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# Missoula County

## Media Release

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### **Partnership Health Center to Celebrate National Health Center Week**

Partnership Health Center (PHC) is taking part in [National Health Center Week](#) from August 13-19, 2017. Monday, Aug. 14 will kick the week off with Community Day, where PHC will host a health fair with local organizations in the Creamery Building (401 Railroad St. in Missoula) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This will be an opportunity for patients to learn more about resources available to them in the Missoula County community.

Weekly events include:

- **Kid's Day** on Wednesday, Aug. 16. Kids who visit PHC will receive stickers and temporary tattoos.
- **Patient's Day** on Thursday, Aug. 17. Snacks and giveaways will be provided to PHC patients.
- **Staff's Day** on Friday, Aug. 18. PHC will be celebrating their staff and the work they do for our community by hosting a staff picnic.

Satellite locations in Seeley Lake and Superior will also host ice cream socials and will be providing giveaways and snacks to patients throughout the week.

PHC is a part of a national network of primary care providers to more than 25 million Americans, including more than 106,000 Montanans. The program started more than 50 years ago as a small but bold effort to provide health care to medically underserved areas including rural states.

Community Health Centers have saved countless lives, reduced and prevented chronic disease and provided people with more affordable options for care than a costly emergency room. Community Health Centers have proven to be innovators in treating chronic disease like diabetes and hypertension while tackling the tough issues such as mental health and substance use. Because of this excellence, community health centers, including Partnership Health

Center, have continued to serve individuals and families with barriers to care as well as people who have many options and choose Partnership.

There is little doubt that Community Health Centers have contributed significantly to cost savings for the American taxpayer. According to a 2016 study in the ***American Journal of Public Health***, health centers save an average of \$2,371 per Medicaid patient when compared to other providers. Health centers are more than “just” an affordable health care provider --- we are problem-solvers that look beyond medical charts not only to prevent illness but also address the factors that actually cause poor health such as homelessness, lack of nutrition, transportation barriers, or unemployment.

Health centers bring a unique and important perspective to the national and state conversation on health care. We are proud that we can work with lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to strengthen and improve the availability of quality primary care and preventive services to everyone who needs it.

PHC invites the community and their patients to take part in recognizing community health centers across the nation by joining in National Health Center Week. Please stop by the Creamery Building or satellite locations next week to learn more.

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Partnership Health Center ensures that accessible, comprehensive primary health care is provided to the medically underserved population in our region, through a partnership of community resources. They have four offices in Missoula and satellite locations in Seeley Lake and Superior.