

**FOR RELEASE**  
**May 8, 2006**

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**NEW JERSEY'S FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS  
CELEBRATE  
National Women's Health Week, May 14-20, 2006**

**Deputy Chief of Staff Jeannine LaRue Serves as Keynote Speaker and  
Women's Health Advocates Will Be Honored at Breakfast**

**PRINCETON JUNCTION, NJ:** Sunday, May 14, 2006, is Mother's Day and the beginning of National Women's Health Week (NWHW). The New Jersey Primary Care Association (NJPCA) is acknowledging the importance of women's health in a number of ways. On Thursday, May 18, 2006, the NJPCA will sponsor the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Women As Health Advocates Awards Brunch at the Trenton Marriott Hotel from 10am-12pm. Jeannine LaRue, Deputy Chief of Staff in the Governor's Office, will serve as the keynote speaker and honoree for National Women's Health Week celebration brunch.

Amidst the backdrop of NWHW, the following health advocates will be honored: State Senator Shirley K. Turner; Assemblywoman Bonnie Watson-Coleman; Elizabeth Ryan, Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel at the New Jersey Hospital Association; Pamela Pruitt, Vice-President of Business Development, WIMG Radio; Wilda Diaz, Board Chairperson, Jewish Renaissance Medical Center; and Christine Grant, Past Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. State and local officials, community leaders and healthcare partners will attend the brunch honoring these outstanding women advocates

Acknowledging the impact of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in serving the health care needs of New Jerseyans, NJPCA has called for 100% participation from the 21 FQHCs in celebration of NWHW. IN 2005, FQHCs served over 322,000 patients at 89 sites throughout 19 counties. Approximately 46% of all patients served were women. Many of these women are low-income and uninsured who lack access to health care through traditional avenues.

The public is invited to visit the centers and participate in the wide range of special events and activities that are being planned. The centers will host a week of themed activities related to women's health including free screening for breast and cervical cancers, walk-a-thons to reduce the risk of heart disease, senior care, and healthy nutritional habits. Monday, May 15th is National Women's Check-up Day and will be the first of five days of free health screening, health education and other services offered to women. "We are pleased with the range of activities the health centers are planning this year," says Katherine Grant Davis, executive director, New Jersey Primary Care Association. "FQHCs play a major role in improving women's health through screening and early intervention. Nearly half of the patients served by the centers are women."

State statistics show HIV/AIDS, diabetes, stroke and other diseases continue to strike women in New Jersey at an alarming rate. The good news is that there are 21 FQHCs that provide primary and preventive care for these and other health challenges regardless of a patient's ability to pay. Access to health care is enhanced by services such as transportation, outreach and language translation.

National Women's Health Week embodies a national effort by an alliance of government organizations to raise awareness about manageable steps women can take to improve their health. One of the goals of the FQHCs is to improve the overall health of women in New Jersey by identifying resources that will aid them in adopting and living healthy lifestyles. For more than 40 years FQHCs have been carrying out the mission of providing quality, affordable health care to the underserved and uninsured, nearly half of which are women of childbearing age.

For more information, contact NJPCA at 609-275-8886 or visit [www.njpca.org](http://www.njpca.org).

## National Women's Health Week, May 14-20, 2006

**AtlantiCare Health System:** For National Women's Health Week, May 15-19, the entire AtlantiCare Health System, along with AtlantiCare Health Services will be hosting several women's health events including on May 19 the mobile mammography van, outreach and on-site GYN and STD health and family planning will be at the health center. If all of these women services do well, we are going to expand these services into our routine practice.

### ***Monmouth Family Health Center, 370 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey 07740***

May 16, 2006 – Obstetrics and Gynecology

9:00 A.M. – 12 noon

Education in postpartum depression, keeping healthy during pregnancy, recognizing stress during pregnancy, the big day, and baby care. Gifts for babies will be raffled. Refreshments and educational materials will be distributed.

May 17, 2006 – Health Center Staff Day

11:30 A.M. – 2:00 PM

Staff will be provided with information regarding stress management. Dr. Raj Gupta from the Garden State Spine and Pain Institute will be available to provide free massages to employees in a specially designed chair; massages will be given on the back, neck, shoulders and arms. Sessions will last 10 to 15 minutes and it will be first come, first serve. Lunch will be served.

May 18, 2006 – Health Activities

2:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Women's Health Fair, HIV testing and education, blood pressure screening, diabetes screening and gynecological care. Dr. Raksha Joshi, medical director and ob/gyn physician, will be available to answer healthcare questions. The American Cancer Society staff will be on hand to provide information about the disease and much more.



## ***National Women's Health Week***

 ***Breast Cancer Awareness Day- Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>***

**12:00 PM-2:00PM “Learning with Lunch” Held at 149 Kearny Ave, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861**

- Information on Self Breast Exams

- Speaker from Susan G. Komen Foundation
- Refreshments available



The Susan G. Komen  
Breast Cancer Foundation

Central and South Jersey Affiliate

 *Caring for Women* - Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 12:00 PM -1:00 PM

 **Held at JRMC 272A Hobart Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861**

- Complimentary Pap Smear
- Consultations for the Expecting
- Complimentary GYN exams
- HIV Testing and Information
- Sponsored by Amerigroup of NJ

 *Screenings at P.A.C.E. Center*- Wed., May 17<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

 **Held at 415 Fayette St.**, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

 Blood Pressure Screenings

 Complimentary Vision Screenings

 Held in the Community Room

 *Learning to De-Stress your Life*- Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00-1:00PM

- Relaxation Techniques & 5 Minute Massage
- Learn how to manage Stress