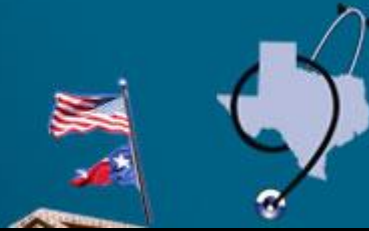




# TACHC



The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

Weekly Wrap-up - April 20, 2012

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*Patient Exam  
Frontera Healthcare Network,  
Eden, TX*

## Upcoming Events

### [TACHC May CPI Webcast Training: How to Address “No-shows” & Keep Appointments Filled Part 1 of 2](#)

*May 18, 2012, 9:00am to 11:00am CST*

Presenters will describe the importance of measuring and reducing the no-show rate, and how to do so. Presenters will assign center participants the measurement of their rate and a set of interventions on which to report back next month. Centers that are participants in the TACHC ACO who are not in the full OC3 Learning Year 2012-2013, and who have no-show rates of 30% or above (or unknown rates), are required to send participants to the webcast.

**NEW: Registration for all CPI Webcast Trainings is for two webcasts, Parts 1 and 2, at once.** Thus, please register for May and June 2012 CPI Webcasts by logging in, clicking the Register button, and paying for one registration covering both months.

Information regarding all upcoming events hosted by TACHC can be found [HERE](#).

## Governance and Finance

**1. TACHC Response to USA Today Article on Community Health Center Quality:** On April 17, 2012, Kaiser Health News and USA Today published “[Community Health Centers Under Pressure to Improve Care](#).” Underscoring that we live in an era of transparency, the article links to UDS data from health centers across the county and identifies health centers by name. TACHC released a response to the article that you can read [HERE](#). You can view NACHC’s statement [HERE](#).

**2. HHSC Regional Advisory Committee Meetings:** The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will hold a series of Medicaid and CHIP Regional Advisory Committee meetings throughout the next several weeks. During these meetings, HHSC will provide an update on the Medicaid managed care expansion, the 1115 Transformation Waiver, the Women’s Health Program, and other programmatic and policy changes in the Medicaid program. For an updated schedule of these meetings, please click [HERE](#).

**3. Texas House of Representatives Committee on County Affairs El Paso and Austin Public Hearings on 1115 Transformation Waiver:** The House Committee on County Affairs will hold a public hearing at the University of Texas at **El Paso** in the Union Building on **April 26, 2012 at 10:00 AM**. The Committee will hear testimony on several interim charges including the Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program Medicaid 1115 Waiver. The Committee will also hold a public hearing in **Austin** on **May 1, 2012 at 10:00 AM** where it will hear invited testimony on the 1115 Transformation Waiver. Click [HERE](#) to view the hearing notices and details about the locations.

**4. Hogg Foundation RFP - 2012 Integrated Health Care Planning and Implementation Grants:** The Hogg Foundation invites nonprofit behavioral health and primary care providers in Texas to submit proposals for integrated health care planning and implementation activities. The foundation is funding this program to support

behavioral health and primary care providers as they integrate behavioral and physical health care services, with the ultimate goal of making integrated health care the standard practice in Texas. View proposal details, including eligibility, deadlines and submission information [HERE](#). Please read the request for proposals thoroughly before submitting a proposal. Feel free to forward this invitation to others who may be eligible or interested.

**5. TMHP Meaningful Use Portal:** For eligible professionals (EPs) who are participating in the Texas Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, the state portal is now open for year 2 attestation via the [Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership \(TMHP\) website](#). As a reminder, the Texas portal has been open for AIU attestation (year 1 participation) since March of 2011. Providers who are ready for meaningful use attestation may now access the MU portal. The attached article provides the announcement and instructions on how to access the portal.

**6. TACHC Registration for the Advanced Billing Managed Boot Camp is Open—Only 4 Spots Left!** This 2-day training will be held in Austin on **June 11-12, 2012**. Because sessions will examine in more detail the concepts taught in the previous boot camps, focusing more on the individual characteristics and needs of your health center, we are limiting registration to those who attended a regular Billing Manager Boot Camp, either in October 2011 or February 2012. \*If you did not attend a regular boot camp but are interested in the advanced event, please DO NOT register online for the advanced boot camp, as we will have to cancel your registration. Instead, please email [Shelby Tracy](#) directly for information on your options. The Advanced Billing Manager Boot Camp will also be limited to 25 participants, so make sure to register soon in order to reserve your spot. This will be the only session of this type to be offered by TACHC, so don't miss out on this opportunity! Click [HERE](#) to register for this event.

**7. US DHHS Region VI Office of Minority Health RFPs:** The Region VI Office of Minority Health announced two funding opportunities last week. The opportunities are intended to support projects, activities, or events in Region VI that address [cardiovascular health](#) and [local environmental justice and public health issues](#), targeted to racial/ethnic and underserved populations. Proposals are due on **April 30, 2012 at 5:00 PM CST**.

