



2013 National Health Center Week Retrospective

Bi-State Primary Care Association



White House Issues Health Center Week Proclamation

"Community Health Centers play a critical role in providing affordable, high-quality preventive and primary health care to millions of Americans," said President Obama. "From urban centers to rural towns, they offer vital services regardless of ability to pay-services that help patients stay healthy and avoid emergency room visits. During National Health Center Week, we recognize health centers' significant contributions to keeping America healthy, and we offer our continuing support to the dedicated providers who operate them."

NH Proclamation and Video - On Aug. 15, Governor Maggie Hassan presented a [Governor's Proclamation](#) to designate August 11-17 as NH Community Health Center Week to a crowd gathered in the lobby of Concord Hospital. President/CEO of Bi-State Primary Care Association, Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN, accepted the proclamation on behalf of the New Hampshire Community Health Centers. Gov. Hassan recognized the state's [17 nonprofit Community Health Centers](#) as essential providers of primary care and preventive



Edward Shanshala II, Tess Stack Kuenning, Dr. Douglas Dreffer, and Governor Hassan in Concord.

health care, especially for those facing geographic, economic, or cultural barriers when trying to access health care.

Following the presentation, Gov. Hassan, Ms. Stack Kuenning, and Edward Shanshala, CEO of [Ammonoosuc Community Health Services](#), toured [Concord Family](#)

Vermont Proclamation - Governor Peter Shumlin

issued a [Governor's Proclamation](#) declaring August 11-17, 2013, as Community Health Center Week in Vermont. The Community Health Centers, including all eight Federally Qualified Health Centers in Vermont, provide primary care to 190,000 Vermonters statewide. Community Health Centers provide affordable, high quality primary medical, dental, and behavioral health care, and access to lower-cost pharmacy services. [Click here to find a health center in Vermont.](#)



Special Episode: Community Health Centers and Vermont Health Connect

On a special episode of *Health Quest* on Kingdom Access TV (KATV), [Northern Counties Health Care](#) guest, Kristen Bigelow-Talbert, project coordinator for Bi-State Primary Care Association,



Northern Counties Health Care host, Kim Colangelo, interviews Kristen Bigelow-Talbert.

discussed the role of Community Health Centers in health care reform, with [Vermont Health Connect](#), and resources available for Vermonters. The episodera n throughout Health Center Week and can

be seen on Kingdom Access TV.

View this

episode: <http://www.katv.org/studio/healthquest/ep13>

[Medicine](#) with Medical Director Douglas Dreffer, MD.



Video: Tess Stack Kuenning and Governor Hassan on the important role of Community Health Centers.

Health Center Community Block Party Encourages Health and Wellness



To express their gratitude for the community support they receive all year round, [Ammonoosuc](#)

[Community Health Center, Littleton, NH](#), invited local supporters, partners, and collaborators to be vendors at their first Annual Community Block Party. The health and wellness-themed event featured many businesses, artists, and performers, including displays of outdoor skiing and biking equipment for those with physical disabilities, local art work, locally grown produce, and much more. [Ammonoosuc](#) provided tours of its Littleton health center site, free blood pressure screenings, and held a drawing for a Community Basket.

New Pharmacy Opens in Colebrook

The Open House held at [Indian Stream Health Center, Colebrook NH](#), provided visitors with a tour of the new walk-in and drive-up pharmacy. The



pharmacy is staffed with familiar faces: April Allin, RPh, pharmacy manager; Audie Porter, certified pharmacy technician; and Billie Paquette, part-time pharmacy technician. Indian Stream provides primary care nearly 4,000 residents in nearby towns in New Hampshire and Vermont.

The pharmacy project was supported by a grant from the Neil & Louise Tillotson Fund (NH Charitable Foundation) and a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

April Allin, RPh, pharmacy manager and Audie Porter, CPT, are staffing the new in-house and drive-up pharmacy.

Race Supports Special Programs for Kids

[Lamprey Health Care, Newmarket, NH](#) - After a day of pelting rain, August 10 dawned with a bright sky and clear air to welcome over 115 runners participating in Lamprey Health Care's Annual 5K Road Race. Thanks to the wonderful turnout of runners and generous sponsor donations, more than \$4,800 was raised. Participants from 8 to 71 years of age, infants in strollers, walkers, and people on bicycles all took part. The race was followed by a fun run for the kids. Proceeds from the event support programs and services for Lamprey's pediatric patients. [Read more.](#)



Runners of all ages participate in the 5 mile run, walk, and stroll through Newmarket.

Communities Eager for NH Health Insurance Marketplace Training

Blood Drive Draws Community Support

[Community Health Centers of Burlington, Burlington, VT](#) - As part of National Health Center Week,



Staff from 36 community organizations attended the first NH Marketplace Training.

[Harbor Care Clinic, Harbor Homes, Nashua, NH](#), hosted the first NH Health Insurance Marketplace Training Forum on Aug. 15 to prepare organizations that will serve as a resource to their communities. Officials from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, NH Department of Insurance, NH Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, conducted a three-hour training attended by 36 community organizations. Navigators and Certified Application Counselors are being trained to provide impartial information about the Marketplace and help consumers understand the terms and benefits of each health insurance plan, and assist with applications for financial subsidies and online enrollment, which begins Oct. 1, 2013. For more information about the Health Insurance Marketplaces and how to get started in each state, visit: healthcare.gov.

Community Health Centers of Burlington teamed up with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive. "We all had a ton of fun and made a difference in the process!"

Did you know? CHCB's Gone Mobile! CHCB now has a mobile website! Check it out on your smartphone on the go: chcb.eone.mobi

Online Patient Portal a Success in Berlin

[Coos County Family Health Services, Berlin, NH](#), held a grand prize drawing of a *Kindle Fire* on Aug. 15 to reward patients who have participated in the health center's goal to register all patients on the patient portal. The patient portal is a secure online application that allows patients to view information in their charts and contact their provider. More than half of all patients have registered. [Senator Shaheen's](#) special assistant for Policy and Projects, Chuck Henderson, represented the Senator at the event.

Devoted Community Health Center Pharmacist Retires in Vermont

[Northern Tier Center for Health, Richford, VT](#) - In celebration of his outstanding service to the community for the past 30 years, and his commitment to the patients of Northern Tier Center for Health, a reception and open house were held for retiring managing pharmacist, Jim Lill, RPh, during National Health Center Week.

About Bi-State Primary Care Association

Established in 1986, [Bi-State Primary Care Association](#), serving Vermont and New Hampshire, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization that promotes access to effective and affordable primary care and preventive services for all, with special emphasis on underserved populations in New Hampshire and Vermont.

Contact the Editor: [Susan Noon, MBA, APR](#) - Director of Marketing and Development

[Bi-State Staff Directory](#)

Bi-State Primary Care Association
525 Clinton Street, Bow, NH 03304 and 61 Elm Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
www.bistatepca.org