

Health in Public Housing

Quarterly Information Bulletin

Summer 2011



A Publication of the National Center for Health in Public Housing

The National Center for Health in Public Housing Celebrates 20 Years of Excellence and Quality Care for Residents in Public Housing



This year marks the 20th anniversary of the creation of the Public Housing Primary Care Program. We celebrate the staff, volunteers and members of all Public Housing Primary Care health centers who have dedicated countless hours in their communities to enhance the lives of children and adults who otherwise would not have quality healthcare. Facing the future, initiatives are underway to address the needs of residents in public housing who are culturally diverse. As PHPC health centers add multi-lingual workforce resources and enabling services at their sites, PHPC health centers are striving to become Patient Centered Medical Homes while achieving Meaningful Use. They strive to improve the efficiency of their health centers and continue to provide optimal healthcare for residents in public housing. We look forward to facing all challenges that lie ahead.

2011 Health Care for Residents of Public Housing National Training Conference

From July 13th through the 15th the National Center for Public Housing held the 2011 Health Care for Residents of Public Housing National Training Conference at the Fairmont Hotel in Washington D.C. The goal of the conference held annually was to strengthen the capacity

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of health centers to meet the specialized primary care needs of residents of public housing. Conference participants included health care professionals, staff of Primary Care Associations (PCA's) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) staff, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) staff, public housing officials, residents, researchers and other key stakeholders. This is the only national conference with a focus on federally funded Public Housing Primary Care



(PHPC) programs and other health centers that provide primary health care services to residents of public housing.

The conference was a huge success giving all participants a chance to choose from over 40 workshops from various different tracks including Operations and Administration, Primary Care and Enabling Services, Outreach and Resident Engagement, and Fiscal and Program Management.

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2011 Health Care for Residents of Public Housing National Training Conference

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During this three day conference, participants were able to hear many inspiring speakers and insights on innovative approaches and incentives in meeting the healthcare needs of residents in public housing. Plenary Speakers included:

Henry Taylor, CEO, Mile Square Health Center

Congressman Danny Davis

Marcia Brand, PhD, Deputy Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Captain Henry Lopez, Office of Special Populations, Health Resources and Services Administration

Tiffane Smith, Office of Special Populations, Health Resources and Services Administration

James W. Hunt, Jr., President and CEO, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

Karen Williams, PHPC Program Director, West End Medical Centers

Edwina Rogers, Patient Centered Medical Home Collaborative

Dr. Rachel Thornton, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Terris King, Acting Director CMS

Gretchen Stiers, National HIV/AIDS, SAMHSA

Fredette West, Director, African American Health Alliance



On behalf of everyone at the National Center for Health in Public Housing we would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's conference and we look forward to seeing everyone again at next year's conference in Washington D.C. Participants in this year's conference can contribute a great deal to the success of future conferences by completing our online survey at:

<http://survey.namgt.com/index.php?sid=41121&lang=en>

To view presentation slides and to see more pictures from the conference please visit our website at:

www.NCHPH.org

The 2011 Health Care for Residents of Public Housing National Training Conference is presented by the National Center for Health in Public Housing, a project of North American Management, with grant support from the Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The National Center for Health in Public Housing is Proud to Present the Inauguration of the H. Jack Geiger Awards

The National Center for Health in Public Housing is proud to present the Inaugural H. Jack Geiger Awards at the 20th year milestone of the Public Housing Primary Care Program. Dr. H. Jack Geiger's legacy has been devoted to problems of health, poverty and human rights.

Combining community-oriented primary care, public health interventions, civil rights, community development initiatives and research interests focused on racial and ethnic disparities in medical care, Dr. H. Jack Geiger has made significant contributions in advocating for quality healthcare for the less fortunate through work of community health centers.

In the words of Dr. Jack Geiger: "The real honor is in having such an award created and named for me, to stimulate and reward the work of others in the future in the ongoing struggle for equity in health care, most particularly for such vulnerable populations as public housing residents".

