



**CAROLINA HEALTH CENTERS, INC.
PRESIDENT/CEO REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 25, 2019**

Advocacy and Health Policy:

Federal

• Health Center Funding Cliff:

To date, two bills have been introduced in the Senate to extend the Community Health Center Fund (CHCF) for five years alongside funding for critical workforce programs. Below is a breakdown of each bill.

S. 106, the Community Health Investment, Modernization, and Excellence (CHIME) Act

- Introduced by Sens. Roy Blunt (R – MO) and Debbie Stabenow (D – MI).
- Extends the Community Health Center Fund (CHCF) for five years, starting at \$4.2 billion with \$200 million increases each year.
- Extends the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) for five years, starting at \$325 million with \$15 million increases each year.

S. 192, the Community and Public Health Programs Extension Act

- Introduced by Senate HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R – TN) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D – WA)
- Extends the Community Health Center Fund (CHCF) for five years at level funding of \$4 billion each year.
- Extends the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) for five years at level funding of \$310 million.
- Extends the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) program for five years at level funding of \$126.5 million.
- Extends the Special Diabetes Program for Indians and the Special Diabetes Program at NIH for five years.

Of note, Senator Scott's office has expressed interest in the role SC health centers play in graduate medical education, especially given that none have received funding as a Teaching Center.

Also of note, Kate Hunter, our long-time supporter in Scott's office has left her position to take a position with a member of the Georgia Congressional delegation.

- **340B Drug Pricing Program:**
The issue of discriminatory pricing has taken a sharp turn in that CVS Caremark has officially retracted their contracts with 340B discriminatory reimbursement terms. While this appears to be a “win” for our advocacy efforts, it is important to note that other PBMS have not followed suit and many in the 340B community are waiting to see what new agenda is revealed. As a result, though not necessarily coordinated by NACHC, legislative activity continues on both the federal and state level driven by the following states: CA, FL, OH, KS.
- Preparations are under way for the 2019 NACHC Policy and Issues Forum.

State:

The SCPHCA sponsored state Policy and Issues Forum was held Tuesday February 19th and Wednesday, February 20th. Brooke Holloway and Rachel represented CHC at this event during which they had an opportunity to meet with Senators Nicolson and Gambrell and provide the junior Senator with an overview of CHC and the services we provide.

CHC Staff and Leadership Development Activities:

- Multiple meetings have been held over the past month focusing on plans for improving CHC’s organizational performance. A draft plan is in development and will be presented to the Board as a separate agenda.
- Provider recruitment team of Kacie McCutcheon and Shelley Botchie has convened monthly meetings for both Family Medicine and Pediatrics to maintain a proactive focus on recruitment and ensure that all parties are kept informed and up to date.

Strategic and Operational Activities

- Department of Pharmacy: No specific activity to report.
- Department of Family Medicine: No specific activity to report.
 - Quarterly “rounding” meeting with the leadership of GHS/Prisma focused on the financial losses at LC4 and expectation of reduction in hours of operation unless additional financial support is forthcoming. GHS/Prisma leadership expressed interest in looking at any workflow or operational changes they could make to assist; however, indicated they would be unable to extend any type of community benefit financial support.
- Department of Pediatrics:
 - Dr. Anthony Johnson declined our offer of employment with indications that he will be joining the pediatric practice at Self Regional Healthcare.
 - Full interview conducted with Dr. Michelle Prigge for the vacant position at Hometown Pediatrics. Dr. Prigge has been practicing in the Upstate and is available

late Spring/early Summer. Follow-up planned for week of February 25th to determine mutual interest in proceeding

- **Behavioral Health:**
 - Beckman Center for Mental Health is in the final stages of recruiting a candidate for TCC. Leadership at TCC were involved in the interviews and are pleased with the candidate and hopeful for a successful outcome.
- **CIMS:**
 - No activity to report.
- **SCPHCA:**
 - No activity to report other than State Policy and Issues Forum.

Consulting:

- Consulting engagements completed:
 - Design and coordination of two CHC Expert Sessions for the 340B Coalition 2019 Winter Conference. Consulting fee = \$5,000 plus waiver of \$1,000 conference registration. All deliverables complete and invoice submitted.
- Consulting engagement in progress:
 - Developing and facilitating a 1 ½ day Strategic Planning and Staff Development Retreat for the Florida Association of Community Health Centers. Retreat is scheduled to begin the morning of Thursday, February 28, 2019 and location is Calloway Gardens, GA. Consulting fee = \$2,000 plus travel expenses.
 - 2nd 340B Summit for Indiana Primary Care Association scheduled for March 12, 2019. Conducted 1st 340B Summit in 2016. Consulting fee = \$2,500 plus expenses.
 - 340B Module for 2019 NACHC CFO Institute in March, 2019 (conducted as webinar). Consulting fee = \$500
- Consulting agreements pending engagement:
 - 340B Summit for the Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers – planning call set for Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

Miscellaneous CEO Activity:

No miscellaneous activity to report.

Report of travel and personal time in January 2019/February 2019

Business travel:

- January 27 – February 1, 2019 – San Diego for 340B Coalition 2019 Winter Meeting

Personal Time:

Annual leave:

- Monday & Tuesday, February 4th – 5th (16hours)
- Monday, February 11th (4 hours)

If you have any questions or would like additional information on any of the above my contact information is as follows: sveer@carolinahealthcenters.org or 864-554-7102