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Subject: MPHCA E-Update
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MPHCA e-Update- May 19, 2010

We hope you find this an efficient, useful tool and we welcome your feedback and comments.
Robert M. Pugh, Executive Director

MPHCA Events/Educational Offerings

- May 24, 2010- Community Outreach Specialist CHIP/Medicaid Training
- May 27, 2010- You & Me-Us & We: Customer Service and the Patient Experience
- June 11, 2010- IDEAS Meeting
- August 20, 2010- Basic Excel 2007

For complete information on trainings listed above please click on http://www.mphca.com/trainings_events.htm.

Other Events/Educational Offerings

- June 3-5, 2010-National Health Care for Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium, San Francisco
- June 9, 2010, 2-3:30 PM EST- Join NACHC and Co-Sponsors, Feldesman Tucker Leifer for new webinar on legal issues surrounding health care reform. [For more information](#)
- June 9-10, 2010- Space is still available to register for Health Center Financial/Operations Management Level I (FOM) in Miami. [Register online today!](#)
- June 27-30, 2010-Louisiana Primary Care Association's 2010 Annual Continuing Education Conference-Shreveport Convention Center, Shreveport, LA. For more information, please visit www.lpca.net.
- July 19-21, 2010-The 340B Coalition 14th Annual Conference, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C. [Register today!](#)
- August 8-14, 2010- National Health Center Week (www.healthcenterweek.org)

NACHC Seminars/Conferences/Webcasts, Register Today at www.nachc.com!

- May 20, 2010-Internal Audit in Community Health Centers
- May 20, 2010- Introduction to Business Continuity Planning
- May 27, 2010- Does Your Center Have Revenue Integrity?
- May 27, 2010-Physician Recruiting in an Era of Doctor Shortages
- June 17,2010-Group Health Insurance and Your Center's Employee Benefits program: What you need to know for 2010.
- June 23,2010-Developing Effective FQHC Programs and Applications
- August 10-11, 2010- Strategic and Business Planning Seminar, Chicago

Funding Opportunities

Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Teenage Pregnancy Prevention: Integrating Services, Programs, and Strategies through Community-wide Initiatives Grant.
<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld+54258>

National Health Service Corps 2010 Scholarship Program

Application Deadline: June 1, 2010

The National Health Service Corps will award about 125 scholarships for 2010. More than 75 of these awards are made possible by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. The scholarship includes tuition, required fees and other reasonable educational costs, and a monthly stipend.

HRSA Community Health Outreach Research Network (CHARN)

Application Deadline: June 9, 2010

The CHARN will be comprised of four Research Nodes and a Central Data Management Coordinating Center (CDMCC). Research Nodes are health center-led consortia of safety net providers in partnership with one or

more academic institutions and will be funded through four separate cooperative agreements. This funding announcement is for four Research Node Centers to support the four Research Nodes. Each Research Node Center will serve as the coordinating arm of the Research Node and will maintain a research partnership with the other affiliate organizations within the Research Node. Support for the Research Node will include arranging and managing the participation of at least 3 affiliates, maintaining scientific and technical personnel for research protocol development and implementation, coordinating intra-node activities, and providing resources for intra-node activities. A [HRSA CHARN Guidance Clarification document](#) was posted online this week.

[CVS Caremark All Kids Can™](#)

Application Deadline: June 15, 2010

A five-year, \$25 million commitment to making life easier for children with disabilities. Through this signature program, CVS Caremark and the Trust will support nonprofit organizations that provide innovative programs and services in local communities focused on helping children with disabilities learn, play and succeed in life. The goals of All Kids Can are to raise awareness in schools and in local communities about the importance of inclusion; build barrier-free playgrounds so children of all abilities can play side-by-side; and provide medical rehabilitation and related services to children with disabilities. The CVS Caremark Charitable Trust focuses primarily on supporting charitable organizations that are making a difference in the lives of children with disabilities. Resources are also allocated to help support organizations focused on providing healthcare to the uninsured.

[NIH Research on Improving Health Care for Obese Patients](#)

Application Deadline: June 5, 2010

This funding opportunity is for organizations to conduct research to determine the barriers to optimal health care for obese patients, and to test innovations or modifications in care delivery to improve health outcomes for obese patients independent of weight loss.

[Health Careers Opportunity Program](#)

Application Deadline: June 1, 2010

The goal of the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) is to assist individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds to undertake education to enter a health profession.

