

# HealthReach Community Health Centers



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Bethel Family Health Center Earns Top Certification as Patient-Centered Home**

BETHEL – Bethel Family Health Center has been certified as a Level-Three Patient-Centered Medical Home, a widely recognized symbol of quality that is only earned by successfully passing a rigorous and thorough review.

The National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA) Patient-Centered Medical Home 2011 standards emphasize the use of systematic, patient-centered, coordinated care that supports access, communication, and patient involvement. Research shows that medical homes can lead to higher quality care and lower costs.

“At a PCMH certified health center, patients expect their providers to work collaboratively with them and other health care professionals to ensure the highest standards of medical care,” said Dr. Richard DeCarolis, Operational Medical Director. “Through a team-based approach, providers, nurses, managers and behavioral health specialists work together to not only treat illness, but also to maintain health. We are constantly trying to improve how we deliver our services and regularly work to improve our systems. The entire process is designed with the patient in mind.”

“The NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home is a model of 21st century primary care that combines access, teamwork and technology to deliver quality care and improve health,” said NCQA President Margaret E. O’Kane. “NCQA’s PCMH 2011 Recognition shows that Bethel Family Health Center has tools, systems and resources to provide their patients with the right care at the right time.”

Bethel Family Health Center is located at 32 Railroad Street in Bethel. For more information, contact the health center at (207) 824-2193 or visit [www.BethelCHC.org](http://www.BethelCHC.org).

Bethel Family Health Center is one of 11 Federally Qualified Health Centers of HealthReach Community Health Centers. HealthReach has practices located throughout Central and Western Maine, dedicated to providing high quality healthcare to all individuals. Medicare, MaineCare and most major insurances are accepted. For individuals who are uninsured or underinsured, a sliding fee program that will reduce costs for health center visits is available. HealthReach is a private, non-profit organization that has been serving the communities of Maine for 39 years.

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**Attached image:** *Dr. Richard DeCarolis.jpg*