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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE ROADMAP TO A STRONGER AMERICA National Health Center Week, August 6 -12, 2023

NEW HAMPSHIRE – JULY 27, 2023 – On July 30, 2023, NH Governor Chris Sununu declared August 6-12, 2023, as National Health Center Week, joining the national celebration in proud recognition of the primary care services provided by Community Health Centers that keep communities healthy and safe. Community Health Centers welcome all residents regardless of insurance coverage or ability to pay.

New Hampshire's Community Health Centers provided primary medical, dental, behavioral, and/or substance use disorder services to more than 102,400 Granite Staters who made 400,000 visits among 80 clinical office locations*

Located in every state and U.S. Territory, Community Health Centers are the backbone of the nation's primary health care system. Community Health Centers are innovators who look beyond medical charts to address the factors that may cause poor health, such as poverty, homelessness, substance use, mental illness, access to nutritious food, and unemployment. To find a NH health center, visit: <u>https://bistatepca.org/centers/</u>

NH Health Center Week Events:

August 7, 2023 – 6:00 – 8:00 pm Coos County Community Health Center OPEN HOUSE 6 First Street, Colebrook, NH <u>https://healthcenterweek.org/event/colebrook-open-house/</u> Media Contact: <u>mbates@ccfhs.org</u>/603) 237-4262

August 9, 2023 Ammonoosuc Community Health Services PATIENT APPRECIATION DAY 25 Mt Eustis Road, Littleton, NH 03561 <u>https://healthcenterweek.org/event/achs-patient-appreciation/</u> Media Contact: jennifer.tuite@achs-inc.org/(603) 444-8216

August 9, 2023 – 4:30 – 6:30 pm White Mountain Community Health Center HOOPS & SCOOPS 298 White Mountain Hwy, Conway, NH <u>https://healthcenterweek.org/event/hoops-scoops/</u> Media Contact: skaplan@whitemountainhealth.org/(603) 447-8900

Learn more about National Health Center Week: <u>https://healthcenterweek.org/about-nhcw/</u>

NH Governor Sununu's National Health Center Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are nonprofit organizations that provide integrated primary and preventive care, including mental health, substance use disorder treatment, oral health, and reproductive health care services under one roof; and

WHEREAS, for over 50 years, Community Health Centers have served on the nation's front lines in emergencies and disasters, caring for all patients, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are the medical homes for 102,000 Granite Staters, caring for 1 in 5 Medicaid enrollees and 1 in 5 uninsured Granite Staters, and providing 1,072 jobs; and

WHEREAS, in many communities, Community Health Centers are the only comprehensive, patientcentered medical home open to all patients without restrictions, especially underinsured and Medicaid patients; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are staffed by health professionals who choose to serve communities in need, helping to expand the reach of primary care and preventive health services; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers help contain overall health care costs by treating the whole person, and fill an important role in national, state, and local public health responses and make our communities safer and healthier places to raise families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim AUGUST 6-12, 2023, as COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK in New Hampshire, and urge all citizens to recognize the important contributions Community Health Centers make in improving the quality of life for all people in New Hampshire.

*2021 is the latest federal data available.

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About Community Health Centers

Federally Qualified Community Health Centers collaborate with federal, state, and local governments, hospitals, and social, health, and business and nonprofit organizations to provide the resources and services necessary to improve health outcomes for people who are medically vulnerable.

About Bi-State

Bi-State Primary Care Association serves NH and VT. Bi-State provides training and technical assistance (T/TA) to Federally Qualified Health Centers and Look-Alikes to improve programmatic, clinical, operational, and financial performance. Bi-State's Recruitment Center recruits health care providers and supports policies that help retain the NH and VT health care workforce.