

# TACHC



The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

Weekly Wrap-up - July 12, 2013

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*Patient Exam at Hope Clinic  
Waxahachie, TX*

## Upcoming Events

### TACHC 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

*October 7-9, 2013, Hilton Austin Hotel*

Hotel Reservations are OPEN. As a friendly reminder, the cutoff date is **Tuesday, September 3, 2013**. Call the Hilton central reservations line directly (1-800-236-1592) and reference the group, **TACHC's Annual Conference**, or the group code, **CHC**, in order to receive the group rate of \$194 single/double over the contracted event dates, or you may click [HERE](#) to do so online. **\*Reserve early, as**

**the TACHC conference is in the middle of both Austin City Limits Festival weekends!\***

**IMPORTANT: Housing Policy**

In an effort to ensure that our hotel is able to accept the maximum number of reservations, TACHC has implemented the following housing policies:

- Each reservation must have a unique name attached to it. No person may book more than one room in his/her name.
- A deposit of one night's room and tax will be taken at the time of booking in order to guarantee your reservation.
- Should you need to cancel, cancellations must be made 15 days in advance in order to be refunded your deposit.
- Cancellations within 15 days prior to your arrival date, deposits are non-refundable unless the hotel is able to resell your canceled room.

Click [HERE](#) to find an event agenda outline. For questions or assistance, please contact [TaSheena Mitchell, TACHC Meeting Coordinator](#).

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

**Governance and Finance**



**1. HHSC Community Partner Program Enrollment:** Due to HRSA's recent announcement about the award of Outreach & Enrollment funds for health centers to increase in-reach, as well as outreach activities (see Other News below for more detail), it is even more critical that your health center sign up for the [Community Partner Program](#). Both CMS and HHSC are advocating for online systems to facilitate enrollment in affordable insurance coverage either through the Marketplace and/or CHIP and Medicaid. This is also a prerequisite if you are a participating health center in TACHC's proposal for the CMS Federal Navigator grant. Open enrollment for the federal health exchanges begins **October 1<sup>st</sup>**; therefore, it is important to get your health center signed up for the Community Partner Program *now* to be onboard and ready to utilize both systems. To submit your request, simply fill out an [online interest form](#). If you have more than one site that you would like to sign up, please be aware that **a separate interest form will be needed for each site**. For more information about the Community Partner Program, contact [RexAnn Shotwell, Community Partner Program Project Manager](#) at TACHC.

**2. TACHC Statewide Financial Trends and Analysis Report:** On Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> TACHC introduced its new statewide financial trends and analysis report. A statewide comparison of 19 key

performance measures has been prepared. The measures include key indicators on liquidity, profitability and operations. The five HRSA required measures are also included. Individual center comparison reports were also released to those center who provided the requested documents. Provided is a link to the audio from the [webinar](#) and a link to the [slide presentation](#). Please contact either Daniel Diaz ([ddiaz@tachc.org](mailto:ddiaz@tachc.org)) or Nancy Gilliam ([ngilliam@tachc.org](mailto:ngilliam@tachc.org)) if you have any questions!



**1. HRSA and ECRI Present Free Webinar: Managing Short-Term Disruptions in Patient Care:** The Emergency Care Research Institute (ECRI) on behalf of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), presents a FREE program that provides a timely discussion on Managing Short-Term Disruptions in Patient Care. Short-term disruptions in patient care may occur due to power outages, electronic health record (EHR) downtime, road closures, interruptions in phone service, and other causes. In order to support health centers and free clinics in their response to these short term disruptions and their effect on patient care, ECRI Institute presents a webinar to encourage proactive approaches for these disruptions. The program will discuss the following: distinguishing among preparedness, response and recovery, developing checklists for outages and disruptions, identifying strategies to communicate to patients when a disruption occurs, developing strategies to proactively minimize anxiety in high-risk patients, utilizing external resources as a contingency plan to manage the short-term disruption. The 60-minute webinar will be presented on July 16th at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time and on July 17th at 3:00 p.m. Eastern time. **Please register by clicking on the time below that you would like to attend. Tuesday, July 16:, [12:00 p.m. Eastern](#)** (11:00 Central, 10:00 Mountain, 9:00 Pacific), **Wednesday, July 17: [3:00 p.m. Eastern](#)** (2:00 Central, 1:00 Mountain, 12:00 Pacific).

