AMERICA’S FIRST FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:
- In 2007, the Community Health Center, headquartered in Middletown, CT launched the first-in-the-nation formal Nurse Practitioner Residency Training Program, to support the transition from new NP to primary care provider.
- The goal: to provide new nurse practitioners with a depth, breadth, volume, and intensity of clinical training necessary to serve as primary care providers in the complex setting of the country’s FQHCs.
- 7th class (2013-2014) of eight residents recently accepted. Our residents have come from: Alabama, California, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, Washington D.C., Pune, India and Vancouver, BC, Canada

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
Practicing as primary care providers in FQHCs in Arizona, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington, and Washington D.C.

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Candidates: recent graduates of Masters or DNP programs, certified or board eligible as FNP, bilingual preferred, with a stated commitment to practice career as a PCP in safety net setting.

STRUCTURE:
- 12 months, full-time salaried position
- Precepted Clinics: residents develop their own patient panel while having a CHC provider (MD or ARPN) exclusively assigned during precepted sessions.
- Specialty Rotations: Ten rotations in areas of high volume and clinical complexity, most commonly encountered in FQHCs.
- Didactic Sessions: Scheduled learning sessions on a variety of complex, clinical challenges commonly encountered in FQHCs/NMHCs.
- Continuous training to CHC model of high performance health system: advanced access, chronic care model, planned care, team-based, prevention focused, expert use of electronic technology.
- Clear learning objectives and evaluation plan

FUTURE:
- Goal is national replication of CHC’s model of FQHC/NMHC based residency training for nurse practitioners
- Significant national interest from community health centers across the country interested in initiating a nurse practitioner residency training program. They include: Alaska, California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island
- Amendment 5316 in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act authorizes the creation of a 3-year demonstration project that will replicate Community Health Center’s residency training program for family nurse practitioners in FQHCs and NMHCs.