



You're invited!

Joint Press Conference on ACA
March 23, 2017
12 noon – 1 pm | *Location: TBD*

Health Center Partners, San Diegans for Healthcare Coverage and the Legal Aid Society of San Diego will be holding a joint press conference celebrating the 7-year anniversary of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on *Thursday, March 23, 2017 from 12-1 pm*. This event is a part of a coordinated strategy around the state of California to bring attention to positive accomplishments of the ACA. Events include rallies, marches, press conferences and parties.

This is a celebration event and we hope to highlight accomplishments of the ACA as well the following:

- Focus on the jobs created by the ACA, and the economic value it brought to the community.
- Growth of workforce due to ACA (providers and other staff)
- Have patients talk about care they got for the first time
- Have providers share how much smarter it is to have an insured population to lower costs over time
- Have patients talk about the financial protections (donut hole, annual caps, etc)

We would like for you to join us for this event, so please check your calendar today – and save a spot for the Press Conference at noon on March 23rd. We would appreciate if you would consider making a few remarks (limited to 2-3 minutes) so we can show various perspectives on how the ACA is making a difference for California families, employers, schools, social service agencies and the medical profession.

Attached with this correspondence is a brief 2-pager on some of the notable accomplishments of the ACA for our state and the nation. The list is not exhaustive in any way so please feel free to add stats specific to your industry or interest in your remarks.

It is likely that speakers will be asked their opinions on the newly introduced, American Health Care Act. Here are our basic positions at Health Center Partners of Southern California:

1. We are concerned that repealing the Medicaid expansion will cause vulnerable and low-income families to lose coverage.
2. We are concerned about the bill's provisions changing the underlying structure of Medicaid to a capped federal contribution. Our concern is that placing a cap on payments to states does not incentivize a move toward higher-value care—or higher-quality care—it incentivizes cuts. States will be forced to ration care in the form of reducing benefits and changing eligibility requirements.
3. We do not believe the tax credits are sufficient to make insurance affordable for low income families.
4. We think that any new bill should protect coverage gains, lower health costs and improve health outcomes – it is hard to estimate how this bill would accomplish this particularly with no scoring from the Congressional Budget Office.

Please let us know if you are able to join the press conference by responding to any of the hosts:

Henry Tuttle – htuttle@hcpsocal.org **Jan Spencley** - jan@sdhcc.org **Greg Knoll** - gek@cchea.org