



Tess Stack Kuenning
CNS, MS, RN
Executive Director

Dear Friends,

I was pleased to see so many of you at the 2012 Primary Care Conference in May. We are very grateful to our [Sponsors](#) for their support. We appreciate the time our distinguished speakers, Michelle Proser, Christie Hager, Anya Rader Wallack, Jeanne Ryer, Kaitlin McColgan, Sharon Beaty, Robin Fisk, Richard Slusky, Caroline Peuker, and Michael Holton devoted to their presentations and answering audience questions. Overall, the conference was rated as Excellent/Good by more than 95% of those in attendance.

You may know one or several people who received a Bi-State Award at the Primary Care Conference this year. Please see our announcement below.

Bi-State and its members remain committed to improving quality, managing costs, and increasing access to primary care for all. If you, or anyone you know, need access to high quality, primary care, please visit Bi-State's website to Find a Health Center in VT or NH. There is one near you!

[National Community Health Center Week](#) will be held August 5-11. Many of our Community Health Centers will be having health-related events and tours of their health centers; they look forward to meeting you and answering your questions about the health center during this time. Specific event dates and times will be announced in July.

I hope you enjoy the warm summer months ahead.

Sincerely,



Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN
Executive Director, Bi-State Primary Care Association

People Who Make a Difference - Is it Someone You Know?

Every year, Bi-State requests nominations of individuals who have gone "above and beyond" in their efforts to support access to primary care, especially for the medically underserved in Vermont and New Hampshire. We are continually amazed to hear about the most remarkable "unsung heroes" who daily demonstrate excellence, commitment, and dedication to ensuring access to primary care for the people of their state. We'd like to introduce you to the recipients of the **2012 Bi-State Awards**:



Left to Right: **Erle B. Pearce**, The NH Public Service Award; **Dr. John Matthew**, The VT Outstanding Clinician Award; **Cynthia Giguere-Unrein**, The NH Community Service Award; **Dr. Jeremy James** and **Dr. Sarah Zachos** shared The NH Outstanding Clinician Award; **Mark Larson**, The VT President's Award (accepted by Deputy Commissioner Lori Collins); **Kathleen Dunn**, The NH President's Award; and **Anya Rader Wallack**, VT Public Service Award.

Read more:

[VT Leaders Receive Awards at 2012 Primary Care Conference](#)
[NH Leaders Receive Awards at 2012 Primary Care Conference](#)

FQHC Grand Opening Ceremony!



Many distinguished guests, including Mayor Weinberger, Senators Leahy and Sanders, and Rep. Welch, joined Executive Director Jack Donnelly at Grand Opening of the [Community Health Centers of Burlington](#) on Monday, June 18. The Federally Qualified Health Center, a member of Bi-State Primary Care Association, was able to greatly expand its primary care services and build a new facility with local support and a grant of nearly \$11M from the [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#) in



CHCB is offering FREE Classes during the [Welcome Home Week Celebration](#).



Jack Donnelly, CHCB's executive director, and Tess Stack Kuenning, Bi-State's executive director, at the Grand Opening Ceremony. 2009.

Vanessa Santarelli selected for Leadership Role at Maine PCA



One Among Only 30 Nationwide

In Colebrook, NH, [Indian Stream Health Center's](#) information technology manager, Jonathan Brown, is one of only 30 nationwide who have been invited to attend the 2012 Rural Voices Leadership and Policy

Workshop in Bethesda, MD. He joins Melissa Miles, Bi-State Primary Care Association's Special Projects Coordinator, also selected by the [Office of Rural Health Policy](#) for the program. "The sort of stories that are shared between participants during these programs and the tidbits of advice you come away with are invaluable. It's the kind of information you cannot get in a classroom..." said Brown. [Read Indian Stream Release.](#)

Graduate Certificates Presented to Leadership Development Class



The **LDP2012 graduates** present at the Primary Care Conference to receive their certificates were (L-R): Teresa Voci, VP, Division of Medicine, [Gifford Medical Center](#); Heather Skeels, VT Program Director, [Bi-State Primary Care Association](#); Leah Rogers, Practice Manager Lead, [Northern Counties Health Care](#); Joshua Plavin, MD, MPH, Medical Director, [Gifford Medical Center](#); Alison Parkhurst, Front Office Supervisor, [Community Health Services of the Lamoille Valley](#); Nicole Lukaszewski, HR Director, [Coos County Family Health Services](#); Wendy Lasch-Williams, Advancement Coordinator, [Mid-State Health Center](#); and Bi-State's Lori Real, COO, and Kevin Kelley, President of the Board and CEO of the Community Health Centers of the Lamoille Valley.

Graduates not pictured include: Ashley Barry, Front Office Supervisor, [Community Health Services of the Lamoille Valley](#); Marie Boudreau, Office Manager, and Amanda Mayhew, Controller, both from [Northern Tier Center for Health](#); and Kevin Risko, DMD, Director, [Fletcher Allen General Practice Dental Residency](#). Familiarity with the history of Community Health Centers, best practices for grassroots advocacy, how to recruit and retain clinicians in rural areas, the processes involved in an evolving environment of quality improvement, how to plan and budget with changing federal, state, and private revenue sources, and providing strategic leadership in a challenging environment, are the areas of study developed by Bi-State Primary Care Association to train the next generation of emerging and evolving leaders in Vermont and New Hampshire.

The [Leadership Development Program](#), offered biannually, provides a solid foundation upon which to build a greater understanding of the Community Health



Vanessa Santarelli, Director of NH Public Policy at Bi-State Primary Care Association since 2009, will become the next [executive director of the Maine Primary Care Association](#) next month.

A familiar face at the State House and in the business community, Vanessa successfully

demonstrated that access to primary care through Community Health Centers benefits the business community and the state's economy by creating a healthier workforce with an affordable, cost-effective model of care.

Kudos to Vanessa:

[National Emerging Leader Award](#)



CHC Morning News
(2012)

16 Minutes: Open Doors to Health in New Hampshire (2011)

Vanessa will be missed,

but we are very pleased she will continue working on shared mission to ensure access to effective and affordable primary



our

care

and preventive services is available to all.



Governor Lynch signs
Community Health Center Proclamation

Center model of care, a model supported by United States Presidents for the past several decades as best able to meet the nationwide demand for greater access to primary care.



The Class of 2012

Bi-State Welcomes New Vermont Members

Gifford Medical Center *Bethel, Berlin, Chelsea, Rochester, Randolph, Sharon*
(802) 728-2304 www.giffordmed.org

Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital

Lyndonville, St. Johnsbury
(802) 748-8141 www.nvrh.org

More News

[VT Health Centers Recognized for Quality of Care](#)
[NH Community Health Centers designated as Patient Centered Medical Homes by NCQA](#)
[NH Health Care: Is There Good News?](#) NH Public Television Special Production
[Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot](#) - Bi-State members participate in groundbreaking pilot.
[Find a Health Center Near You in VT or NH](#)

[Bi-State Primary Care Association](#) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization formed in 1986 to promote access to effective and affordable primary care and preventive services for all, with special emphasis on underserved populations in VT and NH. Bi-State works with federal, state, and regional health policy organizations and policymakers, foundations, and payers to develop strategies, policies, and programs that promote and sustain community-based, primary health care services. With offices in Bow, NH, and Montpelier, VT, Bi-State provides strategic advocacy, technical assistance, education and training, networking opportunities, and resource and information services.

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

[Forward this email](#)