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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Countdown to National Health Center Week 2017 Begins for Hidalgo Medical Services and Other Community Health Centers Across the U.S.

Silver City, NM (June 20, 2017) – Multiple events around the country are planned as part of National Health Center Week (NHCW). The national campaign runs August 13th - 19th with the goal of raising awareness about the mission and accomplishments of America’s Community Health Centers over the course of more than five decades.

According to the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), Community Health Centers serve more than 25 million Americans. This represents a number that continues to grow along with the demand for affordable primary care. Community Health Centers, such as Hidalgo Medical Services (HMS), have compiled a significant record of success that includes:

- Producing \$24 billion in annual health system savings;
- Reducing unnecessary hospitalizations and unnecessary visits to the emergency room;
- Treating patients for a fraction of the average cost of one emergency room visit;
- Maintaining high levels of patient satisfaction (more than 800 HMS patients were surveyed during the months of May and June 2017; 88% of those patients are very satisfied with the services provided at HMS and almost 99% of those patients would refer their family and friends to HMS for health care services);
- Serving more than one in six Medicaid beneficiaries for less than two percent of the national Medicaid budget.

According to NACHC, Community Health Centers not only prevent illness and foster wellness in the most challenging populations; they also produce innovative solutions to the most pressing health care issues in their communities. Because of their long record of success in innovation, managing health care costs, and reducing chronic disease, Community Health Centers have a proud tradition of bipartisan support in Congress.

HMS is planning an event to recognize NHCW, in both Hidalgo and Grant Counties, on Monday, August 14, 2017. There are NHCW events scheduled across the country, including health fairs, visits by Members of Congress and state officials to local health centers, press conferences, back-to-school drives, community breakfasts, patient appreciation events, free health screenings and dental cleanings, and much more.

To learn more about NHCW and to review the events calendar, please visit www.healthcenterweek.org. Please visit www.hmsnm.org to learn more about HMS services, providers, and locations.



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Generous, Community Donations Shared with 2017 Hidalgo Medical Services Award Recipients

Lordsburg, NM (June 20, 2017) – The Hidalgo Medical Services (HMS) Ena Mitchell Senior & Wellness Citizens Center staff selected Ms. Ila Barker as the 2017 “Mother of the Year” award recipient. Each year, this award is given to an active HMS Senior Center participant who has made a significantly positive impact in their community. Additionally, Salvador Lazos was selected as the 2017 “Father of the Year.”

The HMS Senior Center staff thanks the following, local businesses for their support of these award events: Border Rock Shop/Verla’s Western Wear, Jenny Aguilera (Avon Rep.), Cottage House, Denny’s Restaurant, Goldhill Outpost, Kranberry’s Family Restaurant, Ramona’s Café, Sam’s Diner, Saucedo’s Super Market, Smith Ford Inc., and the Western Auto Associate Store.

Please call (575) 542-9414 or visit www.hmsnm.org for more information regarding the HMS Ena Mitchell Senior & Wellness Citizens Center (532 DeMoss Street in Lordsburg) and its available hours and community services.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hidalgo Medical Services Family Medicine Residency Program Celebrates 2017 Graduate with Ceremony at Bear Mountain Lodge

Silver City, NM (June 28, 2017) Hidalgo Medical Services (HMS) congratulated and recognized Magda Ramirez, MD, Family Medicine Physician, on her recent graduation from the HMS Family Medicine

Residency Program. Heavy refreshments, live music, and a formal event took place Saturday, June 25, 2017 from 2:00pm to 5:30pm at Bear Mountain Lodge in Silver City to celebrate the special occasion.

New Mexico State Representative, Rodolpho “Rudy” Martinez, and approximately 50 other HMS leaders, providers, and FMRP academic and community partners attended the event. Dr. Ramirez’s family, visiting from as far as Guatemala, Florida, and New York, also attended the event. Acknowledging the unique value of the HMS FMRP within our community and the region, Martinez also thanked Dr. Ramirez, personally; she provided medical care to his mother during her residency in Silver City. Norman Ratliff, MD, was selected and recognized by current resident physicians as the HMS FMRP Community Volunteer Faculty of the Year.

“Family Practice Physicians, such as Dr. Ramirez, selflessly serve our community and its residents each and every day,” stated Darrick Nelson, MD, HMS Chief Medical Officer and Director of the FMRP. Nelson added, “Dr. Ramirez has been a very well-respected member of the HMS Medical Services team over the past few years, as she has completed her residency. As she and her husband, Rob, move onto the next chapter in their lives, everyone at HMS wishes them the very best.”

Dan Otero, HMS CEO, noted, “As a leadership model within both New Mexico and our country, the HMS FMRP provides innovative, integrated, team-based, and patient-centered health care. Our mission is to positively impact the health, well-being, and quality of life for those we serve providing comprehensive, integrated, affordable medical, dental, mental health and family support services.” Otero added, “Our providers serve HMS patients and clients through collaborative partnerships with organizations, such as Gila Regional Medical Center, Memorial Medical Center, the University of New Mexico, and the Southwest Center for Healthcare Innovation. HMS could not continue this important work without the ongoing advocacy of state leaders, such as State Representatives Martinez, Rebecca Dow, Candie Sweetser, State Senators John Arthur Smith and Howie Morales, other legislators, and through national funding support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).”

The HMS FMRP is an ACGME-accredited program that provides top quality training to family medicine residency physicians. In an effort to meet and exceed Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) “Triple Aim” recommendations (as listed below), HMS strives to provide the following to the communities it serves:

- Improving the experience of care,
- Improving the health of populations, and
- Reducing per capita costs of health care.

Please contact Amanda Castillo, HMS Family Medicine Residency Program Coordinator, at (575) 597-2744, for more information regarding the HMS FMRP. Please visit www.hmsnm.org to learn more about HMS services, providers, and locations.