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*Staff and Patient at Mount Enterprise Community Health Clinic
Mount Enterprise, TX*

Upcoming Events

[TACHC 30th Annual Conference](#)

October 7-9, 2013, Hilton Austin Hotel

We have a great conference planned for you with relevant topics targeting health center executive leadership, operations, financial, billing, clinical, and administrative staff as well as FQHC board members. We have also built in ample time for professional peer networking opportunities and have a robust Exhibit Hall planned for the conference. Click [HERE](#) to **download an event agenda**. For questions or assistance, please contact [TaSheena Mitchell, TACHC Meeting Coordinator](#).

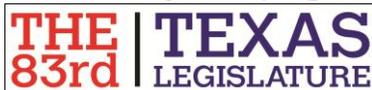
Information regarding all upcoming events hosted by TACHC can be found [HERE](#).



Governance and Finance

1. SCAM ALERT: “CMS Navigator and Certified Application Counselor (CAC) Directories” You may be receiving advertisements to pay entities to be included in directories of CMS Navigator and CAC directories. **TACHC recommends against such subscriptions as CMS will be posting a free and complete directory once Navigators and CACs are in place.** TACHC will share that directory information when it is available online. Please contact [Sonia Lara, TACHC Director of Outreach & Enrollment](#) at TACHC with any questions on this matter.

2. Texas Regulatory Updates: Senate Bill 406, authored by Senator Jane Nelson and passed during the 83rd



Legislative Session, makes changes to prescriptive authority for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) and Physician Assistants (PAs). To implement changes required by SB 406, the **Texas Board of Nursing**

recently released proposed rules in the Texas Register. For a TACHC summary and analysis of changes made by the proposed rules, click [HERE](#). **The Texas State Board of Pharmacy** released proposed rules last week to increase licensing fees for pharmacies, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees. For a TACHC summary on the changes, click [HERE](#). **The Department of State Health Services** released final rules for the Primary Health Care (PHC) Program. TACHC provided testimony on the proposed rules, resulting in several changes being made by the Department. However, TACHC continues to have concerns related to the ability for PHC contractors to use PHC funds to cover deductibles or co-pays for patients with high-deductible health insurance. The Department failed to include this change in their final rules. To see the final rules and the Department’s response to public comment, click [HERE](#).

3. HIPAA Updates: TACHC OC³ CPI Manual Owners received their updated template privacy and

security policies, business associate agreements and notices of privacy practices last week for implementation by **September 23, 2013** under the HIPAA Omnibus Rule. Please let [Cecile Carson, TACHC Associate General Counsel](#) know if you have any questions.



4. TACHC Board of Directors Election: It's time to submit nominees for the upcoming TACHC Board of Directors elections. On **Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at the TACHC 30th Annual Conference in Austin**, organizational members will elect new board members and officers of the board. Further information about the elections, officer responsibilities and the nomination form for the executive director and provider representative candidates by region are attached. Please remember the following:



- Only eligible Executive Directors/Chief Executive Officers from Full Organizational Members in Good Standing are allowed to nominate individuals for the board;
- You are *not* allowed to nominate yourself; and
- You *are* allowed to nominate eligible individuals from other regions.

Please nominate qualified candidates for a seat on the board by **September 13, 2013** and email them to [TaSheena Mitchell, TACHC Meeting Planner](#). Currently, we have nominations for the West, Bayou, East Regions and the Provider Representative seat but still need nominations for the **North, South and Border Regions**. All nominees will be sent a petition for candidacy and an information packet outlining requirements, roles and responsibilities associated with holding a seat on the board of directors of TACHC.

5. TACHC National Health Center Week 2013 Wrap-up: With National Health Center Week (NHCW) 2013 behind us, let's take a look at all the great work Texas health centers did to reach out and educate patients, show appreciation for staff, get kiddos ready for school, and share their successes with elected officials. To see pictures from events across Texas, "Like" TACHC on facebook at www.facebook.com/Texaschcs.



