

State of Maine



WHEREAS, Maine's community health centers (CHCs) provide access across Maine's Medically Underserved Areas reaching more than one in eight Maine residents in the delivery of comprehensive primary care services; and

WHEREAS, more than 30,000 uninsured Maine residents have established a comprehensive medical home at a Maine CHC; and

WHEREAS, three in four of all CHC patients in Maine are below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line; and

WHEREAS, over 60,000 MaineCare recipients receive care at a CHC; and

WHEREAS, Maine's CHCs use a sliding fee scale to provide care to all patients, regardless of coverage status or ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, access to primary and preventive care is an important component to improving health status and reducing health care costs; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a CHC in a medically underserved area is proven to reduce unnecessary hospitalizations in that area by 22%; and

WHEREAS, for every dollar invested in their care delivery, CHCs save three dollars in avoided costs elsewhere in the health care system; and

WHEREAS, Maine's CHCs are cost effective care providers that deliver high quality services; and

WHEREAS, Maine's CHCs employ over 1,200 residents; and

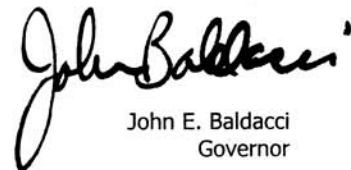
WHEREAS, for 26 years, the Maine Primary Care Association and its member CHCs have been working for the health and well being of Maine's underserved communities,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN E. BALDACCI, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim August 10 - 16, 2008 as

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

throughout the State of Maine, and urge all citizens to recognize this observance.

In testimony whereof, I have caused
the Great Seal of the State to be
hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand
at Augusta this seventeenth day of July
Two Thousand and Eight.



John E. Baldacci
Governor



Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY