



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mary's Center Earns National Recognition for Patient-Centered Care

Patient-Centered Medical Home™ 2011 standards emphasize enhanced care through patient-clinician partnership

Washington, D.C. – The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) just announced that three [Mary's Center](#) clinics have received Recognition from the Patient-Centered Medical Home 2011 (PCMH 2011) program for using evidence-based, patient-centered processes that focus on highly coordinated care and long-term participative relationships. The Mary's Center clinics that earned this recognition are: 2333 Ontario Road, Washington DC, 3912 Georgia Ave, Washington DC, and 8709 Flower Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

“The NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home is a model of 21st century primary care that combines access, teamwork and technology to deliver quality care and improve health”, said NCQA President Margaret E. O’Kane. “NCQA’s PCMH 2011 Recognition shows that Mary’s Center has tools, systems and resources to provide its patients with the right care at the right time.”

To receive this recognition, Mary’s Center demonstrated the ability to meet the program’s key elements embodying characteristics of the medical home. The standards are aligned with the joint principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home established with the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Osteopathic Association.

“Throughout our 26 years of services, Mary’s Center has developed a successful model that integrates our medical, education and social services to eliminate barriers and improve health outcomes,” said Maria Gomez, Mary’s Center President and CEO. “Earning the PCMH 2011 recognition is a proof of the effectiveness of our model and a stimulus to continue replicating it.”

Research shows that medical homes can lead to higher quality and lower costs, and improve patients’ and providers’ reported experiences of care. The PCHM identifies practices that promote partnership between individual patients and their personal clinicians, instead of treating patient care as the sum of several episodic office visits. Each patient’s care is tended to by clinician-led care teams, who provide for all the patient’s health care needs and coordinate treatments across the health care system. Medical home clinicians demonstrate the benchmarks of patient-centered care, including open scheduling, expanded hours, and appropriate use of proven health information systems.

“Every clinician at Mary’s Center has a vast experience in treating individuals holistically,” said Dr. Christian Cornejo, Mary’s Center Chief Medical Officer. “It’s very rewarding for the team to be recognized for a practice that we have had in place for years, we are good at, and is proven to be successful.”

NCQA accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations and manages the evolution of HEDIS®, the performance measurement tool used by more than 90 percent of the nation’s health plans.

Mary’s Center’s PCMH recognition at three sites is valid for three years. To learn more about the work done by Mary’s Center to receive this recognition, you can contact Bethany Sanders, Director of Quality Assurance and Outcomes, at bsanders@maryscenter.org.

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About Mary's Center

Founded in 1988, Mary's Center is a [federally qualified health center](#) that provides health care, family literacy and social services to 40,000 individuals whose needs too often go unmet by the public and private systems. Mary's Center uses a holistic, multipronged approach to help each participant access individualized services that set them on the path toward good health, stable families, and economic independence. The Center offers high-quality, professional care in a safe and trusting environment to residents from the entire DC metropolitan region, including individuals from over 110 countries. www.maryscenter.org.

About NCQA

NCQA is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. NCQA accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations. It also recognizes clinicians and practices in key areas of performance. NCQA is committed to providing health care quality information for consumers, purchasers, health care providers and researchers.