- NHCW Proclamation from Gov. Rick Perry and ten local proclamations from the cities of Bastrop, Eagle Pass, Gonzales, Greenville, Harlingen, Hutto, Lubbock, Round Rock, Waco, and Wichita Falls.
- 17 health centers participated in the TACHC Children's Art Contest. The winning artwork will be on display at TACHC during the annual conference.
- At least 32 health centers held about 50 individual events ranging from immunization clinics and open houses to back-to-school fairs and staff appreciation picnics.
- U.S. Rep. Pete Gallego attended a Town Hall Meeting in Uvalde sponsored by Community Health Development and visited United Medical Center in Eagle Pass. Rep. Gene Green visited Vecino Health Centers in Houston. Rep. Rueben Hinojosa went to Community Health Centers of South Central Texas' event in Seguin. Rep. Filemon Vela attended Su Clinica Familiar's Wild About Healthcare Marketplace event in Harlingen. Sen. John Cornyn's staff paid visited CentroMed in San Antonio. Rep. Michael Burgess' legislative assistant attended an event at Health Services of North Texas in Denton. State Sen. Judith Zaffirini attended Atascosa Health Center's event. State Rep. J.D. Sheffield attended the Grand Opening and Rededication at Cross Timbers Health Clinics in DeLeon. Lots of locally elected officials attended other events.
- TACHC staff participated in six different NHCW health center events.
- Nine newspaper articles, including guest columnists Nuestra Clinica del Valle's Lucy Ramirez, Su Clinica Familiar's Dr. Elena Marin, and Brownsville CHC's Paula Gomez, and paid advertisements.

- TACHC posted at least 10 Facebook postings to the TACHC FB page using the #NHCW2013 hashtag.
- Lots of space on the NHCW website, www.healthcenterweek.org, listing Texas events, newspaper coverage, social media, and proclamations.

If you had an elected official visit your health center any time in August, please let TACHC Communications Director [Andrea Abel](#) know. If you haven't already, please be sure to record events that you held on the NHCW website, www.healthcenterweek.org. Be on the lookout for advanced planning from TACHC for next year's NHCW, August 10-16, 2014.



1. Clinical Directors Network Free Webcast: “A Review of Guidelines for Diagnosis & Treatment of Depression”

This live webcast, to be held **September 19th, 2013, 11:00am-12:00pm (CT)**, is being brought to you by

the [Clinical Directors Network, Inc.](#), as part of the Collaboration Care to Reduce Depression and Increase Cancer Screening among Low-Income Urban Women Project, funded by the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). To register for

this event, click [HERE](#). This FREE webcast is funded by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the Patient Centered Outcome Research Institute. To view additional webcasts in this series, please visit www.CDNetwork.org

2. HRSA/BPHC Save the Date: Health Center Clinician Leaders’ Forum Kick-off Call: On Friday, September 13, 2013, 1:00-2:30pm (CT), Health Center Clinical and Quality Leaders are invited to join BPHC’s CMO and Senior Clinical Advisors for a national webinar and dialogue on clinical performance measures, quality improvement, patient-centered medical home, meaningful use and the primary care workforce. This session will also include time for Q&A. To join the webcast, click [HERE](#).

3. IHI New Open School Videos on the Basics of Improvement:



In little more than a year, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Open School's series of short, engaging whiteboard videos describing the basics of quality improvement has garnered nearly 12,000 visits. One user commented, "What a brilliant way to present and simplify what can often seem quite mystifying."

In the three newest videos added to this growing collection, IHI Executive Director for Performance Improvement, Robert Lloyd, PhD, explains run charts and flowcharts, using his battle with Chicago traffic as an example. In his familiar format and style, Lloyd breaks down the basics and applies examples to show how to use these essential tools in daily life and work. Be sure to also check out other whiteboard videos on Deming's System of Profound Knowledge, the Model for Improvement, Driver Diagrams, and PDSA Cycles. For more information, click [HERE](#).



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

1. CMS Training Update for Certified Application Counselors (CACs): The CAC training modules are available for review [HERE](#) for the HRSA Outreach and Enrollment (O&E) staff. While this will not allow you to complete the training, the modules (.pdf format) will show you exactly what will be covered. CMS is working on approving and designating health centers as CAC organizations and some of you have begun to hear back this week. The CAC designation by CMS is required in order for your O&E staff to gain access to the required 5-hour training and complete it. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact [Sonia Lara](#) at TACHC.