[AAP Community-based Child Health Initiatives Planning Grants](#)

Application Deadline: July 30, 2010

(The RFP will be posted on May 3)

These American Academy of Pediatrics grants are awarded for pediatric community-based child health initiatives. The program provides grants in amounts from \$2,500 to \$12,000 for pediatricians to develop innovative, community-based initiatives that increase children's access to medical homes or to specific health services not otherwise available. Planning project activities must lead to sustainable, community-based child health initiatives that increase access to care, especially for underserved children, and address health disparities among children.

[The Johnson & Johnson Community Health Care Program \(J&J CHC\) Community Education Funding](#)

Application Deadline: June 7, 2010

The J&J CHC, in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, has announced a grant funding opportunity for non-profit, community based health care organizations implementing evidence-based, community education programs that promote wellness and healthy lifestyle choices to prevent and reduce the impact of obesity in children 6-12 years of age. Successful applicants will receive a \$200,000 grant to fund activities over a 2 ½ year period. A total of eight grants will be awarded in the fall of 2010 to non-profit, community-based health care organizations in six locations, including Philadelphia. Questions may be directed to: Sierra Veale at 443-287-5138 or via e-mail at jandj@jhsph.edu.

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Local Funding Partnerships](#)

Application Deadline: September 1, 2010

A program designed to forge relationships between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and local grantmakers to fund promising, original projects that can significantly improve the health of vulnerable people in their communities. Up to \$1 million is available for the 2010 grant cycle. Up to eight matching grants of between \$50,000 and \$200,000 for each per project will be awarded.

RWJF notes that applicants' projects must be new, innovative, collaborative and community-based. Significant program expansions into new regions or to new populations may also be considered.

NOTE: This program does not fund existing projects. Projects must be nominated by a local grantmaker interested in participating as one of the funding partners. Local funding partners must be willing to work with grantees to obtain sufficient dollar-for-dollar matching funds throughout the grant period. These funders may include independent and private foundations, family and community foundations, and corporate and other philanthropy.

[United Healthcare Children's Foundation Medical Assistance Grants](#)

Application Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Assistance grants for children for medical services not fully covered by health insurance. Parents and

caretakers across the country will be eligible to apply for grants of up to \$5,000 for healthcare services that will help improve their children's health and quality of life. Examples of the types of medical services covered by UHCCF grants include speech therapy, physical therapy, and psychotherapy sessions; medical equipment such as wheelchairs, braces, hearing aids, and eyeglasses; and orthodontia and dental treatments.

[USDA Community Facilities Loan and Grant Program](#)

Application Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Funding to construct, enlarge, or improve essential community facilities for health care, public safety, and public services in rural areas.

[Michael and Susan Dell Foundation - Helping Children in Urban Poverty Grant](#)

Application Deadline: Rolling

The Michael and Susan Dell Foundation seeks to fund projects that directly serve or impact children living in urban poverty, particularly in the areas of education, childhood health and family economic stability. Award amounts vary. Charitable or tax-exempt organizations are eligible to apply.

ARHQ Grants Available for CHIP Pediatric Healthcare Quality Measures

The grant focuses on cooperative research demonstration and dissemination projects for the purpose of implementing the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) of 2009 section on advancing and improving pediatric quality measures. Deadline: Letters of intent are due June 1, 2010, and applications are due June 30, 2010. [Click here to view grant announcement.](#)

Resources

New Website Designed to Help Users Understand Healthcare Reform

George Washington University and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation announced the launch this week of [Health Reform GPS](#), a web portal designed to help key stakeholders understand and operationalize health reform legislation. The portal will be a valuable resource for comprehensive information about all phases of the law and the process of implementation. The portal will offer regularly posted short essays, called "Health Reform Implementation Notes," that provide background about the legislation, explain the changes made by the law, describe the federal implementation process and timetable and identify the questions and challenges for policymakers. The portal will also offer an online library, consisting of resources such as federal agency regulations and guidelines, analyses and studies and other materials from key stakeholders. In addition, the site will offer a health reform glossary of terms and will be searchable through a topical index.

Some are Optimistic about Healthcare Reform Law's Impact

A May 4th Washington Post [article](#) envisions a new and better healthcare system as a result of the foundation for reform created by the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act, the nation's healthcare reform bill. The article highlights the potential impact of widespread use of health information technology, the focus on primary care, and the opportunity for better decision-making by patients and doctors because of the availability of better information.

