**525 Clinton Street Bow, NH 03304**Voice: 603-228-2830
Fax: 603-228-2464



**61 Elm Street Montpelier, VT 05602**Voice: 802-229-0002
Fax: 802-223-2336

## For Immediate Release

## Vermonters Celebrate National Health Center Week 2024

Vermont, July 29, 2024 – Vermonters will proudly join communities across the country to celebrate National Health Center Week 2024 from August 4 to August 10. This week is dedicated to recognizing the invaluable services Community Health Centers provide in keeping our communities healthy and safe. Located in every state and U.S. Territory, Community Health Centers are the backbone of the nation's primary health care system, addressing the root causes of poor health, such as poverty, homelessness, substance use, mental illness, access to nutritious food, and unemployment.

"The National Health Center Week theme, 'Powering Communities Through Caring Connections,' shines a spotlight on the essential role Community Health Centers play in providing access to primary health care services," says Tess Stack Kuenning, President and CEO of Bi-State Primary Care Association.

Vermont's Community Health Centers have been pivotal in this mission, providing primary medical, dental, and behavioral care at 73 clinical sites to more than 30 percent of Vermonters. The health centers are integral to the health and well-being of our communities, offering comprehensive care that extends beyond medical treatment to address the social determinants of health.

An October 2022 analysis of 2021 data shows that Vermont's FQHCs are directly responsible for 1,614 jobs, indirectly responsible for an additional 855 jobs, and support another 972 jobs in the region for a total of 3,441 Vermont jobs.<sup>1</sup>

Find a Vermont Federally Qualified Health Center near you, visit: <a href="https://bistatepca.org/centers/">https://bistatepca.org/centers/</a>.

For public events and opportunities to visit a community health center in Vermont during National Health Center Week, visit: <a href="https://healthcenterweek.org/">https://healthcenterweek.org/</a>.

1. Economic impact was measured using 2021 IMPLAN Online from IMPLAN Group LLC, IMPLAN System (data and software), www.IMPLAN.com. Learn more at www.caplink.org/how-economicimpact-is-measured.

**Contact:** Susan Noon

Bi-State Primary Care Association Phone: (603) 228-2830 x 144 Email: snoon@bistatepca.org Website: https://bistatepca.org