

# TACHC



The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

Weekly Wrap-up - March 22,  
2013

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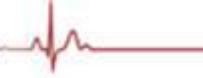
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*Dental Exam at Community Health Service Agency  
Greenville, TX*

## **Upcoming Events**



### [TACHC Webcast: Affordable Care Act 101](#)

*March 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am-12:00pm (Central Time)*

TACHC is hosting a **FREE** webcast training on the Affordable Care Act. Cheasty Anderson with the Center for Public Policy Priorities will provide an overview of the healthcare provisions of the new law, and the provisions of the ACA that will impact Texas including information on the state's option to expand Medicaid coverage and the availability of covered preventive care services. Finally, a brief discussion will follow regarding the impact of the ACA to health centers and what these improvements will mean for our patients. Health center staff who work directly with patients as well as any center staff interested in learning more about the new law are encouraged to register by clicking [HERE](#). For more information, please contact [RexAnn Shotwell, Program Mgr.](#) at TACHC.

### [TACHC Webcast: Outreach Strategies for Elderly Populations](#)

*March 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-11:30 a.m. (Central Time)*

Elderly patient populations present unique and sometimes quite complex healthcare challenges. This **FREE** webcast will provide an overview of the chronic disease self-management model and helpful resources, as well as discuss best practices for reaching the elderly in your communities and resources to address common challenges such as transportation, lack of specialty services, home health care and support services. Finally, an update on care coordination under the TACHC ACOs (Accountable Care Organizations) will be provided in addition to information on how interested health centers can join the ACO next year. **There is still time to register!** Contact [Sonia Lara, Outreach & Regional Migrant Health Coordinator](#) at TACHC for

more information. To register for this event, click [HERE](#).

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

## Governance and Finance

**1. DSHS Announces FY2014 Competitive RFP for School Based Health Centers:** The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) School Health Program announces the expected availability of Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Funds to provide access to health care services to a school-age population. A secondary focus of this RFP is to provide services to students with at least one but not more than two of the following conditions: asthma, diabetes, overweight and obesity, mental health, or dental health needs. Respondents must focus on one of the above conditions, and must track a specified number of students, as well as provide services using evidence-based practices and interventions and report clinical and educational process and outcome measures. The RFP document and all attachments can be viewed [HERE](#).

**2. HHSC Community Partner Program Self-Service Portal & Outreach Events:** TACHC is in a partnership with HHSC to help recruit all community health centers (CHCs) and other community based organizations to participate in HHSC's Community Partner Program. The project is designed to develop a network of community based organizations that provide application assistance to eligible populations for Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP, TANF, and LTC and use a new self-service portal, [www.YourTexasBenefits.com](http://www.YourTexasBenefits.com), to submit applications electronically. This is a new and modernized way to apply for assistance programs and by creating several access points statewide to participate as a Partner we are providing an open door system to enroll several different populations. TACHC is providing ongoing technical assistance and support to all participating CHCs in this program and facilitating webinars throughout the course of the project to help keep CHCs educated and informed about updates to YourTexasBenefits.com and information about upcoming changes to eligible populations. TACHC is also working with CHCs to conduct at least one outreach and enrollment event for potential clients and has already begun coordinating with the Houston and Dallas regions to host two health fairs, which will offer health education, application and enrollment assistance, and voter registration. If you have any questions about this program, contact [RexAnn Shotwell, Program Mgr.](#) at TACHC.

**3. TACHC Photography Project:** In preparation for the TACHC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, TACHC has hired photographers to travel to all member centers over the next few months to take photos of health center buildings, patients, staff, and clinicians. We want to document the progress that centers in the state have made over the last several years and capture the impact health centers have in their communities. As the saying goes, “a picture tells a thousand words.” TACHC plans to use these photos as part of our anniversary celebration at the TACHC 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference this coming October in Austin, as well as in TACHC health center marketing materials, on the TACHC website, social media sites, and to support

health center advocacy efforts. Each center will receive a CD with a catalog of its photographs for its own use. The photographers have already contacted you or will contact you soon to schedule an optimal time to come to your center. Due to limited resources, each center will need to select **one site** to be photographed. Please email [Natalie Jernigan, Executive Assistant](#) at TACHC to **let us know which one of your sites you would like to have highlighted in the TACHC photography project**. We have extended the deadline to **Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** for you to submit site information so we can help facilitate the photography visits. If you have questions, please contact [Jana Blasi, Deputy Director](#) at TACHC.