Funding for Hospital/Health Center Collaboration to Reduce Readmissions Forthcoming

As described in a recent *Health Affairs* GrantWatch [blog](#), the new health reform law provides \$500 million to support partnerships between hospitals and community-based organizations that aim to provide evidence-based care for Medicare beneficiaries at high risk of readmission. The provision grew out of the Care Transitions Intervention, which has been successfully implemented in 14 states and led to significantly reduced readmissions. Proven strategies to improve care transitions are described in a new resource developed by The Commonwealth Fund, the John A. Hartford Foundation, and the Health Research and Educational Trust: [The Health Care Leader Action Guide to Reduce Avoidable Readmissions.](#)

New Report Delves Into Primary Care Practice Demands

A [new report](#) in the April 29th issue of the New England Journal of Medicine offers insight into the non-visit work done by primary care physicians. Physicians in a Philadelphia medical home tracked work over the course of a year. Findings show that each doctor responded to a phone call or laboratory result a combined average of 43.2 times a day. According to the study's author, it is urgent that we understand the actual work of primary care and find ways to support it. The [New York Times](#) also reports on the findings.

Time Magazine Highlights Text4Baby

A [recent article](#) in Time Magazine titled "Take Two Texts and Call Me in the Morning" highlights the importance of this new initiative in reducing U.S. infant mortality rates. With the U.S. ranking even behind Hungary and Cuba and coming in 30th worldwide in infant mortality, it is hoped that this easy to use feature of free text messaging on a pregnant woman's cell phone will help better these statistics.

American Academy of Pediatrics Offers Free Prevention Resources

2010 health reform legislation mandates coverage of preventive services for infants, young children, and adolescents, including evidence-based preventive care and screenings. The [Bright Futures guidelines](#), designed to help office staff improve developmental screening and preventive services for children under 5 years of age, were developed for the Health & Human Resources Administration (HRSA) by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The materials offered include: Improving Preventive Care In Your Office - Tools for Office Improvement; Working with Practices to Improve Preventive Care - A Leader's Guide; and Training Materials to Improve Preventive Care in Office Practice - Bright Futures Workshop Materials. These training and implementation materials for the Bright Futures Program, funded by the Commonwealth Fund with support from the US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal & Child Health Bureau are **free** for all to download.

Breastfeeding and Racial & Ethnic Differences

Research that was recently published in a Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) examines racial and ethnic differences around breastfeeding. The [analysis](#) found that even though approximately 73% of women breastfed their babies, many ceased doing so after only a few weeks or months. Hispanic women had a higher initiation rate than non-Hispanic whites while non-Hispanic blacks had a lower breastfeeding initiation rate than non-Hispanic whites.

AHRQ Offers Health Literacy Universal Precautions Toolkit

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is now offering a [Health Literacy Universal Precautions Toolkit](#) based on the principles of universal precautions and specific actions that providers can take to make health information more understandable for all of their patients. It is designed to be used by all levels of staff in practices providing primary care for adults and/or pediatrics.

New Report Offers Guidance on HIT Collaboration with Health Centers

Earlier this year, the National Association of State Health Policy (NASHP) hosted a webinar that convened individuals from Massachusetts, Oregon, and Tennessee to discuss ways in which state agencies and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) are working together to use HIT and health information exchange (HIE) funding opportunities from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to achieve mutual goals for health system improvements. A new [issue brief](#) draws from and builds on this webinar to offer an overview of opportunities, explore these states' experiences, and provide concluding observations. The brief was developed through a National Cooperative Agreement sponsored by the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC).

NACHC News

Health Center Related State Workforce Legislation

The NACHC State Affairs team has compiled a list of state primary care workforce legislation that directly impacts community health centers. [Please see attached report](#) and contact Colleen Boselli, cboselli@nachc.org, if there is a bill missing from your state.

NACHC has scheduled a **conference call for PCAs on Thursday May 20th from 2 - 3pm Eastern**, during which time we will go over the important elements in the above stated Negotiated Rulemaking notice and our current plans and timeline for responding. We also will welcome any suggestions, comments or questions you may have related to this topic. **The call- in number is 866-939-8416 and the ID is 2211415.**

What Does Healthcare Reform Mean for You?

