Meetings on Capitol Hill with Vermont Members of Congress

The largest annual gathering of Community Health Center advocates happens this week

WASHINGTON D.C. – March 12, 2018 – On Capitol Hill this week, thousands of advocates from Community Health Centers nationwide are meeting with their Members of Congress. Advocates from Vermont’s Federally Qualified Health Centers will join Bi-State Primary Care Association in meetings with the Vermont Congressional Delegation to present information and discuss telehealth, workforce, substance use disorder treatment, and expanding access to oral health services in Vermont.

In recognition of their unyielding support of health care access for all, especially for medically underserved populations, Vermont’s Congressional Delegation members: Sen. Patrick Leahy; Sen. Bernie Sanders; and Congressman Peter Welch, will each be presented with a *Community Health Award* from the National Association of Community Health Centers. “The Vermont Congressional Delegation’s successful bipartisan effort to restore and extend funding for Community Health Centers and the National Health Service Corps ensures Vermonters will continue to have access to effective and affordable primary care and support services,” said Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN, President/CEO, Bi-State Primary Care Association. “We express our sincere appreciation to them for protecting the health and well-being of their constituents and the rest of the country.”

Bipartisan Congressional support for the Federally Qualified Health Center program has remained strong through every Republican and Democratic Administration since its inception in 1965. The program has grown from two small health centers established in Cambridge, Massachusetts and Mound Bayou, Mississippi, to 1,400 Community Health Centers nationwide, serving more than 27 million patients, and offering integrated medical, oral, and behavioral health care services, including substance use disorder treatment. [Find a health center in New Hampshire or Vermont.](#)

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**Bi-State Primary Care Association** is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) charitable organization representing New Hampshire and Vermont’s 28 Community Health Centers currently providing primary care to more than 317,000 patients at 126 sites. Bi-State promotes access to high quality, cost-effective primary health care with a special emphasis on access for underserved and vulnerable populations. Bi-State Primary Care Association was founded in 1986 and has offices in Bow, New Hampshire, and Montpelier, Vermont.