Welcome to the 2020 Policy & Issues Forum (P&I) of the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). We assemble to set course for the months ahead and to lay out our priorities based on our vision of the future and our assessment of the environment in which we operate.

The P&I Forum, in no small measure, has been key to our progress. It enables us to align strategies at national, state, and local levels to ensure that we meet challenges and achieve goals. In addition, it unites us behind a common agenda to ensure that our collective voice is heard on public policies that impact our patients and health centers.

On the policy front, this year, we face multiple issues bearing on critical health center funding, Medicaid, workforce, and 340B, among others. On the operational front we are pressed to keep pace with a competitive health world as we strive to strengthen capacity and build stronger systems of integrated, coordinated care that can improve patient care and community health.

For all of us, there is work ahead and much at stake. During the P&I program, we will hear from NACHC’s leadership and team, government partners, colleagues, and special guests. Discussion will add context to the challenges and opportunities ahead and what we must do within our health center support organizations and on the homefront to sustain progress and leadership into the future. A host of trainings and education sessions are also offered to help you navigate the changing health care environment.

We look forward to your involvement and participation. On behalf of the NACHC Board, let me express our special thanks and gratitude for your service to America’s medically underserved and your unwavering commitment to the Health Center Mission.

Tom Van Coverden
President and CEO
National Association of Community Health Centers
Alex M. Azar II
Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Alex M. Azar II was sworn in as the 24th Secretary of Health and Human Services on January 25, 2018. He has spent his career working in both the public and private sectors, as an attorney and in senior leadership roles focused on advancing health care reform, research, and innovation.

Secretary Azar has laid out three guiding strategies for HHS’s programs: facilitating patient-centered health care markets, protecting life and lives, and promoting independence. His current tenure at HHS is a second tour of duty at the Department, after serving as its General Counsel from 2001 to 2005 and then as Deputy Secretary from 2005 to 2007. From 2007 through January 2017, Azar was a senior executive at Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis, Indiana. Azar clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia before practicing law for several years.

He graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in economics and government from Dartmouth College and earned his law degree from Yale University.
Thursday, March 19, 2020
10:30am – 12:30pm

PGS3
General Session: Federal Update

Thomas J. Engels
Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration,
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

James Macrae, MA, MPP
Associate Administrator,
Bureau of Primary Health Care,
Health Resources and Services Administration,
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Luis Padilla, MD, FAAFP
Associate Administrator for Health Workforce and Director of the National Health Service Corps, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Laura Cheever, MD, ScM
Associate Administrator for HIV/AIDS Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Michael D. Warren, MD, MPH, FAAP
Associate Administrator,
Maternal and Child Health, Health Resources and Services Administration,
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Tom Morris, MPA
Associate Administrator for Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
EDUCATION SESSION UPDATES

Monday, March 16, 2020

1:00pm – 2:30pm

PMC1
Stand Up for the Health Center Mission: Practices and Techniques Board Members Can Use
Yvonne G. Davis, Vice Chair, Board of Directors, Health Care Partners of South Carolina and Consumer/Board Member Representative, NACHC Board of Directors, will also present.

PMD1
CMS Update: The Latest Policy Developments from Medicare and Medicaid
Karen Shields, Deputy Director, Centers for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS), Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Anne Marie Costello, MPH, Deputy Director, Centers for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS), Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, will also present.

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

8:00am – 9:30am

PTuE1
Medicaid: Case Studies in 1115 Waiver Programs and Legal Implications for Health Centers
Lisa Chan-Sawin, MHA, Chief Executive Officer, Transform Health, LLC, will also present.

PTuG1
PrEParation in Primary Care: Implementation Considerations in Developing Sustainable PrEP Models in Health Centers
Nicholas Van Sickels, MD, Chief Medical Officer, CrescentCare, will also present.

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

10:30am – 12:00pm

PWF2
Legal Updates on Patient Confidentiality Rules
Molly S. Evans, JD, Partner, Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell LLP, will also present.

PWG2
No Mission, No Margin: Addressing Homelessness from a Public Health Perspective
Ted Henson, MS, Director, Health Center Performance and Innovation, NACHC, will moderate.

ROOM CHANGES

Monday, March 16, 2020

7:30am – 12:30pm

PCA and HCCN General Session has been moved to Thurgood Marshall North/East.

9:30am – 11:00am

340B Workgroup has been moved to Roosevelt 3.

6:30pm – 7:30pm

Emerging Leaders Mixer and Membership Meetup has been moved to Roosevelt 3.