Visit the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) website and check out the [Health Reform Hub](#) to see the latest on the unprecedented investment in community health centers. Updates include one page fact sheets on:

- Health Center Growth
- National Health Service Corps
- Health Center Payment & Participation
- Medicaid/CHIP
- [Medicare Reimbursement](#)
- Accountable Care Organizations and Medical Homes

The site also includes links to testimony, reform principles, research and other information.

New Resources Available; Health Centers and Health Reform:

Check out several new resources now available on the [NACHC Health Reform Hub](#), including:

- [Frequently Asked Questions: Health Centers and Health Reform](#)
- [Expanded Summary: Health Center and Other Provisions](#)

- [Fact Sheet: Health Centers and Health Care Reform - Growth](#)
- [Other Health Reform One-pagers & Fact Sheets](#)



NACHC Offers Free Facebook Technical Assistance Webinars

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) is offering three free webinars designed to provide technical assistance for Community Health Centers utilizing social media:

- [Integrating Video Into Your Social Media Efforts](#)
- [Building A Facebook Page For Your Organization: 101](#)
- [Advanced Facebook](#)

All three webinars will show participants how to utilize these tools live, from the presenter's browser. Register today to learn how your health center can take advantage of Facebook or can better use Facebook.

CBO Report Skews Health Reform Funding Levels:

As we have reported many times, the health reform legislation created the Community Health Center Fund. The fund includes \$9.5 billion in operations funding and \$1.5 billion in capital, [which is \\$11 billion in total direct appropriations from FY 2011 through FY 2015](#). This is currently the only funding **directly appropriated** (read: real money) to health centers in health reform. Health centers are **authorized** to receive \$3.86 billion in FY 2011 within the health reform law, but this is not real money. In reality, there will be \$1 billion available to health centers in FY 2011 from the Community Health Center Fund, in addition to regular appropriated funding, which was \$2.19 billion in FY 2010. Health centers are urging Congress to keep our discretionary funding at least at that FY2010 level of \$2.19 billion, meaning there would be a total of \$3.19 billion in total Health Centers program funding for FY2011, which is below the authorized level but more accurately reflects what will actually be spent next year. ...For this reason, the recent CBO blog and report that indicates health centers could receive \$34 billion over the next 10 years is somewhat misleading. – Krystal Knight, [Health Centers On The Hill](#)

National Health Center Week is Just Around the Corner:

Health Centers from Alaska to Delaware have already begun planning and posting their events for [National Health Center Week 2010, August 8-14](#). This year's celebration is shaping up to be something special with the observance of the 45th Anniversary of the Health Center Program, the opportunity to highlight the impact of the stimulus and recognition of the key role health centers will play in health care reform. This year's theme is America's Health Centers: Turning the Vision Into Reality. Don't forget to visit the National Health Center Week website to [post your events](#), [find NHCW tools and resources](#), [order NHCW products](#) and stay up to date on the latest [NHCW news](#).

HHS News

Eight States (LA, MD, MO, NJ, OR, WA) and Puerto Rico to Receive Federal Matching Funds for Electronic Health Record Incentives Program

CMS Press Releases: [Louisiana](#), [Maryland](#), [Minnesota](#), [New Jersey](#), [Missouri](#), [New Mexico](#), [Oregon](#), [Washington](#), [Puerto Rico](#). Also, [see attached chart](#) for state by state breakdown of funds.

HHS Proposes State Allocations for High Risk Pools Based on CHIP Formula

[Click here to view HHS Fact Sheet on Temporary High Risk Pools](#), which includes state by state breakdown of proposed funding.

HHS Preparing to Unveil Health Insurance Option Website

According to an interim final rule published this week in the Federal Register, the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) plans to unveil the first version of a website designed to help individuals and small businesses get information about health insurance options in their state by July 1st. The HHS Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight will oversee the web portal that will provide consumers with information about private insurance, high-risk pools, Medicaid and the CHIP. HHS hopes the new portal will influence states' creation of health insurance exchanges; increase enrollment in Medicaid, CHIP and high-risk pools; and boost the sale of private policies to the uninsured. HHS is accepting comments on the interim final rule through June 4th.