The National Center for Health in Public Housing is honored to present the inaugural H. Jack Geiger Awards to some of the emerging leaders in the Public Housing Primary Care programs:

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H. Jack Geiger Award Recipients



Zufall Health Center H. Jack Geiger recipient recognized for outstanding leadership in Program Management



Eva Turbiner and Rina Ramirez of Zufall Health Center Inc.

MONTEFIORE



South Bronx Health Center, a program of Montefiore Medical Center and the Childrens Health Fund H. Jack Geiger recipient recognized for significant impact in the areas of Program Development and Analysis



Peter Meacher and Christine Reid-Smoot of Montefiore Medical Center



Heat of Texas Community Health Center H. Jack Geiger recipient recognized for excellence in Performance Improvement



Allen Patterson and Annette Ballew of Heart of Texas CHC

NCHPH recognizes Pioneers of the PHPC Program

In recognition of many years of their hard work and dedication, the National Center for Health in Public Housing is pleased to present Pioneer awards to the true leaders of the Public Housing Primary Care Program who have played key roles since its inception. The Honorees are:

CommuniCare Health Care Centers

Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center

Primary Care Health Services Inc.

RHD, Family Practice and Counseling Network

TCA Health, Inc.

West End Medical Centers

Not pictured:

Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Centers



Michael Davis of CommuniCare Health Care Centers



Michael Brooks and Karen Williams of West End Medical Centers



Germaine Headen of RHD, Family Practice and Counseling Network



Marcy Ravech of Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center



Veronica Clarke of TCA Health, Inc.



Renae Tot and Kimberly Spruce of Primary Care Health Services Inc.

NCHPH Regional Training Meeting: San Francisco, CA

On March 31, 2011, the National Center for Health in Public Housing convened its third regional training conference in San Francisco, California. The San Francisco regional conference produced a number of great educational/training opportunities, a forum for networking and exchanging ideas and many important and exciting outcomes.



The conference was well attended, with over 50 people attending from the Western U.S. and various other locations. The need for comprehensive health care to residents of public housing is immense in the Western U.S. especially California. California has a high number of conventional public, Section 8 and Housing Choice Voucher public housing. Many of the conference attendees came from health centers that were located near or at public housing sites and were able to share about their experiences, practices and interests in learning more about the special needs of residents.

Some of the most popular workshops at the meeting included:
Patient Centered Medical Home, Presented by Jerry Coil of AltaMed Health Services, Inc.

Creating Partnerships with Health Centers to Address Intimate Partner Violence in Public Housing, Presented by Virginia Duplessis of the Family Violence Prevention Fund

Medicaid Meaningful Use Incentive Payments An overview of A/I/U and Meaningful Use, Presented by Andie Martinez Patterson of the California Primary Care Association

Integrating Housing and Healthcare, Presented by Joshua Bamberger of the San Francisco Department of Public Health

PHPC 101 and Outreach Strategies to Reach Residents that Work, Presented by David Vincent of the National Center for Health and Public Housing

Medical-Legal Partnership for Children: Community-Based Participatory Practice in Kalihi Valley, Hawai'i, Presented by Dina Shek and Dawn Mahi of Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services

Starting and Maintaining a Mobile Medical Clinic, Presented by Tom Stubberud of Family Health Centers of San Diego

and Bringing Green into Wellbeing, Presented by Zara Marselian and Alejandrina Areizaga of La Maestra Community Health Centers

In addition to the many presenters and participants, Capt. Henry Lopez and Tiffane Smith from HRSA's Office of Special Populations were able to speak about the current state of the PHPC Program and the challenges ahead.

All of the workshops were very well received and gave the audience an opportunity to engage, ask questions and make connections with other health centers challenged by similar issues.

The next scheduled Health Care for Regional Training Meeting will be held in Austin Texas on November 8th of 2011.

Health Care for Residents of Public Housing Regional Training Meeting

On Tuesday, November 8th, 2011, the National Center for Health in Public Housing will convene a regional conference in Austin, Texas. This conference will bring together community health centers, housing authorities, other service organizations and stakeholders from across the region that are working together to improve the health, wellness and self-sufficiency of residents of publicly subsidized housing.



