

# TACHC



The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

Weekly Wrap-up - December  
21, 2012

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*Patient Exam at  
Amistad Community Health Center  
Corpus Christi, TX*

## Upcoming Events

### [TACHC January CPI Webcast: Improving Cervical Cancer Screening](#)

*Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 9am to 11am CST*  
TACHC has partnered with the American Cancer Society to review the current guidelines and to look at the effective ways to increase cervical cancer screening in a safety net environment. This webcast will be Part 2 of a two part series. Centers will be asked to discuss any barriers that they have had with cancer screening and how they plan to overcome them, and to discuss any project ideas that they may have. For more information contact [Verne LaGrega](#) at TACHC. To register for this event, click [HERE](#).

**NOTE: Registration for all CPI Webcast Trainings is for two webcasts, Parts 1 and 2, at once.** Thus, please register for December and January 2013 CPI Webcasts by contacting [TaSheena Mitchell](#) at TACHC, and paying for one registration covering both months. **\*If you missed the December CPI training, you will be able to access it via the [Community Health Learning Network \(CHLN\)](#) website.** For more information contact [Verne LaGrega](#) at TACHC.

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

## Governance and Finance

- 1. TACHC Receives HCCN Grant:** Congratulations HCCN members, our work together will be grant supported for the next three years! Click [HERE](#) for details.
- 2. HRSA Final 2012 UDS Reporting Manual:** Since the TACHC UDS Training, we have received notice of the final 2012 UDS reporting manual. Please note that reporting of agricultural workers by Migrant Grantees will not be changing, as was stated at the training. The final manual is available [HERE](#).
- 3. Texas Medicaid Meaningful Use Incentive Deadline for 2012 Participation:** In order to receive

payment for 2012 participation, eligible professionals in the Texas Medicaid EHR Incentive Program have a deadline approaching in March 2013. Click [HERE](#) or see the attachment for details.

**4. Texas Medicaid Application Changes:** Please see the attached Bulletin from the Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership (TMHP). Highlights include: 1. All newly enrolling Medicaid providers need to use the new, ACA compliant Medicaid application that should be available on the PEP as of today. Ordering and referring only providers should use the ordering/referring version of the application. 2. All existing Medicaid providers need to submit an addendum to your Medicaid application to be ACA compliant, which will be available after January 1, 2013. 3. FQHCs are considered institutional providers and will have to pay an enrollment fee to Medicaid when enrolling a new site or re-enrolling a current site. Note that only one fee should be paid in a calendar year, so if you have already paid the enrollment fee to Medicare you will not have to pay it to Medicaid. The fee is \$532 for CY 2013. Individual providers do not have to pay the fee. 4. Do not attempt to re-enroll your sites in Medicaid until you are contacted by TMHP (the same as is required in Medicare).

Questions? Contact [Shelby Tracy](#) at TACHC.

**5. TACHC Policy & Issues Forum (P&I), January 28-29, 2013:** TACHC will be convening a Policy and Issues Forum (TACHC P&I Forum) in Austin at the Omni Austin Hotel Downtown. The purpose of the TACHC P&I Forum is to update our health center membership on critical state policy issues impacting FQHCs and our patients, review the TACHC state legislative agenda and educate our state legislators on the good work your health center is doing in their district. It is our goal to meet with all state legislators that have health centers in their district during these two days to promote the health center model and deliver a unified message on health center priorities. See the attachments that include all health centers located by House and Senate districts. Please review the attached lists to ensure that your health centers are listed in the appropriate district(s). Please note, there has been some shifting of centers between various districts due to redistricting; if you notice a discrepancy, please let [Jana Blasi](#) at the TACHC offices know.

There are many legislative districts with multiple health centers as a result of the tremendous growth of the health center program over the last decade. It is very important that no more than one meeting be scheduled with each elected official. To help ensure coordination of meetings, a lead health center has been identified for each Texas House and Senate member with a health center in their district. The lead health center will contact and schedule a meeting with the member and coordinate with other health centers to attend that one meeting with your representative(s). The “lead health center” merely has an administrative role and other health centers in these districts are encouraged to attend the visit and participate fully in these meetings. **If you are listed as the “lead center” for a House and/or Senate member, please contact their office and schedule a meeting on January 28th (preferably in the afternoon) and/or January 29th.** Once the meeting is scheduled, contact the other health centers in that district and let them know the date/time of the meeting (attached is a contact sheet with health center contact information). **If you are listed as a lead center and DO NOT plan to attend the TACHC P&I, please let [Jana Blasi](#) know immediately so she can reassign the meeting to another health center.** TACHC will be responsible for scheduling visits with state leadership – Governor Perry, Lt. Governor Dewhurst, Speaker Straus, Senator Tommy Williams and Representative Jim Pitts – and will coordinate with all health centers in their districts, if appropriate, to also attend those meetings with leadership.

