

# CaliforniaHealth+ Advocates Talking Points Overview

*Revised March 17, 2017*



## **Medicaid (NACHC)**

Congress maintain patient access to a strong Medicaid program and preserve the FQHC PPS payment methodology.

## **Workforce (NACHC)**

Fully fund the National Health Service Corps by renewing funding at levels necessary to provide scholarships and loan repayment to thousands more clinicians.

Invest in Teaching Health Centers by providing necessary funding to preserve current programs and put the THC model on a path to long-term sustainability and growth. This includes ensuring a sufficient per-resident amount so that the true costs of residency training are fully addressed.

## **Health Center Funding (NACHC)**

Support FY18 appropriations for health centers by signing the Bilirakis-Green letter in the House and the Wicker-Stabenow letter in the Senate. Also, in individual request letters, we ask that Members request level discretionary funding (\$1.5 billion);

Act well before September 30th to extend the Health Centers Fund for at least five years so that CHCs are able to maintain services, and recruit and retain needed health care professionals. Congress renewed the fund on a bipartisan basis in 2015.

## **American Health Care Act (Advocates)**

The Affordable Care Act works in California and cannot be repealed without a viable replacement that ensures coverage, affordability, and access to care for all Californians. The American Health Care Act, is not a viable ACA replacement and will have catastrophic impacts on the health of California's most vulnerable communities.

## **Immigration (Advocates)**

President Trump's recent executive orders have increased fear of deportation, which is causing patients to cancel their medical appointments and dis-enrolling from programs for which they are legally eligible, putting their health and the health of their community at risk. Absenteeism from staff who come from mixed status families has dramatically increased as people fear raids and check-points.

## **Planned Parenthood (Advocates)**

Planned Parenthood currently operates 115 health centers in California and serves nearly 850,000 patients through 1.5 million encounters annually. Any policies that eliminate or diminish Planned Parenthood's role in our state's comprehensive network of care would put untenable stress on remaining health centers.