**November 8th,
2011
Austin, Texas**

For more information
on the conference and
to register please visit
our website:

www.NCHPH.org

National Health Care in Public Housing Day - August 9, 2011



The second week of August each year is National Health Center Week, dedicated to recognizing the service and contributions of Community, Migrant, Homeless and Public Housing Health Centers in providing access to affordable, high quality, cost-effective health care to medically vulnerable and underserved people in the U.S.

This year Tuesday, August 9th has been designated as National Health Care in Public Housing Day. This is a great opportunity to collectively acknowledge the work of the Public Housing Primary Care (PHPC) health centers and the many other dedicated individuals working to improve resident health, and to bring awareness to the health status of residents and their unique health needs.

National Health Center Week is sponsored by the National Association of Community Health Centers. This year, the theme is "Celebrating America's Health Centers: Serving Locally, Leading Nationally." This theme highlights the more than 45 year record of Health Centers in providing affordable, high quality, cost-effective health care to all people, regardless of ability to pay. National Health Center Week 2011 also provides an opportunity to focus on the progress we have made towards fulfilling the goal of our "Access for All America" plan to provide a health care home to 30 million patients by 2015. Each year Health Center Week also sets aside three days to focus on special populations who are often left outside of the mainstream health care system. In 2011 we observed Tuesday, August

9th as Health Care in Public Housing Day, followed by Health Care for the Homeless Day observed on Wednesday, August 10th, and Farmworker Health Day recognized on Thursday, August 11th.

PHPC health centers are successful for a number of reasons. Each health center has developed a relationship with its respective housing authority and its resident council to assess resident health needs. PHPC programs bring reliable, cost efficient, comprehensive health care organizations right to the housing developments, creating lasting partnerships between housing authorities and the PHPC programs. PHPC programs connect residents to resources (e.g., education and training programs, employment assistance, case management) that foster personal and community development. PHPC programs, whether directly in a public housing development or located nearby - serve as healthy hubs of activity and are often beacons of hope in some of the most underserved communities in the nation.

This year again, we invite you to join in a weeklong celebration, August 7th - 13th, 2011 to focus the public spotlight on America's Health Centers and their work to make sure that everyone who needs a health care home can have one at a health center.

*For more information National Association of Community Health Center's website:
www.healthcenterweek.com*

Edward M. Kennedy Health Center Celebrates National Health Center Week

In honor of National Health Center Week, August 7-13, Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center held a Back to School Health Fair and Block Party! On August 10 from noon to 3:00 pm at our 19 Tacoma Street parking lot, Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center provided valuable health information for children and their families, as well as games, raffles, and give-aways

As part of National Health Center Week, the Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center hosted a Back to School Health Fair on Wednesday, Aug. 10 from 12-3 p.m. in the health center parking lot at 19 Tacoma St. Families and people of all ages attended the outdoor fair where health center staff members offered weight checks along with games and exercises for the children. Staff demonstrated how to make easy and healthy snacks and lunches. In addition, there was a lemonade stand, smoothie samples, contests, raffle prizes and surprise give-a-ways.



"This is a great time for families to start planning for the upcoming school year and to think about ways to keep everyone healthy," said Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center President and CEO Toni McGuire.

"At our Back to School Health Fair, we'll have professional medical staff available to talk to parents and children about all the ways they can be healthy, happy and successful throughout the new school year."

The Back to School Health Fair is sponsored by Covidien of Mansfield, MA, which will also be provided volunteers throughout the afternoon.

South Bronx Health Center Creates New Center and Mobile Dental Clinic to Bring Critically-Needed Health Care Services to Children and Families New Center

Aesha Desquaine's goals for her children are basic: "For them to be healthy and strong individuals, to be independent, to have their own voices and be able to deal with any challenges and struggles that come their way, to handle day-to-day life, to be empowered and learn from their experiences."

In short, Aesha wants her children to grow up to be resilient, "which basically means to have the ability to overcome adversity," says Dr. Angela Chan, Director of the Children's Health Fund's Center for Child Health and Resiliency (CCHR), an expansion of CHF's South Bronx Health Center.

