



Central Valley Health Network

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CENTRAL VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK URGES VALLEY DEMOCRATS  
TO VOTE “YES” ON HEALTH CARE REFORM**

*Health Care Reform Bill Will Expand Health Care for Millions of Uninsured, Including Many  
Living in the Central Valley, Strengthen Community Health Centers*

SACRAMENTO, Calif., MARCH 19, 2010 –Central Valley Health Network (CVHN), a consortium of 13 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), announced today that it is urging three Central Valley Congressmen - Congressmen Dennis Cardoza (CA-18), Jim Costa (CA-20) and Jerry McNerny (CA-11) - to vote in favor of the Health Care Reform Bill. By not taking a position, the Congressmen join the ranks of Republicans in not supporting the Health Care Reform Bill. To date, not one Valley Congressman is supporting Health Care Reform.

“The Health Care Reform Bill is essential, especially in regions like the Central Valley where the rates of uninsured are some of the highest in the state,” said David Quackenbush, CEO, Central Valley Health Network. “Community Health Centers in our region and beyond understand the need for comprehensive health care reform that ensures health insurance coverage and access to health care services at a health home. Congress can address the significant health care needs of residents by passing health care reform.”

Community health centers offer preventative and primary care services to patients regardless of ability to pay. These services are provided at more than 7,500 sites nationwide to more than 17 million patients annually. Currently, 38 percent of those served by health centers have no health insurance.

If passed, Health Care Reform Bill would:

- Expand health care to 32 million uninsured.
- Trim federal deficits by an estimated \$130 billion in the first 10 years and \$1.2 trillion in the following decade.
- Provide \$11 billion of much needed funding for Community Health Centers, the backbone of health care delivery in regions like the Central Valley.
- Offer \$1.5 billion for the National Health Service Corps to fund 15,000 new primary care providers
- Expand Medicaid to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Bar the insurance industry from denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical

conditions.

**About Central Valley Health Network**

The Central Valley Health Network (CVHN) is a consortium of 13 Federally Qualified Health Center corporations that provide comprehensive preventative primary care services to low-income and medically underserved families throughout the Central Valley of California. CVHN supports consortium members with technical assistance, advocacy, program development and administration and training. Currently, CVHN members serve more than 690,000 patients annually across 130 clinic sites in 21 counties for a total of 2.8 million patient visits yearly.

For more information about CVHN, visit [www.cvhnclinics.org](http://www.cvhnclinics.org) or call (916) 552-2846