

Policy/Advocacy News

New York Health Benefit Exchange Update

We want to make certain that you are aware of CHCANYS' efforts to ensure that FQHCs are viewed as a strong partner in the implementation of the New York Health Benefit Exchange. CHCANYS continues to work with the New York State Department of Health (DOH) as we move toward the October 1st kickoff for open enrollment. Earlier this month, CHCANYS was appointed to the Regional Advisory Committee, which is charged with making recommendations on the establishment and operation of the Exchange. CHCANYS has also been actively engaged in discussions with DOH on creating links between FQHCs and Exchange outreach and enrollment activities.

Our activities to coordinate and partner with the State are especially critical given the recently-announced funding opportunity from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) that will enable section 330 grantees to expand their outreach and enrollment activities and help even more uninsured New Yorkers to enroll in new health insurance coverage options made available via the Exchange. Please see below for more information about this funding, including technical assistance and application deadline dates.

Because New York has chosen to set up its own State-Based Exchange (vs. a Federally-Facilitated Exchange), some of the material covered in the technical assistance to be provided by HRSA may not be directly applicable to New York health centers. We strongly encourage you to consult with CHCANYS as you plan your outreach and enrollment efforts to ensure that you have the latest and most relevant information available. If you have any questions, please contact Beverly Grossman, Senior Policy Director (bgrossman@chcanys.org or 518-434-1112) or Suzanne Rossel, Senior Director of Health Center Support (srossel@chcanys.org or 212-710-3813).

In the coming weeks, CHCANYS will be working to make a number of state-specific training opportunities and tools available to assist you. Please be sure to check our **New York Health Benefit Exchange Resources web page** regularly for updates. We look forward to working closely with you during this exciting time for New York's health care delivery system.

New \$150 Million Funding Opportunity Will Enable Health Centers to Offer Enrollment Assistance Nationwide

On May 9, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) announced the release of the Fiscal Year 2013 Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance supplemental funding opportunity (HRSA-13-279). These funds, available only to 330 grantees, will enable health centers to expand current outreach and enrollment assistance activities and facilitate enrollment of eligible health center patients and service area residents into affordable health insurance coverage through the Marketplaces, Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Click here to access the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) press release.

The deadline to apply for this funding is <u>Friday, May 31</u>. To view the funding opportunity announcement and supporting information, please <u>click here</u>. (more)

Frequently asked questions and sample application forms will be available **here** beginning on <u>May 13</u>. HRSA will send an e-mail notification with specific instructions for completing the application to all Electronic Handbook (EHB) registrants on May 20.

In addition, BPHC's Office of Policy and Program Development will hold a technical assistance call to provide additional information about this supplemental funding opportunity and to provide an opportunity for organizations to ask questions. Details are as follows:

Date: May 16, 2013

Time: 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time
Dial-In Number: 888-603-7035
Participant Passcode: 9093902