The new Center - built thanks to funding from private and public partners including the Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will see children through age 21—and for those ages 0 to 5, it also offers a paradigm-shifting approach to care that actively promotes "protective factors" that can change the trajectory of their lives, regardless of the challenges and adversities they face growing up in the Bronx.

"Our families have an added layer of stress because of poverty and the increased environmental challenges they face," she says. "The stress could be potentially toxic and actually disrupt a child's brain development and negatively affect all long-term outcomes – social, emotional, physical, academic, occupational." It is on the development of those protective factors that Dr. Chan and the health and mental health teams are focused.

"Being a parent can be a very lonely and stressful experience under the best of circumstance," she continues. "Couple that with the fact that you may not yourself have had a nurturing experience when you were young, which is a common thread in our community. One of the goals of the CCHR is to really support them and help increase their capacities and confidence as nurturers and the first teachers of their children."

Patrice, a mom-to-be, was definitely in need of nurturing when she showed up for her first prenatal visit. She was more stressed out than she had ever been before, living in a homeless shelter with her husband and two young sons.

"Being in a shelter was really rough and I was scared that the stress on me would affect my baby," Patrice says. "I had seen a lot of other women who had given birth in there and their babies developed nervous conditions and all kinds of things. They were agitated and frail."

"Thank goodness I came to the South Bronx Clinic," Patrice goes on. That's where she met Barbara Hackley, nurse midwife and Co-Director at the new CCHR. "She explained that I could still nurture and protect my baby, even in that setting, before it was born. She taught me about the importance of 'from the beginning.' That's when the brain starts developing. I knew how to take care of a baby physically, but as far as how it develops emotionally, I had no idea.



Leadership from Children's Health Fund, Montefiore Medical Center, and the new CCHR, along with city officials, open the new Center at a ribbon cutting ceremony in the South Bronx on May 23, 2011

Before I thought, 'This isn't real until my stomach gets big and the baby starts kicking.' Now I knew I had to start taking care of my baby from the beginning, because if you don't, that's where problems start. I started putting myself in places where it was calm, without a lot of arguing and upsetting things. I kept away from people who smoked or had a lot of drama. If I was tired, I rested. I started eating better. Things that I didn't think were important became important to me, because it was all about the baby."

Awareness and education about the findings of child development experts are two key components of the CCHR's new initiative, not just for parents but providers as well. Intensive training of the entire CCHR staff about communicating the importance of social-emotional development is planned, along with the expansion of a unique model of care. Patrice concludes, "I'm a better person and a changed mom – a better mom – because of what I learned here."

SPREADING SMILES

Another much needed addition to the Children's Health Fund fleet of mobile clinics also rolled into the neighborhood in May 2011...a new mobile dental clinic for the New York Program that will bring essential oral health care to the doorsteps of New York City's homeless family shelters and the South Bronx community.

The new mobile dental clinic addresses a critical need, as the risk for dental decay is increased in low-income populations due to limited access to care and inability to afford dental services. The mobile dental team, led by our newest team member, pediatric dentist Dr. Manali Kanitkar, will travel to 13 homeless shelters and provide comprehensive services including preventive dentistry for children and adults; digital x-ray, oral exams and cleanings; fillings (restorative dentistry) and dental work; referrals for extensive dental care; and outreach and oral health education.

What's New?

Mile Square Health Center Receives Funding to Build New Medical Office



The University of Illinois at Chicago received a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to construct a new medical office building. The new 40,000 gsf facility will house the Mile Square Health Center (MSHC) and

will be located at 1220 South Wood Street, Chicago. The MSHC will provide both convenient / urgent care and Primary Care medical services. The facility is anticipated to be two-stories with a portion of the work shelled for future expansion. The project must be designed to achieve a minimum LEED Silver Certification by the US Green Building Council.

Did You Know?

Health centers deliver primary care to vulnerable communities who often rely on health centers as their only source of care. They provide accessible, affordable, high quality health care to 18 million patients nationally.

National Center for Health in Public Housing

North American Management
2111 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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Please send your questions or comments to us at:
info@NCHPH.org