosswalk and to understand the scope change process in the state of Texas. To register, please visit the [TACHC Events Page](#).

TACHC HIT Summit!

The TACHC HIT Summit is March 1-3, 2017 at the Airport Hilton in Austin, TX. The summit is open to all members and all are encouraged to attend. HCCN members, as part of the grant, are authorized for up to 4 people from your center to receive up to \$150 for travel and \$150 for lodging for each member as part of attendance. The final day of the summit is set aside for EHR training on the two most member utilized EHRs; NextGen and eCW. For more information please visit the [TACHC Events Page](#) where you will find an agenda packed with important need to know topics.



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. Registration is now open. For more information or to register, [please click here](#).

GROUP PURCHASING

340B "Mega-Guidance" Withdrawn

HRSA recently [withdrew its 340B Program Omnibus Guidance](#), also referred to as the "Mega-Guidance." The guidance would have addressed questions and provided clarifications for enrolled covered entities, drug manufacturers and contract pharmacies participating in the 340B Program. The withdrawal of the 340B Omnibus Guidance comes 10 days after the new federal administration's regulatory freeze that required that federal agencies not issue any new guidance and regulations, retract guidance and regulations under review by the Office of the Federal Register and postpone released guidance and regulations that have not yet taken

effect.

340B Annual Re-certification - CLOSING SOON

The latest from HRSA is that **still over a third of the health centers have not yet recertified for 340B**. There are only several days left to complete the process. Failure to complete the recertification by 2/22/17 will result in removal from the 340B Program.

The CEO of each health center should have received an email from HRSA with instructions on how to complete the recertification process. If not, please let [Lynn Ford](#) know right away. Once the recertification process is complete, a confirmation email from HRSA will be sent. For more information about recertification, including a user guide, please visit the [HRSA website](#).

POLICY

Bill of the Week: Friday, February 17, 2017

SB 53: Senator Zaffirini of Laredo filed a bill relating to the period of continuous eligibility for Medicaid. [SB 53](#) provides for a period of continuous eligibility for a child less than 19 years of age who is determined to be eligible for medical assistance. The child would remain eligible for medical assistance, without additional review by the Commission and regardless of changes in the child's resources or income, until the earlier of the first anniversary of the date on which the child's eligibility was determined or the child's 19th birthday. Contact [Mary Allen](#) with any questions or for more information.

P&I Feedback Forms

THANK YOU to everyone who made it to the Capitol visits during TACHC's P & I Forum! If you have not done so already, please submit all feedback forms so that TACHC can follow-up as necessary. A link to the online evaluations can be found [Here](#).

Registration Open for the NACHC 2017 Policy & Issues Forum

[Registration](#) for the NACHC Policy & Issues Forum is now open. The meeting will be held March 29-April 1, 2017 in Washington, D.C. at the Marriott Wardman Park hotel. We encourage all health center advocates and board members to join as healthcare issues will be at the forefront of the new administration's agenda. The focus at P&I will be to preserve Medicaid and the unique role of health centers, as well as ensure strong funding to enhance health center capacity. [Click here](#) to register.

Policy & Advocacy Update Webinar on February 22

Join NACHC Advocacy and Federal Affairs staff on February 22 at 2:30 PM CST for a Policy & Advocacy Update Webinar to give you the latest on the post-election environment in Washington, DC, policy priorities for the Health Centers Program, and key advocacy steps for immediate action. Register [here](#).

Save the Date: National Health Center Week 2017 Will Take Place August 13-19

It's never too early to start planning! Go ahead and mark your calendars for NHCW 2017, August 13-19. The theme this year is "Celebrating America's Health Centers: The Key to Healthier Communities". As you start your planning, please send along any high-resolution photos from past NHCW events that we can use to promote this important celebration online. Send photos to grassroots@nachc.org.

Federally Mandated Provider Enrollment for Federally Qualified Health Centers Frequently Asked Questions

Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) has released a list of [frequently asked questions](#) regarding federally mandated provider enrollment in Medicaid for FQHCs. This document clarifies several of the issues health centers faced last year during the Medicaid enrollment process. Please reference the PDF as you continue with new enrollment/re-enrollment. For more information, please contact TACHC's Policy & Research Associate [Mary Allen](#).

GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

2017 TACHC Membership Dues Deadline

The notice for the 2017 **TACHC membership dues** was emailed to each Executive Director in early January. Full or partial payment (as per Payment Policy), **must be received by TACHC by 3/1/16** (new this year: postmarked not acceptable, must be received by TACHC by 3/1). If you have any questions about the

dues payment process, please contact [Lynn Ford](#) or [Danielle Ramos](#).

2016 Update to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to HRSA UDS Sealant Measures

Developed under a HRSA cooperative agreement and in consultation with oral health specialists, the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) has provided an update to the frequently asked questions ([FAQ](#)) about the UDS sealant measure for children ages 6-9 years at moderate to high risk for caries. The 2016 revised FAQ answers 34 questions asked during NNOHA training and technical assistance sessions and webinar.

CLINICAL

PCMH Bootcamp

TACHC is offering a FREE PCMH Bootcamp starting Tuesday, February 28 and continuing through July. In partnership with Community Health Solutions, the Bootcamp will help health centers either attain or maintain PCMH recognition through a combination of face-to-face group learning sessions, webinars, weekly virtual office hours, and an online support portal. Space is limited to 25 health centers. To reserve your spot, contact [Verne LaGrega](#) by Friday, February 24. For more information, [please click here](#).

Beyond Projects and Programs: 5 Steps to Patient-Centered Culture Change Webinar

This webinar on Wednesday, Feb 22, 2017 From 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CST, will be hosted by the [Patient Centered Primary Care Collaboratives \(PCPCC\)](#), is designed for clinician leaders, practice administrators, and Practice Transformation Network (PTN) quality coaches interested in developing a sustainable 'culture' that supports meaningful patient and family engagement. [Click Here to Register](#). Don't miss the opportunity to hear the perspectives of two experts'- one with experience in practice redesign, and one with experience as a family caregiver interacting with health care delivery systems.

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](#).