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Are You Driven to Improve Quality of Care but Feel Stuck? Join Project ECHO[®] Quality Improvement

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., April 7, 2016: Improving healthcare quality can be difficult, requiring careful observation, measurement, communication and collaboration. And, like any other worthwhile activity, it can be challenging to sustain.

A virtual classroom, called Project ECHO[®] Quality Improvement (QI), links experts from the Weitzman Institute with staff engaged in quality improvement from practices in any location across the United States and beyond to sharpen their skills and strategies by discussing challenging cases and questions related to their efforts.

"The idea of improving healthcare is exciting, but the process can be difficult," says Agi Erickson, director of Project ECHO. "Teams can get stuck or slowed by confusion or changing priorities. Project ECHO QI uses interactive technology to link our experts with QI staff to discuss specific cases and questions and advance the work."

Each Project ECHO QI session is designed to engage participants by providing instruction on a practical tool or technique and a presentation of a frontline or system challenge, as well as opportunities for questions and answers.

"Project ECHO helps healthcare providers learn by discussing real aspects of their practice and by connecting with others across disciplines to embed new approaches to care in their clinics," says Daren Anderson, MD, director of the Weitzman Institute, VP and chief quality officer of Community Health Center, Inc.

Topics for discussion in upcoming Project ECHO QI sessions are:

- Developing Your Professional Presence April 27, 2016
 Topics include: core concepts of facilitation, including basic skills needed to run effective meetings and the use of systematic problem solving tools
- Managing Up Enhancing your Relationship with Leaders May 18, 2016 Topics include: building dynamic relationships to communicate effectively with leaders
- Gaining Support for Your Project June 8, 2016
 Topics include: tools to promote stakeholder support and engagement
- Communicating and Advocating Use of Data June 29, 2016
 Topics include: ways to visually display and analyze data that explains the project
- Plan-Do-Study-Act Cycles July 20, 2016 Topics include: ways to ensure cycles of change are specific, appropriate and documented

To register for Project ECHO Quality Improvement, contact Agi Erickson at 860-347-6971, x3741 or Agi@chc1.com

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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 healthcare 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 <u>www.chc1.com</u>.