## Clinical Affairs

**1. TACHC Clinical Director Institute:** Attention all Chief Medical Officers, Chief Dental Directors, and Behavioral Health Directors, please join your fellow colleagues this year for an interactive 2-day session that will help you prepare for the upcoming challenges at your community health center. [The Institute](#) will be **July 27-28, 2012** at the Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel, 701 Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 788701. Presentations include, but not limited to: “Accountable Care, the Sustainability Model”, “How to Spread the Knowledge or Proper Coding and Improve the Skills of CHC Providers”, “ICD-10 Coding for Clinicians”, “Peer Review” and “How to Manage Physicians in Good Times and Bad”. Registration will be available on the TACHC Website, Events Page in the near future. For more information, contact [Davelyn Eaves Hood, MD, Director of Clinical Affairs](#) at the TACHC office, 512-329-5959, Ext. 2130.

**2. National Prescription Drug Take Back Event:** The 4<sup>th</sup> National Prescription Drug Take Back Event will occur on **April 28, 2012 from 10 am to 2 pm**. The purpose of this event is to provide community members a way to safely dispose of unused or expired drugs. By safely disposing of drugs you can help protect family members from accidental poisoning, our environment from pollution and reduce misuse. To find out more information, click [HERE](#) or to search by zip code for a collection point in your area, click [HERE](#).

**3. FTCC U.S./Mexico Border Collaborative Trainings:** The TX/OK AIDS Education & Training Center (TX/OK AETC) in collaboration with Federal Training Center Collaborative (FTCC) partners invites you to participate in a series of webinars/trainings specifically geared towards clinicians working in community health centers on the US-Mexico border and dealing with HIV-related issues. Continuing education will be offered for

some of these trainings. For more information, click [HERE](#) to view details and to register!

### **Recruitment and Retention**



**National Health Service Corp Application Cycles Open!** Application cycles for the National Health Service Corp Scholarship Program and Loan Repayment Program are open for providers at eligible centers! Applications for the [Scholarship Program](#) are due **May 8, 2012** and applications for the [Loan Repayment Program](#) are due **May 15, 2012**.

### **Other News**



**1. Houston Area Community Services Honored:** HACS will be honored with a H. Geiger Award from the National Center of Health for Public Housing at their annual conference in May 2012. Awards are presented to health centers who have shown excellence in program management, improvement, development and/or analysis. The CEO, Joe C. Fuentes, Jr., MBA, will accept the award on HACS's behalf. For more information, click [HERE](#).

**2. Dr. Stephen McKernan on PBS:** On Tuesday evening Dr. Stephen McKernan, CEO of Lone Star Community Health Center, and member of the TACHC Board of Directors, represented Texas health centers and their patients on the McCuiston Program, a Dallas-Fort Worth PBS Program. Dr. McKernan was invited to participate in a panel discussion on women's health care with particular emphasis on how family planning cuts will impact access to services and the uncertainty that surrounds the future of the Women's Health Program. For more information on the Program, click [HERE](#).

**3. TACHC Member News:** To learn what your fellow health centers are involved in, click [HERE](#) for news coverage. We also encourage you to post your news, questions and comments to each other on the TACHC members listserv ([members@tachc.org](mailto:members@tachc.org)), where only TACHC executives or their designees are recipients.



If you would like to be removed from this mailing, please send a message to [ccarson@tachc.org](mailto:ccarson@tachc.org), and we will remove your name from our list as soon as possible.

## Meaningful Use Attestation Portal is Now Open for Eligible Professionals (EPs)

If you are participating in the Texas Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program and have already successfully attested to first year requirements (Adopt, Implement, or Upgrade), **you may begin attesting to receive 2012 Stage 1 Meaningful Use incentives.** As a reminder, eligible professionals (EPs) must attest to patient volume, eligibility, and other program requirements for each year of participation. Starting with the second year of participation, EPs must annually attest to meeting meaningful use requirements.

To attest to meeting Stage 1 Meaningful Use requirements and receive a payment for Program Year 2, go to [www.tmhp.com](http://www.tmhp.com), log into your account, scroll to “Manage Provider Account”, and click on the “Texas Medicaid EHR Incentive Program” link.

As a reminder, the following resources are available:

- Getting started with the Electronic Health Record Incentive Program:  
[http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/HealthIT/HIT\\_EHR\\_GettingStarted.aspx](http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/HealthIT/HIT_EHR_GettingStarted.aspx)
- Frequently asked questions: [http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/HealthIT/HIT\\_EHR\\_FAQ.aspx](http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/HealthIT/HIT_EHR_FAQ.aspx)
- Meaningful use and clinical quality measures for eligible professionals:  
[http://www.tmhp.com/TMHP\\_File\\_Library/HealthIT/MU-CQMs%20Summary-EPs.pdf](http://www.tmhp.com/TMHP_File_Library/HealthIT/MU-CQMs%20Summary-EPs.pdf)
- CMS EHR meaningful use overview:  
[http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/30\\_Meaningful\\_Use.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/30_Meaningful_Use.asp#TopOfPage)

Please contact [HealthIT@tmhp.com](mailto:HealthIT@tmhp.com) or 1-800-925-9126, option 4, if you have questions.