Room rates at the Omni Austin Hotel Downtown are \$189/single or \$209/double. This special rate is available until 5pm Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. Self-parking is reduced to \$10/day. Call 1-800-THE-OMNI to

make your reservation today. In addition, each guest can receive a \$38.00 value with the Omni Loyalty Program – Select Guest. Click [HERE](#) to enroll and receive the following complimentary amenities:

- Internet in your guestroom
- Morning beverages delivered to your room
- Pressing of two clothing items
- Shoe shine
- Bottled water – arrival night

Click [HERE](#) to register for this event.



**1. Texas DSHS Free Lead Poisoning Prevention Guidelines:** The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) convened a Screening Advisory Group and developed Lead Poisoning Prevention Guidelines for Prenatal Care Providers in Texas. These guidelines will serve to prevent and identify lead poisoning in women of childbearing age, pregnant women and postpartum women. They also provide reference information for the follow-up management of lead poisoning in pregnant women, postpartum women, and neonates. The guidelines are available [HERE](#). If you would like to receive printed copies of the guidelines, please contact Jennifer Karnik at (800) 588 – 1248, extension 6317 or at [Jennifer.Karnik@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Jennifer.Karnik@dshs.state.tx.us).

**2. Texas CVD & Stroke Partnership Resources:** The Texas CVD and Stroke Partnership recently released the attached “The *Reducing Cardiac Risk Factors* QIO Toolkit” and Million Hearts Initiative *Science-In-Brief*. Please feel free to review and share with others. The Texas Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Partnership is the network of partners from across the state representing state and local public and private health care, university, non-profit, business and community sectors. The Partnership will work in coordination with the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke to plan, implement and evaluate heart disease and stroke prevention programs and policies within the state. Click [HERE](#) for further information or contact [Cecily E. Brea, M.Ed, Program Specialist](mailto:Cecily.E.Brea@dshs.state.tx.us) with DSHS.

**3. TACHC Partnership with AmeriCares Offering Free Flu Vaccines, Tdap Vaccines and Other Items:** TACHC is now collaborating with AmeriCares who is a global health and humanitarian response non-profit dedicated to responding to the needs of the health care safety-net around the world. Their ongoing U.S. medical assistance program provides **free medications, vaccines, medical supplies and hygiene items** to health centers across the U.S. to assist uninsured patients that are at or under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. All shipping costs are covered by AmeriCares or the donor. Does your health center need flu or Tdap vaccines? Through Sanofi Pasteur, AmeriCares currently has flu and Tdap vaccines available:

- If you would like to request the **flu vaccine**, please fill out the attached form entitled **Sanofi Fluzone Request Form**.
- If you would like to request the **Tdap vaccine**, please fill out the attached form entitled **2012 GIFT Application – Tdap Request Form**.
- All completed forms should be emailed to: [uspartnerships@americares.org](mailto:uspartnerships@americares.org).

In addition to completing the request form, any health center that is not currently an AmeriCares partner will need to sign up with the AmeriCares Domestic Medical Assistance Program. In June 2011, AmeriCares launched a new website on which FQHC partners can log in and order medications and medical supplies directly from the inventory. If you are interested in receiving a donation of flu or Tdap vaccines, please visit the donation website: U.S. Access (<http://usaccess.americares.org/clinics/>), and create an account. Please not that you will **not** order the Tdap or flu vaccine through this site – instead, AmeriCares will coordinate with the health center so that the vaccines are shipped directly to the center. Attached is a User's Guide that will help you navigate the site (titled **AmeriCares – Free Donation Program**). If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Ford at [lford@tachc.org](mailto:lford@tachc.org). As more offers become available, more information will be forwarded.

**4. OPA Reminder of Recertification Requirement for 340B:** This is a reminder to all Executive Directors whose health centers are using 340B pricing. HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) has sent emails to community health centers formally notifying them that recertification of their eligibility for 340B drug discounts per the Office of Pharmacy Affairs (OPA) will begin in January (this recertification must occur in order to maintain eligibility for 340B pricing). Attached is the memo that TACHC sent out in September also explaining this new recertification process. If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Ford at [lford@tachc.org](mailto:lford@tachc.org).

### **Recruitment and Retention**



**Congratulations to Su Clinica Familiar, CommUnityCare, & Good Neighbor Healthcare Center!** Recently, several TACHC candidate referrals have accepted offers of employment from member centers. Dr. Anthony Cubb accepted an offer from Su Clinica Familiar for their Internal Medicine position, Dr. Laura Chambers-Kersh accepted an offer from CommUnityCare for their Family Medicine position, and Dr. Eugenia Legarda accepted an offer from Good Neighbor Healthcare Center for their Family Medicine position.

### **Other News**



**TACHC Member News:** To learn what your fellow health centers are involved in or read news that may affect your health center, 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.

**The next TACHC Weekly Wrap-up will come to you on January 4<sup>th</sup>.**

***Happy Holidays!***



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