



Statement Attributable to:

Maria Gomez, President and CEO of Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care
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**News Statement
For Immediate Release**

We Need Your Continued Support

“In an increasingly difficult economic time—for both individuals and organizations—Mary's Center is committed to continuing to provide the critical programs and services that help our community and participants to survive and thrive. As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), we serve all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay. As people face more and more financial hardship, they will turn to Mary's Center for the primary health care services we provide as well as our many social and educational support programs that are essential to having truly healthy communities—and we will not turn them away.

I cannot express my gratitude to our donors and supporters enough. Mary's Center has been able to grow and expand because of your generosity. And while all of us are facing economic setbacks, I hope you understand how much we need your continued support at this moment. Our services are vital to so many, and without us, where will they turn? Mary's Center will continue to support and work with our sister organizations and partners in the community, but we cannot fulfill that role either without maintaining the resources we have built up over the years.

It is with a keen awareness of the financial troubles we are all experiencing that I encourage our supporters to continue to give to Mary's Center. Our participants—those who already have the fewest resources—are the most affected by economic downturns. As a society, as neighbors, and as individuals we must do our best to guarantee a country filled with healthy and safe communities. We must ensure *that all boats are lifted equally.*”

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To interview Maria Gomez, please call Yesenia Peiker at 202-420-7173.

Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care was founded in 1988 and became a Federally Qualified Health Center in 2005. As we celebrate our twenty years of service we continue to hold

true to our mission of building better futures through the delivery of health care, education and social services while embracing culturally diverse communities. Mary's Center strives to save lives and create stronger communities, one family at a time.