

CHDI receives national recognition

Community Health Development Inc. has received second-level recognition as a patient-centered medical home from the National Committee on Quality Assurance. The National Committee on Quality Assurance is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality.

The non-profit also accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations. It also recognizes clinicians and practices in key areas of performance.

The patient-centered medical home program was developed to assess whether physician practices are functioning as medical homes and recognize them for these efforts.

Its standards emphasize the use of systematic, patient-centered and coordinated care that supports access, communication and patient involvement.

National Committee on Quality Assurance president Margaret E.

O'Kane said, "... [This] recognition shows that CHDI has tools, systems and resources to provide their patients with the right care at the right time."

The recognition is for CHDI's three sites providing medical care: Our Health/Nuestro Centro de Salud in Uvalde; Rolling Hills Health in Leakey; and Canyon Health Center in Camp Wood.

"I am so proud of our staff for the work they have put forth in transforming our practices into patient centered medical homes," stated Rachel A. Gonzales-Hanson, chief executive officer for CHDI. "The recognition received from NCCQA is affirmation of our continued, ongoing commitment to improving the care we provide our patients."

In addition to securing recognition, CHDI is also participating in the Accountable Care Organization established by the Texas Association of Community Health Centers.

Accountable care organizations are groups of doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers, who come together voluntarily to give coordinated high quality care to their Medicare patients.

The goal of coordinated care is to ensure that patients, especially the chronically ill, get the right care at the right time, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of services and preventing medical errors.

CHDI is a non-profit community-based health care agency incorporated in 1983 in Uvalde. CHDI was founded by area residents to increase access to quality and affordable health care for the uninsured/underserved and to serve as an agent for change to improve the lives of working poor families in Uvalde, Real, Edwards and parts of Zavala County.

During 2013, CHDI provided health care services to 11,702 area residents.