



LINK Newsletter January 2015



EAST NILES COMM UNITY HEALTH CENTER

**The East Niles
Community Health
Center is OPENING on
FEBRUARY 2, 2015!**

The health center is located
at 7800 Niles Street,

Bakersfield, CA 93306) and is between Park Drive and Morning Drive.

The East Niles Community Health Center will provide primary care services, including family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics/gynecology. We will have program staff located at the East Niles site to provide health insurance assistance/Outreach & Enrollment and Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP)/

Maternal Child Outreach Program services. Someday WIC maybe added.



To start, the site will be open from Monday to Friday,
8:30am to 5:30pm.

This site will also house the Rio Bravo Family Medicine

Residency Program led by Carol Stewart M.D., Program Director. The program is a three year post-graduate training program, consisting of six residents per year. Currently, we have one full class of six and we are in the process of interviewing for the next class of six for academic year 2015-16.

Covered California Open Enrollment Period Nov 15 to Feb 15



We are now at the mid-point of the 2nd Covered California open enrollment period, and so far between October 1 to December 31, 2014, our team has screened 7,869 individuals for health care coverage. Of this total, 1,748 were for Covered California plans and 6,121 for Medi-Cal.

There is now a special enrollment option for those who are unable to enroll before the February 15th deadline, due to a life-changing event such as marriage, childbirth, or moving a place of residence. Those seeking Medi-Cal enrollment with qualifying incomes can apply year-round.

Get info and help about the new open enrollment period for 2015 health insurance coverage.

Clinica Sierra Vista's Certified Enrollment Counselor's will be available to provide assistance with the enrollment application process. Get help with choosing a health plan such as Medi-Cal, Covered California health exchange and Cal-Fresh.

All of our patients can get support with the following services:

- * Medi-Cal
- * Medi-Cal Expansion
- * Covered California Health Plans
- * CalFresh Program
- * Renewals
- * Re-enrollments

Consumers can enroll for coverage online, by phone, or in-person with free assistance. The trained staff of Clinica Sierra Vista is ready to provide guidance on how best to navigate the Covered California marketplace. SPREAD THE WORD!!

For more information about the program, please
contact our Outreach and Enrollment team at 1-855-867-7216.

**New Benefit for CSV
Employees:**

Weight Management

Clinica Sierra Vista is pleased to announce that effective January 1, 2015, an exciting, new weight management program will now be offered to all CSV employees participating in the health plan who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or higher.



Participation in the weight management program is strictly voluntary and is not tied to the monthly health insurance premium discount like the tobacco cessation, diabetes, hypertension (high blood pressure), and hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol) programs.

The female and male participants that lose the highest percentage of weight 9 months after the enrollment deadline will each receive a **\$500 Visa Gift Card**. Below are the exciting benefits you can receive by enrolling in these new programs:

* \$0 co-payments on generic and preferred brand name medications (as prescribed by your personal physician) that will aid in your weight management



process;

- * Access to a dedicated American Health Care weight management care manager;
- * A custom weight management action plan including meal and exercise plans, etc.;
- * A \$100 gift card with the initial loss of 25 pounds;
- * A \$250 gift card with the initial loss of 50 pounds; and
- * A chance to win a \$500 gift card for the highest percentage of weight lost for one female and one male participant at the end of 9 months.

For more information about this plan, contact the Human Resources Department at ext. 2176 (Kern) or ext. 5858 (Fresno).



CSV - Quarter 3 2014 Patient Satisfaction Survey

This past December, the staff at the **Easton Community Health Center in Fresno** were presented with trophy for having the highest scores among **all the Fresno medical sites**.

The team at **Family Health Center in Kern** won the Quarter 3 (2014) award for most improved in patient satisfaction among **all the Kern medical sites for the 3rd Quarter**.

The dental team at **Arvin Dental in Kern** beat out five other dental sites in both Kern and Fresno for having the most improved score for Patient Satisfaction.

Each site was rated on six categories ranging from patient loyalty to courtesy and helpfulness of medical staff, on a quarterly basis.



FRESNO - Easton Community Health Center



KERN - Family Health Center.



KERN - Arvin Dental Center

We want to THANK all of the winners for their hard work and commitment to provide great customer service to our patients. They were rewarded with a large trophy and a pizza party. Way to Go! Let's see you gets next quarter's trophy!!



CSV's Homeless Most Vulnerable Project

With the Holidays over and the New Year here, it is quite simple to leave the past behind and focus on the future.

However, Clinica Sierra Vista Homeless Most Vulnerable Project would like to resonate on the wonderful year that 2014 was not only for the clinic, but for the community as well.

Clinica Sierra Vista was able to continue caring for the community by launching its new program, Homeless Most Vulnerable Project, aimed at assisting one of the most underserved populations, which includes individuals that are chronically homeless and medically vulnerable. This project took on a difficult task, and despite any skepticism, this project was able to assist 20 individuals in 2014. Individuals were placed in permanent housing and provided with ongoing case management that linked them to services, such as medical, dental, and mental health services.

This program was able to accomplish its goal by following the Home First approach to housing, which provided the individuals it served with their basic need of having a place they can call home; a place where they can feel safe and able to focus on other aspects of their road to self-sufficiency. Of course this could not have been possible without the support of the Homeless Collaborative and the community.