**2. CDC Releases New STD Treatment Mobile App:** The CDC recently released an STD Treatment Guidelines mobile app for health care providers. The app allows users to access the most current STD Treatment Guidelines from their mobile device. Features include: diagnosis and treatment of 21 STDs and sexual assault; access to the full STD Treatment Guidelines; and access to "A Guide to Taking a Sexual History." To learn more or download the app, click [here](#). The free app is available for Apple and Android devices. For more information about this application and others ["CLICK HERE"](#)

**3. March of Dimes RFP Announcement:** Premature birth is the leading cause of newborn death worldwide. Even babies born just a few weeks too soon can face serious health challenges and are at risk of lifelong disabilities. There are TWO applications available for CenteringPregnancy, one for sites seeking start-up funds and one for sites currently implementing CenteringPregnancy, as well as an application for

implementing the Becoming a Mom/Comenzando Bien Program. Funding applications will support: interventions that address health disparities in African-American and Hispanic populations in Texas that will decrease prematurity, infant mortality and birth defects, providing or enhancing **premature birth risk reduction** education and/or services. Risk reduction projects include, but are not limited to: implementing community programs that aim to promote equity in birth outcomes. This may , include March of Dimes programs like Stork's Nest®, Project Alpha and Becoming a Mom/Comenzando bien®, enhancing services for pregnant women with chronic diseases that increase the risk of premature birth such as diabetes and hypothyroidism and enhancing care through CenteringPregnancy®, a group prenatal care model. To apply, applicants should first obtain the full application, guidelines and required forms. Please click [here](#) for funding information. Proposals must address at least one of the funding priorities mentioned. **Electronic submission responses need to be received no later than 5:00PM EST, August 23, 2013.** For general questions, please contact Heather Butscher at the phone number listed below or Paula Martinez, [pmartinez@marchofdimes.com](mailto:pmartinez@marchofdimes.com) – 972.232.1344.

## Group Purchasing

**340B Registration Window:** Remember that **July 1<sup>st</sup> through July 15<sup>th</sup>** is your window to register with the Office of Pharmacy Affairs (OPA) for a new site to be eligible for 340B pricing. This is also the window if you want to add a new retail pharmacy to contract with for pharmacy services (“bill to/ship to”). When registering in this window of time, the new site will be eligible for 340B pricing effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. The registration process occurs electronically via the [OPA website](#). Under the ‘Covered Entities’ section there is an additional bullets listed to use for registering. A guide to registering is attached for your reference. **Remember that you cannot register a site to be eligible for 340B pricing until it is listed in the EHB and must have the site ID (found in the EHB).** The OPA has changes, which are in effect with this registration window. The changes are described in the [March 20<sup>th</sup> webinar](#).

The highlight of the changes include:

- Certification of the existence of a 340B contract pharmacy services arrangement will now be done electronically.
- Language has been added to this certification statement that the authorizing official will now click to accept instead of printing out, signing, and mailing back to OPA.
- The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) pharmacy registration database and the OPA 340B contract pharmacy database have been integrated.
- If a covered entity wants or needs to terminate a contract pharmacy arrangement, there will now be a direct link on the OPA database home page allowing it to do so online.

Click [HERE](#) for more details. If you have any questions, please contact [Lynn Ford, TACHC Purchasing Program Coordinator](#).

## Recruitment and Retention

**TACHC Recruitment and Retention Survey Results Webinar:** Please join us on July 24, 2013 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (CDT), for a review of the results. This is a free TACHC-sponsored webinar conducted by Barlow/McCarthy, during which we will share the enlightening results and recommendations from the survey. To register for this event, please go to the Events Calendar at [www.tachc.org](http://www.tachc.org) and select

the **TACHC Recruitment & Retention Survey Results Webinar**. Please contact [Anita Mitchell](#) or [Marcia Falloure](#) for more information.

## Other News

**1. 66 Texas Health Centers Receive Outreach and Enrollment Funds:** Congratulations to the [centers receiving the federal funds](#). TACHC also received [funding](#) to continue its support to health centers for outreach and enrollment of patients.

**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.



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