2. TACHC Outreach & Enrollment (O&E) Trainings: TACHC has developed a robust O&E supplemental training and tool kit of turnkey messaging, Texas specific outreach materials and community presentations, that can be used by all Texas health center O&E staff. On **September 25-26, 2013**, TACHC will conduct a two day O&E orientation "Certified Application Counselor Supplemental Training" targeting HRSA O&E and any other health center outreach staff. More information can be found [HERE](#). This supplemental training has been scheduled for late September to give you adequate time to hire new O&E staff. This will cover the following topics:



- What the Health Insurance Exchange Marketplace is and how this coverage interacts with Medicaid and CHIP
- How to support your patients in understanding and selecting various Qualified Health Plans and medical options
- Determining premium tax credits, cost sharing, income and family size for Marketplace and Medicaid eligibility
- An overview of the Qualified Health Plans in Texas (these are supposed to be announced in mid-September)
- Which on-line enrollment portal to use depending on insurance coverage type
- Overview of effective messaging, outreach materials and presentations for community outreach
- Data collection and overview of HRSA/CMS reporting requirements
- Professional networking opportunities to learn outreach best practices from their peers

This supplemental O&E training is specifically designed for HRSA O&E and other outreach staff and will be very hands-on and interactive to allow participants to actually practice making enrollment determinations using real-world scenarios common in a health center setting. TACHC has planned another session on the Health Insurance Exchange Marketplace that will be more appropriate for health center CEOs/CFOS/COOs/CMOs at the upcoming TACHC Annual Conference. To register for this regional Medicaid Application Assistance training and TACHC CAC Supplemental Training in September, please visit the [Events Page on the TACHC Website](#). As foundational elements for CAC work, be sure you are engaged with the state Community Partner Program through TACHC. **Apply [HERE](#) to be a CAC organization.** We also recommend a series of online webinars on Marketplace coverage topics conducted by staff at the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) in Washington, DC found [HERE](#). Contact [Sonia Lara, TACHC Director of Outreach & Enrollment](#) or [RexAnn Shotwell, TACHC Community Partner Program Project Manager](#) for more information about these events.

Recruitment and Retention



1. TACHC Congratulations to La Esperanza Health and Dental Centers and Martin Luther King Jr.



Family Clinic, Inc. for New Hires: Dr. Rubayyat Rashid, DDS, a TACHC referral, has accepted an offer for the Dental position at La Esperanza and will begin on October 7, 2013. Dr. Arifa Nishat, Family Medicine Physician who will be joining Martin Luther King Jr. Family Clinic, Inc. in January, 2014.

2. TACHC Staff Recruiting at A.T. Still & NACHC Job Fair, the Texas Nurse Practitioner Conference and the Hispanic

that you would like us to help and complete the easy online [April Sartor, Recruitment Dept.](#)



Dental Conference: If your center has a *new* opportunity you recruit for at any of these events, simply click [HERE](#) position profile. Have questions or need assistance? Contact [Program Assistant](#) at TACHC.

Information Technology



CMS ICD-10 Training: In case you missed it, on June 20, CMS Regional Offices hosted webinars on “Transitioning to ICD-10.” These webinars are now available as video slideshows on the CMS YouTube Channel and cover the background and impact of ICD-10 on industry, CMS ICD-10 implementation, how CMS is working with the states, how CMS is partnering with industry, best practices, frequently asked questions and resources and contact information. The change to ICD-10 is required for everyone covered by the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act and will take place on **October 1, 2014**. To access a recording of the webcast, click on the link below. [The Central event](#) was held for healthcare professionals, coders and organizations operating within the CMS Regions V, VI and VII which include Texas.



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Other News



1. CommUnityCare Northside Clinic Receives NCQA PCMH Level 3 Recognition: Congratulations CommUnityCare!

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), where only TACHC executives or their designees are recipients.



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