**1. New TACHC OC3 Learning Year to Begin May 1<sup>st</sup>: Don't Delay – Only a few slots are left!**

Do you want your center to transform into a patient-centered medical home? Do you want to improve the health outcomes of your patients? Are you interested in increasing your staff and provider productivity? Do you want to improve patient and staff satisfaction at your center? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then TACHC has an exciting learning opportunity for you and your health center. This unique learning opportunity will help you and your staff to transform your center and improve your operational and clinical efficiencies. **The 2013 – 2014 OC<sup>3</sup> Medical Home Transformation Learning Year will be starting May 1, 2013 and TACHC is now accepting applications from interested health centers. Please be aware that time and space is limited, so don't delay.** See the attached program synopsis for further details. **If you are interested**, please send an email to [Verne LaGrega, Clinical Care Coordinator](#) at TACHC and complete the attached OC3 Application **by April 1, 2013**.

**2. Free SAMHSA & HRSA Webcast: “Health IT for Primary and Behavioral Healthcare Integration”** On Monday, March 25, 2013, 2:00 – 3:30 pm EDT, SAMHSA and HRSA will host a primary and behavioral healthcare integration webinar. This webinar will explore the results of a pioneering national effort to develop strategies that incorporate behavioral health into state exchanges and examines the issues from the perspective of a State HIE and a behavioral health provider. This groundbreaking initiative developed and vetted strategies to address barriers, moving healthcare closer to the national goals of shared patient information for better coordination of care. This webinar will provide insights for providers working to meet the standards for meaningful use and participation in federal and state health care reforms. Webinar Presenters are Charles Hewitt, Director, HIE Program Management, Rhode Island Quality Institute and Bill Cadieux, Chief Information Officer, The Providence Center, RI. SAMHSA Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration Grantee. Registration is free but space is limited to the first 1000 attendees. Closed Captioning Available Upon Request. For more information and to register for this event, click [HERE](#).

**3. TACHC OC<sup>3</sup> Booster Session:** Is your center considering joining the ACO at the end of this year? Or are you an OC<sup>3</sup> alumus that would like to hear about OC<sup>3</sup> updates that will help your center take improvement to the next level? If you answered yes to either question then plan to join TACHC and the OC<sup>3</sup> faculty at the upcoming OC<sup>3</sup> Booster Session on Friday, April 12, from 7:30am until 12:30pm at the Hilton Austin Airport. Registration is \$75 for members and \$100 for non-members. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register online. For questions regarding this program, please contact [Dr. Davelyn Eaves Hood, Director of Clinical Affairs](#) at TACHC.

**4. CMS National Provider Call: Begin Transitioning to ICD-10 in 2013 — Registration Now**

**Open!** Are you ready to transition to ICD-10? Now is the time to prepare! On September 5, 2012, CMS published a [final rule](#) that delays the ICD-10 compliance date from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014. Join CMS **Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-2:00pm (CT)** for a conference call to learn how to prepare in 2013 for the transition. CMS subject matter experts will review basic information on the transition to ICD-10 and discuss implementation planning and preparation strategies. A Q&A session will follow the presentations.

- *Agenda:*
  - Planning for transition to ICD-10
  - Claims processing
  - National implementation issues
  - National Coverage Decisions
  - Outreach
- *Target Audience:* Medical coders, physicians, physician office staff, nurses and other non-physician practitioners, provider billing staff, health records staff, vendors, educators, system maintainers, laboratories, and all Medicare FFS providers
- *Registration Information:* In order to receive call-in information, you must register for the call on the [CMS Upcoming National Provider Calls](#) registration website. **Registration will close at 12pm (ET) on the day of the call or when available space has been filled; no exceptions will be made, so please register early.**
- *Presentation:* The presentation for this call is now posted on the [FFS National Provider Calls](#) web page. In addition, a link to the slide presentation will be emailed to all registrants on the day of the call. Continuing education credit may be awarded for participation in certain CMS National Provider Calls. Visit the [Continuing Education Credit Notification](#) web page to learn more.

