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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Eight NH Community Health Centers Achieve High Quality NCQA Designation**

NH STATEWIDE – Bi-State Primary Care Association is pleased to announce that eight of its Community Health Center members in New Hampshire have achieved recognition as Patient Centered Medical Homes™ from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). The NCQA recognition includes input from the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Osteopathic Association.

“The Community Health Centers are designed to achieve healthy outcomes for their patients, far beyond the treatment of isolated symptoms that is so common in approaches to healthcare. The Community Health Centers are on the cutting edge, creating a model of best practices in clinical health care. We are very proud of our NH Community Health Center members; they are a tremendous asset to their communities,” remarked Tess Stack Kuenning, executive director of Bi-State Primary Care Association.

The “Medical Home” model of care strengthens the physician-patient relationship by replacing episodic care based on illnesses and patient complaints with coordinated, preventive care. This model of care delivers superior care using standards firmly rooted in medical evidence. This model holds significant promise for reduced costs and better health care quality and outcomes.

All 16 NH Community Health Centers are in the process of demonstrating their systems meet the rigorous standards of care required for NCQA designation. The eight CHCs that have achieved recognition include: *Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc.* serving Grafton and southern Coos counties; *Charlestown Family Medicine*, a site of Springfield Medical Care Systems of Vermont, serving Cheshire County; *Concord Hospital Family Health Center* serving the Merrimack Valley, *Coos Family Health Services* in Berlin and Gorham serving Coos County; *Families First Health and Support Center* of Portsmouth; *Lamprey Health Care* serving Newmarket, Raymond, and Nashua; *Mid-State Health Center* serving Plymouth and Bristol; and *Child Health Services* serving Manchester have earned the Patient Centered Medical Home designation.

To find a Community Health Center in New Hampshire or Vermont, visit Bi-State Primary Care Association’s website: [www.bistatepca.org](http://www.bistatepca.org).

Established in 1986, Bi-State Primary Care Association, serving Vermont and New Hampshire, is a nonpartisan, 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.

With offices in New Hampshire and Vermont, Bi-State works with federal, state, and regional health policy organizations, foundations, and payers to develop strategies, policies, and programs that provide and support community-based primary health care services in medically underserved areas.

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