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CHC PROVIDER SELECTED TO SERVE AS MEMBER OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH

Year-Long Project Focused on Improving Birth Outcomes in New London County

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. (January 24, 2013) – Community Health Center, Inc. is pleased to announce that Amy D. Gagliardi, from the prenatal program, was selected to participate in the inaugural year of The National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health's (NLAPH) leadership development initiative.

The NLAPH is an innovative approach to leadership development which brings together teams of leaders from multiple sectors to focus on improving health equity in their communities. NLAPH is implemented by the Center of Health Leadership and Practice (CHLP), a Center of the Public Health Institute (PHI), under funding by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Connecticut Department of Public Health was lead applicant for this project and the Connecticut team was one of 20 teams selected from across the United States to participate in this national program.

Connecticut's team project – "Promoting Maternal and Infant Health in New London County" – facilitated a discussion among providers and other stakeholders in the county to address strategies related to improving birth outcomes and prenatal care.

Together the team produced The New London Maternal-Infant Resource Guide – a comprehensive, user friendly document which provides contact information for available maternal and child health resources within the county, including Healthy Start, WIC, Family Planning, Health Insurance, Case Management, Visiting Nurse Services, Hospital Classes and Services, Young Parent Services, Department of Social Services and more. |

"At Community Health Center, Inc., where I have worked for many years in multiple aspects of prenatal care, we are committed to ensuring that pregnant women receive evidenced based, quality services which promote healthy behaviors during and after pregnancy. Our service model consistently results in positive perinatal outcomes, such as low rates of preterm birth and low birth

weight, and high rates of breastfeeding,” explained Amy Gagliardi. “I was honored to be a part of the NLAPH’s inaugural year and lend my expertise to the project as well as gain leadership development and insights through educational opportunities and coach–team meetings offered through the Leadership Academy.” Ms. Gagliardi also serves as Chair of the Woman’s Health Sub–Committee of the Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight, which has been working on the development of strategies to improve birth outcomes for our state’s Medicaid population.

The project’s core team is comprised of key players from across the state. Ms. Gagliardi was joined by Carol Stone, PhD, supervising epidemiologist for maternal and child health at the Connecticut Department of Public Health; Patrick McCormack, Director of Health at the Uncas Health District; and Nadine Fraser, MD, MPH, Manager of Community Health at the Connecticut Hospital Association.

About Community Health Center, Inc.

Since 1972, Community Health Center, Inc. has been one of the leading healthcare providers in the state of Connecticut, building a world–class primary health care system committed to caring for uninsured and underserved populations. CHC is focused on improving health outcomes for its more than 130,000 patients as well as building healthy communities. Recognized as both a Level 3 Patient–Centered Medical Home by the National Committee for Quality Assurance and a Primary Care Medical Home by The Joint Commission, CHC delivers service in more than 200 locations statewide, offering primary care in medical, dental and behavioral health services. For more information, visit www.chc1.com.

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