



Central Valley Health Network

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Central Valley Health Network Launches Program Aimed at Saving Health Centers Time and Money

FRESNO, Calif., October 21, 2009—The Central Valley Health Network (CVHN) announced today the launch of the Central Valley Value in Purchasing (ViP) Program for health centers throughout California. The ViP Program is a national group purchasing program that leverages the collective buying power of health centers to save more than 25 percent on average on 1,100 products and services, including medical and office supplies, printing and more.

“The ViP Program is in keeping with our goal to support Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which are dedicated to offering primary care services in underserved urban and rural communities,” said David Quackenbush, CEO of CVHN. “Because the ViP Program has numerous benefits and is easy to implement in a variety of settings, we are expanding the program to benefit community health centers throughout the state.”

The Central Valley ViP Program is simple, user friendly and in most cases, health centers will generally start experiencing savings immediately. There are no membership fees to join and no contractual obligations. The program requires minimum implementation and streamlines the ordering process to save time.

“The ViP Program has been delivering savings to more than 400 health centers in 1,500 sites throughout the nation,” said Yvette Ramirez Ammerman, Associate Director, Western Operations, National Association of Community Health Centers & Value in Purchasing Programs (ViP). “The program offers health centers an opportunity to save money and time, especially during a period when the economy is forcing everyone to minimize costs.”

The ViP national program is managed through Central Valley Health Network and Community Health Ventures, the business development affiliate of NACHC. Unlike other group purchasing programs, the ViP Program supports the mission of America’s Health Centers and works to leverage their collective buying power for better pricing.

Health centers are encouraged to call for a free cost savings analysis by calling 1-888-212-9061 or by visiting www.valueinpurchasing.com/CentralValleyViP.html

About the Central Valley Health Network

Central Valley Health Network (CVHN) is a consortium of 13 Federally Qualified Health Center corporations 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 medical home for families with many members providing medical, dental, pharmacy, and mental health services. CVHN has 128 sites in 21 counties that provide 2.5 million encounters to over 600,000 patients annually of whom 77% are at or below 100% of federal poverty level, 50% Medi-Cal, 35% uninsured, 74% Latino, and 40% Farmworkers.

For more information about CVHN, visit www.cvhnclinics.org or call (916) 552-2846. Follow CVHN on Twitter at www.twitter.com/cvhnclinics.

About Community Ventures (CHV)

CHV is the business development affiliate of the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). Founded in 2000, CHV was created under the direction of health center leadership and tasked with creating workable solutions to the tremendous economic pressures facing today's health centers. By negotiating group purchasing agreements that achieve better pricing, service, and contractual terms for the products and services health centers use on a daily basis, CHV helps health centers reduce costs and remain competitive.