America’s Health Center Crisis: Fixing the Primary Care Funding Cliff
Webinar - December 16, 2014
11am to Noon (CST)

The webinar will begin shortly...

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF Community Health Centers

Louisiana Primary Care Association Inc.
America’s Health Center Crisis: Fixing the Primary Care Funding Cliff
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Welcome!

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America’s Health Center Crisis: Fixing the Primary Care Funding Cliff
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Presenters

Stephen Bradberry
Executive Director
Alliance Institute

Kelli Dorsey  Moderator
Community Engagement Specialist
Alliance Institute

Amanda Pears Kelly
Director of Advocacy and Civic Engagement
NACHC

Abigail Pinkele
Deputy Director of Federal Affairs
NACHC
Alliance Institute is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides community organizing training and technical assistance to non-profits and community based organizations in New Orleans and across the gulf south.

With a primary goal of increasing economic and social justice through community engagement, Alliance Institute works to provide individuals, families, and organizations with the skills and tools they need to fully participate in the decision making processes that affect them in their homes, neighborhoods, and communities.
Expanding Community Involvement

- Fund community based organizations
- Capacity building
- Technical assistance & training
- Strategic partnerships
- Organizing
Increasing Access to Health Care

- Community Involvement
- Language & Literacy Access
- Preserving Health Care Funding
- Regional Health Care Symposia
- Gulf Region Health Outreach Program
A five-year program to strengthen the health care, health literacy, and resiliency of Gulf Coast communities affected by the BP oil drilling disaster.

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<tr>
<th>Community Engagement</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Institution(s)</th>
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<td>Primary Care Capacity Project</td>
<td>Louisiana Public Health Institute</td>
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<td>Mental and Behavioral Health Capacity Project</td>
<td>Louisiana State University, University of Southern Mississippi, University of South Alabama, University of West Florida</td>
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<td>Environmental Health Capacity and Literacy Project</td>
<td>Tulane University, Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics</td>
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<td>Community Health Workers Training Project</td>
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Moderator

Kelli Dorsey
Community Engagement Specialist
Alliance Institute

Click on the “Chat” section at the bottom right of your screen to ask a question to the presenters at any time during the webinar.

Your questions may be held until the end of the presentation for discussion.
America’s Voice for Community Health Care
The Primary Care Funding Cliff: What YOU Can Do to Ensure Congress Acts to Fix the Cliff

Amanda Pears Kelly & Abigail Pinkele
National Association of Community Health Centers

December 16, 2014
In the Beginning

- **1965** - Community members in Boston, Massachusetts and Mound Bayou, Mississippi recognize the unmet needs of the poor and underserved in their communities and work to establish the nation’s first two Community Health Centers (CHC’s). The original health centers were funded under demonstration authority by federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), the lead agency in the War on Poverty efforts of the Johnson Administration.

- **1975** - Recognizing the strength, value and success of Community Health Centers, the Health Center Program is officially established under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (PHSA). The new program provides targeted funding to medically underserved/high impact areas; sets minimum service and consumer majority policy Board requirements.
What Makes CHC’s Different

- Community Health Centers are owned and operated by their communities:
  - The Health Center Program is the only healthcare delivery system in the nation that maintains a 51% patient majority consumer board- to ensure the TRUE NEEDS of the community are being represented and cared for!

- CHC’s will ALWAYS provide healthcare to anyone and everyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

- CHC’s often provide multiple healthcare services from their sites in order to provide greatest access to care for all patients and ensure all healthcare needs are accounted for- one stop shopping for healthcare.
The Environment in Washington - the BAD

• Political Polarization
• ACA is as divisive as ever
• “Must-pass” bills pass, but not much else
• Heightened scrutiny of federal programs
• Budget caps and future funding uncertainty
The Environment in Washington - the GOOD

- Bipartisan support for Health Centers’ Program, Model and Mission
- Both sides looking for solutions in the health care arena
- Health Centers are at the center of the conversation
HEALTH CENTER FUNDING STREAMS

