## HealthReach Community Health Centers



Contact: Joshua D'Errico Communications Department

Tel. 207-660-9914

Joshua.Derrico@HealthReach.org 9/23/2014 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## HealthReach awarded Access to Quality Care Grant

WATERVILLE – HealthReach Community Health Centers has been awarded a planning grant from the Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF) to improve care for low income and uninsured people in Bingham, Madison and surrounding towns. "Through Access to Quality Care (A2QC) – Somerset, we will work to enhance consumer experience and overall wellness by improving system links," shared Connie Coggins, HealthReach President/CEO. "Our health centers want to discover better ways to connect patients to services in the community."

HealthReach will be partnering with five other area providers who also serve Somerset County residents - Kennebec Behavioral Health, Kennebec Valley Community Action Program, Redington Fairview General Hospital, Somerset Public Health, and Spectrum Generations. In addition, area consumers will be asked how health and social service systems can better meet their needs. The grant is part of \$198,566 awarded by MeHAF to four grantees across the state. Access to Quality Care or A2QC initiative seeks to discover barriers experienced by uninsured citizens and support planning and program development to improve access to quality, coordinated care.

HealthReach Community Health Centers is a system of eleven federally qualified health centers in Central and Western Maine. Dedicated providers deliver high quality healthcare to citizens in over 80 rural communities. To ensure access for everyone, HealthReach accepts major insurances, Medicare and MaineCare. In addition, HealthReach offers an Affordable Care Program to uninsured and underinsured residents and assist with applications for other programs that help with the cost of health care and medications including the new Health Insurance Marketplace. A private, non-profit organization with a 39-year history, HealthReach is funded by patient fees, grants and individual donations. www.HealthReachCHC.org.

Maine Health Access Foundation is Maine's largest, private, nonprofit health care foundation dedicated to promoting access to quality health care, especially for those who are uninsured and underserved, and improving the health of everyone in Maine. MeHAF uses its grant resources and expertise to identify and move forward key initiatives and issues to improve Maine's health care system so people across every region of our state have access to quality care for better health. To learn more, visit <a href="www.mehaf.org">www.mehaf.org</a>.