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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Richmond Area Health Center Receives Highest Level Certification

RICHMOND – Richmond Area 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.

Meneah Haworth, FNP reviewing paperwork with a patient

"It is about establishing relationships," said Leslie Coombs, Practice Manager. "Our health center team, work flow and coordination of care ensure that patients receive visits that are tailored to their needs and promote their personal health and wellness. The work we do is measured and reviewed through patient surveys and clinical reports."

"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 Richmond Area Health Center has tools, systems and resources to provide their patients with the right care at the right time."

About Richmond Area Health Center

Richmond Area Health Center is part of HealthReach Community Health Centers, a group of eleven Federally Qualified Health Centers in Central and Western Maine. Dedicated providers deliver high quality medical and behavioral health

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care to citizens in over 80 rural communities. To ensure access for everyone, HealthReach accepts Medicare, MaineCare and major insurances. In addition, an Affordable Care Program is available to uninsured and underinsured residents as well as assistance with applications for programs that help with the cost of health care and medications including the Health Insurance Marketplace. A private, non-profit celebrating a 40-year history, HealthReach is funded by patient fees, grants and individual donations.

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