



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Massachusetts Health Center Leader Honored at National Conference

Bethesda, MD -- The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) has presented Paulette Shaw Querner, Corporate Vice President at Harbor Health Services in Dorchester, Mattapan and Hyannis, MA, with 2012 Aaron L. Brown Memorial Public Service Award. The award, which recognizes longstanding excellence and leadership in community health, was presented to Ms. Querner at the 43rd annual NACHC Community Health Institute (CHI) in Orlando, FL, a national conference attended by nearly 2,000 community health leaders from across the country.

Ms. Querner has worked for the Community Health Center movement for 22 years. She started as the Clinical Director at Neponset Health Center in 1990, and now oversees a network of four Community Health Centers in Boston and on Cape Cod. Under her leadership, Harbor Health Services' health centers achieved certification as a level III Patient Centered Medical Home. Ms. Querner also serves as Co-Chair of the Boston Conference of Community Health Centers -- a committee of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers -- which is focused on addressing issues that impact the city's 24 health centers and the more than 300,000 patients they serve.

"I am honored, humbled and thankful for the recognition by my colleagues in Massachusetts and at NACHC," said Ms. Querner. "I am fortunate to have shared the past 22 years with people whose commitment to our mission is constantly challenged, but never waivers."

America's Health Centers are local, non-profit, community-directed and federally-supported organizations that provide health care to over 20 million people in more than 8,500 locations. Demand for health center services grown, especially from the uninsured, whose ranks have swelled to nearly 50 million in the U.S. Health centers provide one-quarter of all primary care visits for the nation's low-income population. Health centers also generate \$24 billion in annual savings to the health care system by keeping people healthy and out of hospital emergency rooms. To find out more about the mission and accomplishments of health centers please visit www.nachc.org.

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Founded in 1971, the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance and expand access to quality, community-responsive health care for America's medically underserved and uninsured. NACHC represents the nation's network of more than 1,250 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which serving over 20 million people through over 8,500 located in all of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam. Learn more about NACHC at www.nachc.org.