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Health Centers Prepare for National Health Center Week (August 13-19, 2017)

Our favorite week of the year is just around the corner! Join us August 13-19, 2017 as we celebrate Louisiana's Community Health Centers. This year's theme is "Celebrating America's Health Centers: The Key to Healthier Communities."

Every year, this national week of recognition affords us the opportunity to celebrate the fantastic work done by Louisiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and shine a light on the important role they play in Louisiana's healthcare system. In fact, FQHCs are truly on the front lines in ensuring that patients get accessible, affordable healthcare services. With over 240 service delivery sites throughout Louisiana, FQHCs provide access to primary care, dental, and mental health services where people live and work. In 2016 alone, FQHCs provided care to 344,364 Louisianans.

Louisiana's FQHCs not only provide primary care services to our state's most vulnerable populations, they also serve as economic engines and save taxpayer money in the process. In fact, Louisiana's 34 FQHC organizations stimulated a total economic impact of \$504.9 million and saved our state nearly \$435 million by steering patients away from the emergency room and emphasizing preventative treatment.

To mark the occasion and highlight their success, Health Centers across Louisiana are hosting health fairs, visits by Members of Congress and local officials, press conferences, grand openings, back-to-school drives, patient appreciation events, and much more! Visit www.healthcenterweek.org and click on the events tab to find local events happening in Louisiana.

Thank you to Governor John Bel Edwards for making our celebration official by issuing a [proclamation](#).

Be sure to follow the Louisiana Primary Care Association on Facebook and Twitter to stay up to date on the latest news and activities. You can also follow the conversation using #NHCW17 on Twitter.

Do you have any questions about National Health Center Week? Contact Ryan at rsinitiere@lpca.net.

About the Louisiana Primary Care Association:

The Louisiana Primary Care Association (LPCA) represents 34 federally funded, private, non-profit, and public community health centers (FQHCs) across Louisiana that serve more than 340,000 patients annually. LPCA promotes community-based health services through advocacy, education, and collaboration with community partners. Our goal is to ensure that every Louisianan has access to affordable, quality, primary care services.