Resolution to Ensure Contraceptive Access for Patients of Community Health Centers

WHEREAS, Title X family planning clinics have seen increased numbers of patients qualifying for free or reduced-fee care¹, but have received no additional funding under the economic stimulus bill², forcing some sites to lay off staff, increase wait times, or reduce the number of contraceptive options they offer³, and

WHEREAS, family planning services for low-income women are severely underfunded: Taking inflation into account, funding for Title X in constant dollars is 61% lower today than it was in FY 1980⁴, and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers were allocated 2 billion dollars in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)⁵, and

WHEREAS, CHCs will be allocated 11 billion dollars more under the Affordable Care Act⁶, and

WHEREAS, the number of patients served by CHCs is expected to double from 20,000,000 in 2010 to 40,000,000 in 2015⁷, and

WHEREAS, almost 3 in10 community health center patients (29%) are women of childbearing age⁸, and

http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/gpr/13/1/gpr130810.html
² Time Magazine. Behind the Family-Planning Flap
Amy Sullivan. Jan. 29, 2009
http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1874683,00.html#ixzz16gZVJVYghttp://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1874683,00.html
http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/gpr/13/1/gpr130810.html
⁴ History of Title X.
http://www.nfprha.org/main/family_planning.cfm?Category=History_of_Title_X&Section=Main
⁵ More Patients Gain Access to Health Center Care Thanks to Stimulus Funds
http://www.nachc.org/research-data.cfm
⁷ National Association of Community Health Centers factsheet: EXPANDING HEALTH CENTERS UNDER HEALTH CARE REFORM June 2010

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WHEREAS, the National Association of CHCs states that “health centers focus on meeting the basic health care needs of their individual communities,”

WHEREAS, only 60% of CHC sites reported providing any contraceptive care,

and even fewer provide options such as emergency contraception and long-acting methods such as IUDs and implants, and

WHEREAS, the AAFP Policy on Gender Equity in Prescription Drug Coverage states that, “employers and health plans should not discriminate by gender in the provision of health care benefits including a) prescription contraceptive drugs and devices and b) elective sterilization procedures. These benefits should be covered under the same terms and conditions as other prescription drugs and devices and elective surgeries,”

now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the NYSAFP will support efforts to ensure that all Community Health Centers provide a full spectrum of contraceptive services, including IUDs, implants, and emergency contraception, to patients of reproductive age, and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the delegates to the AAFP COD present a resolution for the AAFP to advocate for comprehensive family planning service provision at every Community Health Center.

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9 http://www.nachc.com/about-our-health-centers.cfm
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