



Central Valley Health Network

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Central Valley Health Centers Celebrate National Health Center Week

Sacramento, Calif., August 9, 2010—Community health centers in the Central Valley will observe National Health Center Week, August 8th through August 14th. The week-long observance recognizes the importance of community health centers in providing access to affordable, quality health care to an underserved segment of the U.S. population. Dozens of Central Valley health center sites will offer health services, screenings, education, and information on wellness and chronic disease prevention.

“Community health centers provide quality, affordable care to millions who might not otherwise have access to medical care,” said David Quackenbush, CEO, Central Valley Health Network. “They provide quality care and have been recognized as models for screening, diagnosing and managing chronic disease.”

Community Health Centers serve more than half a million people annually in the Valley, and have 2.5 million patient visits. Their role is indispensable in the region, which has 31% fewer primary care physicians and 51% fewer specialists than the rest of the state.

Among the many benefits of Community Health Centers is that they provide a health home to individuals who would otherwise go without care or seek costlier care in hospital emergency rooms. They offer community residents access to a broad range of medical services, and encourage ongoing preventive and routine care. In many rural areas of the Central Valley, community health centers provide the only access to health care.

A full schedule of health center events can be viewed at <http://cvhnclinics.org/calendar/events.asp>

About the Central Valley Health Network

Central Valley Health Network (CVHN) is a consortium of 12 Community Health Centers that provide comprehensive preventive primary care services and advocate on behalf of low-income and medically underserved families throughout the Central Valley of California. CVHN members are the health home for families with many members providing medical, dental, pharmacy, and mental health services. CVHN member health centers are in 21 counties and provide 2.5 million encounters to more than half a million patients annually.

For more information about CVHN, visit www.cvhncclinics.org or call (916) 552-2846.