



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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A GREAT VICTORY FOR LOUISIANA’S HEALTH CENTERS

The Louisiana Primary Care Association (LPCA) is announcing that 7 Federally Qualified Health Centers will be receiving \$8.6 million dollars from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009. Louisiana FQHCs will use these funds to expand services to underserved and uninsured residents and create jobs for health care practitioners. All of the \$8.6 million will be used to support eligible residents who qualify for a sliding fee discount payment for services. Senator Mary Landrieu and Congressman Charlie Melancon worked diligently to assure that Louisiana receive a proportional share of available funds.

Senator Mary Landrieu’s office released a statement saying, *“The expansion and construction of these community clinics will help some 48,870 residents in obtaining health care services and will create 360 Louisiana jobs.”*

LPCA’s President, Eric Taylor, offered this statement: “Everyday hundreds of Louisianans are joining the ranks of the uninsured because of loss of employment, loss of employer sponsored health insurance, and the high cost of insurance due to double digit premium increase. When uninsured citizens need health care services, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) become their safety-net. Both poverty stricken and uninsured citizens can rely on FQHCs for primary health care services. Thanks to the hard work of Senator Landrieu and Congressman Melancon more Louisiana residents will have access to new primary health care services.”

The following is a list of the new access point locations that will come to Louisiana:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>New Location</u>
Jefferson Community Health Centers	Jefferson Parish – River Ridge
St. Charles Community Health Center	St. Charles Parish – Norco
St. Thomas Community Health Center	Orleans Parish – New Orleans
SWLA Center for Health Services	Acadia Parish – Crowley and Rayne
Southwest LA Primary Health Care Center, Inc.	Evangeline Parish – Ville Platte
Teche Action Board, Inc.	Assumption Parish – Pierre Part
Winn Community Health Center	Winn Parish – Winnfield

A majority of LPCA member health centers are certified by the Joint Commission and designated as Medical Homes by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

For more information about the Louisiana Primary Care Association go to www.lpca.net.