**DISCRETIONARY**
- Annual, up to Congress to determine a amount
- Prior to ACA, the only funding for CHC program
- Cut in 2011, backfilled with mandatory funds
- *Currently* $1.5 billion (FY14)

**MANDATORY**
- Required spending, unless Congress changes the law
- Special 5-year Trust Fund created in ACA to boost Health Center Capacity
- *Currently* 2.2 billion (FY14)
- Set to expire in FY2016 (more on that in a moment)
HEALTH CENTERS FUNDING CLIFF

- Mandatory funding expires at the end of FY15
- Without action by Congress, up to 70% cut to Health Center grants
- NHSC, THC’s in same position (though ALL mandatory)
The National Health Service Corps will be eligible for $310 million in funding in FY15 and $0 in FY16.

The Teaching Health Center Program will go from a total allocation of $230 million in funding to $0 in FY16.

Without Congressional intervention, both programs will cease to exist.
1. **This is real.** Health Centers have broad support, but Congress has to act in order to fix this problem.

2. **Estimate the impact.** What would a 70% cut to your grant mean in your community, to your patients?

3. **Raise the drumbeat for a fix.** We have a long fight ahead, but our best hope is the understanding that this is a “must-do”.

4. **Resource Library:** [www.nachc.com/cliff](http://www.nachc.com/cliff)
MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

ACCESS

CAMPAIGN FOR AMERICA'S HEALTH CENTERS

is the Answer

#AccessIsTheAnswer
ACCESS IS THE ANSWER CAMPAIGN

• Campaign to organize EVERY HEALTH CENTER ADVOCATE to get Congress to fix the Health Center Funding Cliff.

• Goal is to demonstrate the support in local communities for health centers.
Why is Advocacy Important?

• If not you, then who else?
• Healthcare is for everyone!
• Keep the lights on- job security.
• Who knows your community better than you?
• STOP being a bi-stander.
• The people we serve are in the greatest need but receive the least recognition.
• Accountability- holding your decision makers accountable.
• Working together- meeting the needs of the community.
ACCESS IS THE ANSWER CAMPAIGN
What Can YOU Do Right Now?

We are asking every Health Center to take **Action Steps** as part of the second phase of the Campaign.

1. Continue collecting Local Support Letters
2. Submit a letter to the editor/Op-Ed to a local media outlet

Email grassroots@nachc.com to report your numbers

www.saveourchcs.org/about.cfm
HELPFUL RESOURCES TO FIX THE CLIFF

• Petition templates in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Chinese
• Local Support Letter templates
• Media templates
• Fliers and notecards
• Sample social media posts and images

www.saveourchcs.org/about.cfm

• Cliff estimator
• Cliff graphs
• Talking points and FAQs
• State-by-state fact sheets on economic impact

www.nachc.com/cliff
BECOME A HEALTH CENTER ADVOCATE TODAY!

Join the Campaign for America’s Health Centers

- Weekly Washington Update
- Action Alerts
- Spanish-language Advocacy updates
- Tele-townhall forums with national policymakers
- Send messages to your elected officials in support of Health Centers and the patients they serve.
HEALTH CENTERS SUCCESS & OUR COLLECTIVE FUTURE DEPEND ON THE STRENGTH OF OUR ADVOCACY.

• Local connection is the key to policy change - build relationships and demonstrate impact over time

• Advocacy requires ACTION - the key is to develop a sustained culture of advocacy in your center

• The challenges ahead are huge, as are the opportunities. We have to take them on TOGETHER.
Amanda Pears Kelly & Abigail Pinkele

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QUESTIONS?
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Questions & Answers

Click on the “Chat” section at the bottom right of your screen to ask a question to the presenters.

Type in your question and click submit.
Next Steps

- State based webinars on funding cliff (LA/MS/AL)
- Webinar on 501c3 advocacy with Alliance for Justice
- Health Vote
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Thank You!

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