## **Community Development**



**TACHC is Offering to Review New Access Point (NAP) Grants!** TACHC wants to help your center improve its chances of being awarded one of these grants. To take advantage of this opportunity, please send as complete an application as possible (at minimum the program narrative and as many of the attachments as possible) to [Daniel Diaz, Director of Community Development](#) and please CC: [Nancy Gilliam, Community Development Specialist](#) at TACHC **by no later than March 27<sup>th</sup>**. Please be aware that for us to issue a letter of support for your NAP application, TACHC needs to have a chance to review the application.

## **Recruitment and Retention**



**TACHC Upcoming Recruitment Activities:** In our continuing mission to help promote member health center career opportunities, TACHC recruiting staff will be exhibiting at provider conferences and speaking with upcoming medical graduates about CHC employment opportunities. Scheduled recruiting events for the month of April will be targeting ALL PROVIDER SPECIALTIES. **Don't miss this opportunity for us to PROMOTE YOUR JOBS at these events!** Please make sure your opportunities are posted on the TACHC website. If your center has an opening that you would like us to help you recruit for, you may click [HERE](#) and complete the quick and easy online position profile. Have questions or need assistance? Contact [April Sartor, R&R Program Assistant](#) at TACHC.

## Other News



**1. TACHC Weekly Wrap-up Note:** No Wrap next Friday! TACHC will be closed on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. The next weekly wrap will be sent April 5<sup>th</sup>. Remember, for your reference, all past Wrap-ups can be found on the TACHC website [HERE](#).

**2. 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.

A banner for the Texas Association of Community Health Centers, Inc. featuring a background of a field of bluebonnets under a blue sky. The text is overlaid in a white, serif font.

Texas Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.  
5900 Southwest Parkway, Building 3  
Austin, Texas 78735  
512-329-5959 [www.tachc.org](http://www.tachc.org)

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.

## **New OC3 Learning Year to Begin May 1<sup>st</sup>:**

Do you want your center to transform into a patient-centered medical home? Do you want to improve the health outcomes of your patients? Are you interested in increasing your staff and provider productivity? Do you want to improve patient and staff satisfaction at your center? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then TACHC has an exciting learning opportunity for you and your health center. This unique learning opportunity will help you and your staff to transform your center and improve your operational and clinical efficiencies. **The 2013 – 2014 OC<sup>3</sup> Medical Home Transformation Learning Year will be starting May 1, 2013 and TACHC is now accepting applications from interested health centers. Please be aware that time and space is limited, so don't delay.** See the attached program synopsis for further details. If you are interested, please send an email to [Verne LaGrega, Clinical Care Coordinator](#) and complete the attached OC3 Application **by April 1, 2013.**

## **What OC<sup>3</sup> Can Do For You**

The OC<sup>3</sup> program teaches health centers how to redesign their clinical office practices to significantly improve performance in order to meet today's urgent need for more accessible, higher-value health care especially for the most vulnerable populations. By increasing capacity to meet the demand for services, health centers will also see improved financial performance and optimal clinical care for patients. Together, the aims of the OC<sup>3</sup> program facilitate the changes necessary to true medical home transformation.

Participating teams will work together for the duration of the learning year to design, test, and deploy changes in clinic practice and practice management that are designed to fundamentally improve performance levels including: improved access; improved office flow and efficiency; increased patient, provider, and staff satisfaction; improved patient outcomes; and lower costs. Teams will also receive group and individualized technical assistance and training necessary to achieve PCMH recognition. Partial reimbursement of learning year expenses may be available.

**The 2013 – 2014 OC<sup>3</sup> Medical Home Transformation Learning Year will be starting May 1, 2013 and TACHC is now accepting applications from interested health centers. Please be aware that time and space is limited, so don't delay.**

If you are interested, please send an email to [Verne LaGrega, Clinical Care Coordinator](#) and submit the attached OC<sup>3</sup> Application **by April 1, 2013.**

**For the first time, TACHC is providing a 3-Tier option for the OC3 Learning Year in order that you can customize your individual centers learning needs.**

### **Tier 1: Full OC3 Learning Year**

#### **Required:**

1. Complete an application
2. Complete a participation agreement that outlines the OC3 Audit Program
3. Agree to pay a \$1,500 participation fee.
4. Submit a roster of team members for the listserv
5. Attend all pre-work and semi-monthly calls
6. Complete PCMH-Self Assessment Beginning, Middle & End of year
7. Complete PCMH-A at the end of year
8. Access OC3 Listserv to respond to and post questions to the community
9. Submission of monthly reports
10. Attend all learning sessions

