



# TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up

The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Cover Texas Now Advocacy Day March 12th**

TACHC and health centers around the state are joining with the Cover Texas Now coalition to fight to close the coverage gap and insure more Texans. We are coming together with other advocacy groups around the state March 12th for a

rally and lobby visits in Austin. We need your support and attendance in Austin to close the gap and show our support for community health centers and the important role they play in our communities.

For more information on Cover Texas Now Advocacy Day, [click here!](#) To register for the event, [click here](#) or contact [Courtney Weaver](#) for more information.

### **TACHC OC<sup>3</sup> CPI Webcast Series: Improving Performance, Ensuring FTCA Coverage**

March 20: Part 1, HRSA LCDR Shayna Wilborn will present on the important benefits and requirements of the Federal Tort Claims Act malpractice coverage for Federally Qualified Health Centers and sharing some lessons learned from the 2014 re-deeming applications.

April 17: Part 2, TACHC Associate General Counsel Cecile Carson will present data from the homework survey from Part 1 of this series, offering recommendations for problem areas and opportunities for performance improvement.

[Click here to see webcast agendas and register for the series.](#) Submit any FTCA questions you would like answered on the webcasts to [Cecile Carson](#) at TACHC.

## **GOVERNANCE and FINANCE**

### **TACHC Membership Dues Deadline March 1, 2015**

The notice for the 2015 TACHC membership dues was emailed to each Executive Director in early January. Full or partial payment (as per Payment Policy), is due to TACHC by 3/1/15. If you have any questions about the dues payment process, please contact [Lynn Ford](#) or [Danielle Ramos](#).

### **Funding Opportunity from Direct Relief and BD**

**BD Helping Build Healthy Communities** is a multi-year initiative that expands access and improves care for underserved and vulnerable populations throughout the US. The initiative, funded by BD and implemented together with Direct Relief and NACHC, provides awards to community health centers to support innovative approaches to the delivery of primary and preventive health care to underserved and vulnerable populations related to diabetes prevention, treatment, or related comorbidities.

Up to seven (7) Awards of \$100,000 each will be made in 2015 for prevention and treatment programs for patients with diabetes **Deadline to apply is March 9th.** Funds should be used to enhance the program for which the Award is based. Awardees must be present at the NACHC Community Health Institute

(CHI) conference in Orlando, FL in August 2015 to receive the Award.

## **Revisions to 2014 Uniform Data System (UDS) Report Instructions**

The final **Calendar Year 2014 UDS Manual** was approved and released by the Bureau of Primary Health Care in January 2015. Please note there are **two changes in the manual that supersede instructions provided at the UDS training hosted by TACHC in December 2014.**

## **CLINICAL AFFAIRS**

### **New OC3 Medical Home Transformation Learning Year Begins**

#### **April 1st**

The 2015 – 2016 OC3 Medical Home Transformation Learning Year starts April 1, 2015, and TACHC is now accepting applications from interested health centers. TACHC is providing a 3-Tier option for the OC3 Learning Year to customize your individual center's learning needs. Time and space is limited, so don't delay. To apply or for more information, contact **Verne LaGrega**, Clinical Care Coordinator.

### **Free Webinar: Infection Prevention in Outpatient Settings**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have issued new guidance to prevent healthcare associated infections in outpatient setting which focuses on hand hygiene, environmental cleaning and disinfection, skin antisepsis, safe injection practices and appropriate use of personal protective equipment. The McKesson-sponsored webinar is March 11, 2015 1:30pm, CT and will review the common sources of healthcare-associated infection outbreaks in outpatient settings, discuss CDC evidence-based practices for the prevention of healthcare-associated infections and review appropriate steps to mitigate the risk for emergent infectious diseases in outpatient settings. Continuing Education will be provided. **Click Here to Register.**

## **POLICY**

### **Texas Capitol Update**

Have you signed up yet to visit your representative and senator at the Capitol this session? Your conversations and relationships matter. To arrange a visit, contact **Shelby Massey.**

## **GROUP PURCHASING**

### **Henry Schein's Dental Essentials Line**

Henry Schein dental has a new cost effective line of disposable and barrier items, called "Essentials", providing high quality for all "Essential" needs; from 2 x 2's to gloves. Click **HERE** for a brochure, and contact your Henry Schein representative for more information.

## **OUTREACH**

### **New & Improved: TACHC Voter Registration Toolkit**

TACHC has updated the **Texas Voter Registration Toolkit for Community Health Centers**. Contact **Andrea Abel** if you are interested in incorporating voter registration as an outreach tool at your health center.

## **R&R**

### **TACHC Upcoming Staff Recruitment Activities**

CareerMD Job Fair (San Antonio 3/06/15)

Does your center have openings for clinical providers or executive management that you would like us to help you recruit for? Complete the **TACHC online position profile**. Contact **Danielle Ramos**, TACHC Recruitment Dept. Program Assistant for more information.

## **IT**

### **TACHC Note Re: Medical or Nurses Assistants and Meaningful Use (MU)**

For any unlicensed health aide to conduct count as computerized physician order entry (CPOE) that counts toward the MU measure, s/he has to have a credential or certification from an organization other than the employer. This means certified nurses aides, certified nurses assistants, and certified medical assistants at health centers may conduct CPOE and have it count toward MU. For those health aides who are not certified or credentialed by a third party organization, there are no restrictions on entering other information into the record (for example, vital signs when appropriate), their work just cannot be counted as CPOE for MU. **See CMS FAQs** and contact **Cecile Carson** at TACHC for more detail.

## **NEWS**

Congratulations to **Community Health Service Agency's Kaufman Community Health Center** for achieving **NCQA PCMH Level 2 Recognition!**

Don't miss out. Follow TACHC on **facebook** and **twitter**.

Send **NEWS** about your health center to be considered for inclusion in the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up to TACHC Communications Director **Andrea Abel**.

**SUBSCRIBE** the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up.

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