

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information on CCPH or the CCPH award, contact Jen Kauper-Brown at 206-543-7954 or [jenbr@u.washington.edu](mailto:jenbr@u.washington.edu) or visit [www.ccpb.info](http://www.ccpb.info).



For more information on the CCPH annual award winner, contact: Becky Walsdorf, [bwalsdor@utmb.edu](mailto:bwalsdor@utmb.edu), (409) 747-4899 or visit [www.galvestonchap.org](http://www.galvestonchap.org)

### Recipient of Annual Community-Campus Partnerships for Health Award Announced at International Conference

Atlanta, GA -- **Coalition to Care: The Galveston County Community Health Access Program** is the recipient of the third annual Community-Campus Partnerships for Health Award. The award, which highlights the power and potential of partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions as a strategy for improving health, was announced here today at Community-Campus Partnerships for Health's 8<sup>th</sup> annual conference. Selected from a competitive pool of nominations, the Coalition is a 24-member coalition that is working to reduce health disparities and improve access to health care and quality of life for all Galveston County, Texas residents. Much of the work of the 2-year-old Coalition has focused on a single goal: to improve access to health care and related services for indigent individuals and families. The Coalition's partnership strategies include service learning, community-based participatory research, and broad-based community partnerships organized around this goal. The Coalition's partners include citizens of Galveston County; community health centers and hospitals; the public education, health, and safety departments; social services and faith-based organizations; local government; and The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston including an academic teaching hospital, Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. "The Coalition to Care has successfully brought a diverse group of people and organizations together to improve community health and they are having an impact," noted CCPH Executive Director, Sarena D. Seifer in announcing the award. "Through the Coalition's efforts, thousands of uninsured residents are now able to access needed health and social services. The Coalition's approach to building partnerships that leverage each partner's strengths and assets for systems change is a model we can all learn from." Accepting the award on behalf of the coalition was Dr. Ben Raimer, vice president for community outreach at the University of Texas Medical Branch, and Ted Hanley, executive director of the Jesse Tree, a faith-based member of the coalition. "The coalition is overwhelmed by the CCPH Award and we are so honored to have been recognized for the work of all of our partners," said Raimer. "Health care should be a right and not a privilege, but the need is greater than any single entity can fulfill." Hanley added, "Through the coalition, resources that were once randomly distributed and data that was once neglected by faith-based providers is now strategically utilized to promote holistic care of those seeking assistance. We have learned to partner with the social service and medical providers to increase medical screening, improve enrollment and participate in the development of community-based programs for diabetes and other chronic conditions. Better stewardship of our resources has allowed us to reach more of those in need and to elevate the dignity of the entire process. CCPH's recognition of Galveston's efforts is very encouraging and greatly appreciated." The international conference, jointly sponsored by CCPH and the World Health Organization-affiliated Network: Towards Unity for Health, is focused on the theme of "Overcoming Health Disparities: Global Experiences of Partnerships Between Communities, Health Services and Health Professional Schools." Over five hundred community and campus leaders from over 45 countries are celebrating the Coalition to Care's record of achievement at today's conference closing ceremony.

In addition, these partnerships received an honorable mention for the 2004 CCPH Annual Award:

The **North Texas Salud Para Su Corazón Promotora Network Alliance** brings together three major entities, the North Texas Promotora Network, the University of North Texas Health Science Center School of Public Health, and a 30-member network of community-based organizations, to improve the heart health behaviors of the Latino Community of North Texas. The Alliance, in place for three years, is supporting the ability of the promotora network and community health infrastructure to use a participatory community health outreach model to build community capacity and be sustained.

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For more information, visit the CCPH website at: <http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/awards.html>

**University-Assisted Community Schools**, a collaboration of the School District of Philadelphia-West Region, the West Philadelphia Partnership, and the University of Pennsylvania through its Center for Community Partnerships, works to make the local public school a center of education, health and social services, recreation and engagement for students, their parents, and other community members. Through University-Assisted Community Schools, a comprehensive approach that fully engages all community stakeholders is being developed to address seemingly intractable health needs and disparities such as nutrition and obesity in West Philadelphia.

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For more information: [www.upenn.edu/ccp](http://www.upenn.edu/ccp)

Nomination guidelines for the 2005 CCPH Award will be released in late October and will be accepted through December 8, 2004.

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Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) is a nonprofit organization that promotes health through partnerships between communities and educational institutions. Founded in 1996, CCPH is a growing network of over 1000 communities and campuses that are collaborating to promote health through service-learning, community-based participatory research, and other partnership strategies. These partnerships are powerful tools for improving health professional education, civic responsibility and the overall health of communities. Learn more about CCPH at [www.ccpb.info](http://www.ccpb.info)