



TENNESSEE PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

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NEWS RELEASE

NEW STUDY TO SHOW TENNESSEE HEALTH CENTERS NEED MORE DOCTORS AND NURSES TO PROVIDE ALL TENNESSEANS WITH ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE

Nashville, TN - August 11, 2008, health policy experts will unveil a new study on health centers around the country, which provide critical primary care in underserved communities that shows that Tennessee needs more primary care providers to make sure every Tennessean has access to the primary care that protects health and cuts costs.

The new study includes Tennessee specific data projecting how many more primary care doctors, nurses and other providers are required to meet growing patient needs in the years ahead.

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), the Robert Graham Center and George Washington University performed the analysis, which is being released as part of National Health Center Week 2008 (August 10-16).

WHO: **Dan Hawkins**, Senior Vice President, Programs and Policy, National Association of Community Health Centers (moderator)

Lil Anderson, Chair of the NACHC Board, President and CEO of RiverStone Health, Billings, MT

Gary Wiltz, Executive Director/Clinical Director, Teche Action Board, Inc., Franklin, LA

WHAT: Press conference call to release study exposing the primary workforce distribution challenges causing critical shortages in many local communities.

WHEN: Monday, August 11, 2008

1:00 PM, EDT / 12:00 PM CDT

WHERE: Participant Dial In Number: 800-862-9098

Conference ID: 7NACHC

Tennessee Primary Care Association (TPCA) is a nonprofit corporation connecting Tennesseans with a health care home, especially the medically underserved. Since its inception in 1976, TPCA committed to 1) identifying unmet needs and gaps in service access, 2) developing systems of care, 3) advocating for resources, and 4) promoting awareness of Community Health Centers. Membership includes 34 nonprofit primary care clinics across the state operating over 150 sites providing comprehensive medical care.