HRSA/BPHC News

National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Updates

2010 NHSC Scholarship Opportunity in Primary Care: Apply by June 1st

NHSC 2010 Scholarship for students pursuing degrees in medicine (DO or MD), dentistry, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, certified nurse midwife. Award is for tuition, stipend and more. Click here to view factsheet that includes more information and link to the online application.

SUMMARY NOTES from National Health Service Corps Conference Call – May 17, 2010

Loan Repayment Program

- NHSC estimated that 2,445 full-time and 400 half-time loan repayment awards would be provided to clinicians during FY2010.
- As of April 2010, NHSC has exceeded the number of awards planned for FY2010 - awarding close to 3000.
- Applications are being processed as received, even those from clinicians at sites down to a zero HPSA Score.
- The maximum turnaround time remains 8 weeks.
- Beginning in October, current NHSC clinicians can apply for contract modifications which will allow them to go from f/t to h/t status. Clinicians will need to contact the NHSC at 800-221-9393 for additional information regarding this option.
- **LR application deadline is July 29, 2010** for FY2010. NHSC will begin accepting applications for FY2011 in October/November 2010.

Scholarship Program

- **Scholarship application deadline is June 1, 2010.**
- NHSC estimated that 145 scholarships will be awarded during FY 2010, utilizing ARRA and NHSC funds.

NHSC Site Application and Renewal Process

- Site application process will be streamlined to include an electronic option. It is planned that this process will be revealed in coming months.
- All site renewal dates have **been extended from September 30, 2010 to September 30, 2011.**

Beacon Communities Lead the Charge to Improve Health Outcomes

Last week, [Secretary Sebelius awarded \\$220 million to establish 15 Beacon Communities throughout America](#). These community consortia – selected from 130 applicants – have demonstrated leadership in developing advanced health IT solutions to help improve specific health outcomes. Beacon Communities will leverage other existing federal programs, including HRSA programs at federally qualified health centers (FOHCs) and Health Center Controlled Networks (HCCNs) to advance the adoption of certified electronic health records and exchange of health information. HHS has stressed that the partnership with FOHC and HCCN sites is particularly important to ensure they realize measurable and tangible results. [Click here for more information on the Beacon Community Program](#)

The Board of Governors of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute and the National Health Care Workforce Commission Are Seeking Nominees

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act gave the Comptroller General of the United States responsibility for appointing 19 members to the Board of Governors of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (select to access the [Federal Register notice](#)) and 15 members to the National Health Care Workforce Commission (select to access the [Federal Register notice](#)).

Letters of nomination and resumes for both notices should be submitted by June 30 to ensure adequate opportunity for review and consideration of nominees prior to appointment.

You are subscribed to Health IT for Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). This information has recently been updated, and is [now available](#).

HRSA Kicks Off Rulemaking Process to Change Shortage Designation Methodology:

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act required HRSA to use the Negotiated Rulemaking process to start immediately to update the shortage designation for MUPs and HPSAs. The notice published May 11th starts a year-long process that will include a representative group of stakeholders, and is geared towards reaching consensus in order to ensure the regulation HRSA issues is supported by those most impacted by the changes. [Congress mandated that HRSA use this rulemaking process after the last shortage designation rulemaking in 2008 ended](#) with no agreement. NACHC has supported negotiated rulemaking as a way to engage stakeholders and make sure any policy changes help and don't hurt health centers and their patients. This process is designed to do just that. – [Health Centers On The Hill](#) blog post

Notice from HRSA on Negotiated Rulemaking Process for MUA/HPSA

HRSA has published in the Federal Register its Negotiated Rulemaking process for the MUA/HPSA designation methodology and criteria. You'll notice that NACHC and 3 PCAs are specifically named as participants in the NRM Committee, as are several other groups, including PCOs. NACHC will be commenting on the Notice and urges PCAs to do the same, prior to

the comment deadline of June 10, 2010. Following that comment period, the Committee is to be named by July 1, and to begin meeting in August or September, with a goal of completing its task by July 1, 2011. [Click here to view Federal Register Notice.](#)

[Unsubscribe](#) *Mississippi Primary Health Care Association distributes the MPHCA e-Update every Wednesday to inform members and partners of issues important to Community Health Centers.*

The MPHCA e-Update is the official e-bulletin of the Mississippi Primary Health Care Association. It is e-mailed weekly as a membership service to Mississippi Community Health Center executive leadership, board members, health professionals, non-clinical staff, and other MPHCA members and partners.

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