### **Tier 2: Centers that choose to audit,**

#### **Required:**

1. Complete an application
2. Complete a participation agreement that outlines the OC3 Audit Program
3. Agree to pay a \$750 participation fee
4. Submit a roster of team members for the listserv
5. Attend pre-work and semi-monthly calls pertinent to your ongoing work at your center
6. Complete panel spreadsheet & attend panel calls
7. Quarterly calls with the OC3 Faculty
8. Complete PCMH-A at beginning and end of year
9. Complete PCMH-Self Assessment Beginning, Middle & End of year
10. Access OC3 Listserv to respond to and post questions to the community

#### **Not Required:**

1. Monthly reports
2. Attendance at learning sessions

### **Tier 3: Centers that are not tier 1 or 2**

1. May choose to register for all of the semi-monthly webcasts for a total fee of \$500.00. Group purchase must be made before the first webcast or register for individual webcasts for a fee of \$50.00 per webcast.

**Texas Association of Community Health Centers**  
**Optimized Comprehensive Clinical Care (OC<sup>3</sup>)**  
**2013-2014 Learning Year**  
**Application for Participation**

Please answer each question as thoroughly as possible. For questions about the application, please contact Verne LaGrega or Davelyn Eaves Hood, MD, MBA at TACHC at 512.329.5959.

**1. Health Center Information**

Health Center Name:

Name of Contact Person:

Contact Phone Number:

- 2. Interest** - Please explain why your health center is interested in participating in the 2013-2014 OC<sup>3</sup> Learning Year: (PCMH technical assistance, desire to begin medical home transformation, want to improve access at our center, need help with improving operational efficiencies, etc.)

- 3. Experience** – Please describe your organization’s experience with past change/transformation efforts?

- 4. Barriers** – Does your center have any concerns or noted barriers to achieving change?

**5. Previous Learning Activity (Collaborative) Participation**

Has your health center participated in any previous learning activities or Collaboratives (e.g. Health Disparities Collaborative, Access Redesign Mini Collaborative, OC<sup>3</sup>)? If yes, please list and briefly describe the experience.

**6. Time Commitments**

Does your health center plan to participate in any other learning activities in the upcoming year or do you have any major system or practice changes planned (e.g. EHR implementation, facility move/remodel)? If yes, please list, describe and outline the time commitments of each.

**7. NCQA or TJC Recognition/Certification**

Has your center decided to seek NCQA Recognition for being a Patient-Centered Medical Home or the Joint Commission Primary Care Medical Home Certification?

If yes, please describe your timeline and planning process thus far.

Have you received the HRSA Patient Centered Medical Home Supplemental Funding or the CMS Advanced Primary Care Demonstration Project?

If yes, please describe your progress thus far.

**8. If we have any questions regarding this application, please identify a preferred time when we can call you to talk to you.**

**9. Information Systems and Technology Capacity**

Does your health center have an Electronic Health Record? Yes  No

If yes, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

If no, what is your timeline? \_\_\_\_\_

Can your system produce customized reports? Yes  No

If your center has an EHR, are you willing to join TACHC's Health Center Controlled Network (HCCN) in order to participate in the Centralized Data Repository (CDR) and Health Information Exchange (HIE)? Yes  No  N/A

Does your health center report to a registry? Yes  No

What practice management software does your health center use?

Is there a computer available for daily team use in the clinical area? Yes  No

Are the computers for daily team use connected to a network? Yes  No

Do team members have access to the internet and individual email? Yes  No

Is there a computer dedicated to data collection and reporting? Yes  No

Is there a person/position dedicated to data collection and reporting? Yes  No

- 10. Data Collection** – NCQA and TJC recognition/certification requires monitoring and reporting on a number of different clinical and process indicators. Therefore, data reporting is not an optional part of the OC<sup>3</sup> Learning Year. Measures will be negotiated with each center depending on individual circumstances, but there will be a minimum set of requirements.

Please describe the process for data collection and reporting at your center and explain how the required measures will be incorporated into the center's existing Performance Improvement Plan.

**11. Commitment and Signatures**

This application and our health center's potential participation in the 2013 - 2014 OC<sup>3</sup> Learning Year have been discussed, reviewed, and approved by:

**Executive Director** (Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Director** (Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

**OC3 Team Leader** (Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_