

Resolution to Ensure Contraceptive Access for Patients of Community Health Centers

WHEREAS, Title X family planning clinics have seen increased numbers of patients qualifying for free or reduced-fee care¹, but have received no additional funding under the economic stimulus bill², forcing some sites to lay off staff, increase wait times, or reduce the number of contraceptive options they offer³, and

WHEREAS, family planning services for low-income women are severely underfunded: Taking inflation into account, funding for Title X in constant dollars is 61% lower today than it was in FY 1980⁴, and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers were allocated 2 billion dollars in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)⁵, and

WHEREAS, CHCs will be allocated 11 billion dollars more under the Affordable Care Act⁶, and

WHEREAS, the number of patients served by CHCs is expected to double from 20,000,000 in 2010 to 40,000,000 in 2015⁷, and

WHEREAS, almost 3 in 10 community health center patients (29%) are women of childbearing age⁸, and

¹ Recession Taking Its Toll: Family Planning Safety Net Stretched Thin as Service Demand Increases. Guttmacher Policy Review. Winter 2010, Volume 13, Number 1
<http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/gpr/13/1/gpr130810.html>

² Time Magazine. Behind the Family-Planning Flap
Amy Sullivan. Jan. 29, 2009
<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1874683,00.html#ixzz16gZVJVYg><http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1874683,00.html>

³ Recession Taking Its Toll: Family Planning Safety Net Stretched Thin as Service Demand Increases. Guttmacher Policy Review. Winter 2010, Volume 13, Number 1
<http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/gpr/13/1/gpr130810.html>

⁴ History of Title X.
http://www.nfprha.org/main/family_planning.cfm?Category=History_of_Title_X&Section=Main

⁵ More Patients Gain Access to Health Center Care Thanks to Stimulus Funds
<http://www.nachc.org/research-data.cfm>

⁶ http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/increasing_access_.html

⁷ National Association of Community Health Centers factsheet: EXPANDING HEALTH CENTERS UNDER HEALTH CARE REFORM June 2010

⁸ Community Health Centers and Family Planning: What We Know. The Guttmacher Report. October 2001

WHEREAS, the National Association of CHCs states that “health centers focus on meeting the basic health care needs of their individual communities,”⁹ and

WHEREAS, only 60% of CHC sites reported providing any contraceptive care¹⁰, and even fewer provide options such as emergency contraception and long-acting methods such as IUDs and implants, and

WHEREAS, the AAFP Policy on Gender Equity in Prescription Drug Coverage states that, “employers and health plans should not discriminate by gender in the provision of health care benefits including a) prescription contraceptive drugs and devices and b) elective sterilization procedures. These benefits should be covered under the same terms and conditions as other prescription drugs and devices and elective surgeries,”¹¹ now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the NYSAFP will support efforts to ensure that all Community Health Centers provide a full spectrum of contraceptive services, including IUDs, implants, and emergency contraception, to patients of reproductive age, and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the delegates to the AAFP COD present a resolution for the AAFP to advocate for comprehensive family planning service provision at every Community Health Center.

⁹ <http://www.nachc.com/about-our-health-centers.cfm>

¹⁰ Community Health Centers and Family Planning: What We Know. The Guttmacher Report. October 2001

¹¹ AAFP Policy on Gender Equity in Prescription Coverage
<http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/policy/policies/g/genderequity.html>

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