For this reason we would like to thank the following agencies: **Kern County COC** for assisting with funds for deposits, which are essential to be able to move in to a home; **St Vincent De Paul** for donation funds for credit checks and an identification card; **United Way** Staff for donating some household items and dish sets; **People's Appliances Plus** for providing reduce prices on refrigerators and free deliveries; **Property Managers and Landlords** who either waived the credit check fee or reduced the fee; **Clinica Sierra Vista's** Staff who donated household cleaning items, and to all the private owners who donated furniture. To all of you we give thanks, for contributing in the road of recovery of the individuals served by **Clinica Sierra Vista Homeless Most Vulnerable Project**.

Clinica Sierra Vista continues to care for the community with the Homeless Most Vulnerable Project, which targets individuals that are chronically homeless and disabled. There is still many more goals to be accomplished this year and that is why you are invited to call the Homeless Coordinator, Margarita Rosson at (661) 324-7580, to find out how YOU can help Clinica Sierra Vista.



Access is the Answer Campaign

The Fiscal Cliff for Community Health Centers is nearing - We NEED your Support... Contact Our Members of Congress TODAY!

Since the last newsletter publication, you are aware that our Health Center Program faces serious reductions in program funding for the start of fiscal year 2016. Thanks to the work of advocates like you, we made have real progress in educating Congress about the impact of a 70% reduction to Health Center funds and established a stronger and broader foundation of support on the Hill.

With these advocacy results setting the stage, we also head into the New Year with both the House and Senate having passed the FY 2015 omnibus appropriations bill, which includes \$5.1 billion in total funding for FQHCs! That Health Centers received their full funding request for Fiscal Year 2015 in the current fiscal environment is a significant victory. In the year ahead, Health Centers will once again have an opportunity to grow and continue building on their incredible legacy of success in serving as a healthcare home to all those in need.

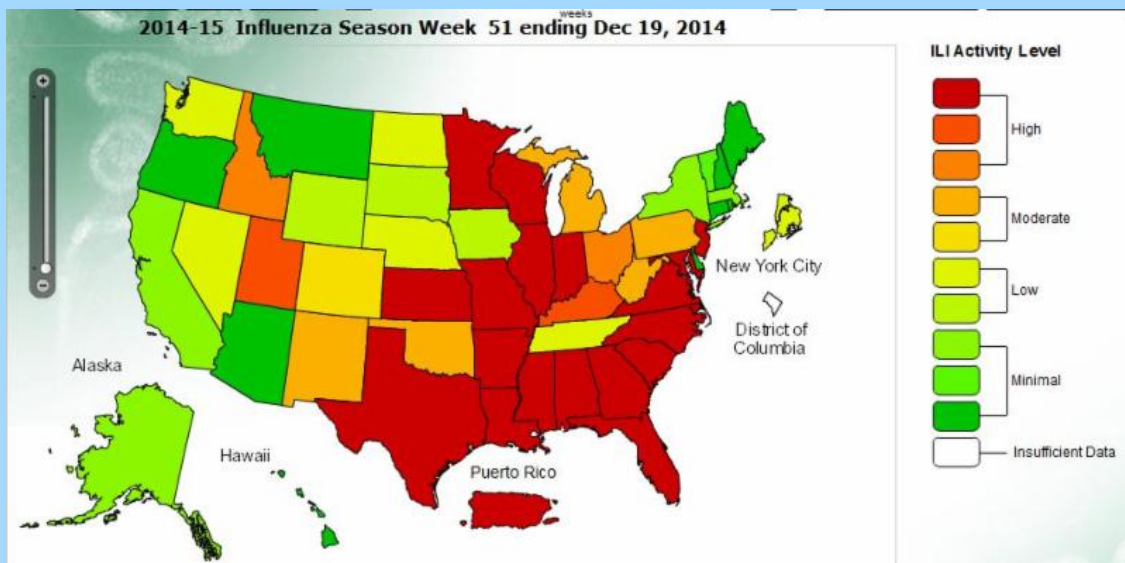
However, to continue this legacy, we will need to strengthen our commitment to advocacy and to working with Congress to ensure action is taken to fix the Health Center Funding Cliff in 2015.

For a more detailed federal policy overview, be sure to check out the [2014 Year in Review](#) on the Health Centers on the Hill blog.

Message generated by the National Association of Community Health Centers as part of the Save America's Health Centers campaign.

The Flu Season is Upon Us... Here are a few simple facts to know and share

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), influenza infections cause more than **200,000 hospitalizations and 36,000 deaths annually**. In fact, influenza and pneumonia (one of the most common complications of influenza) are together the 6th leading cause of death in the United States. These are staggering realities for something as preventable as the flu.



Flu View: A weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by the Influenza Division.
[Influenza-Like Illness \(ILI\) Activity Level Indicator.](#)

Influenza or flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by the influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent influenza is by getting a flu vaccination each year. To learn more about the Flu Vaccine, visit the CDC's website [here](#).

For all CSV Staff members, you are required to wear your mask at the health center site, if you have declined the influenza vaccine. The influenza vaccine is available if you would like to receive the vaccine. Contact your supervisor if you have any questions.

WELCOME NEW HIRES!

On behalf of Clinica Sierra Vista, we want to welcome all new hires to our organization. We hope you will have an amazing time working with us. If you are in need of any assistance, please reach out to your supervisor or our HR department. Welcome aboard!

Pritika Ram, Director of Resource Development

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