

PRESS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEARTLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC AWARDED GRANT TO EXPAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

HCHC one of 16 Illinois Health Centers awarded by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

March 15, 2016 (Peoria, IL) – Heartland Community Health Clinic (HCHC) of Peoria, IL is proud to announce its recent grant award for \$325,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HRSA) to expand its delivery of substance abuse services. HRSA has awarded \$5,731,606 to HCHC and 15 other health centers for substance abuse service expansion.

Through a partnership with the Human Services Center, Heartland will provide additional services with a focus on Medication-Assisted Treatment for substance abuse. HCHC's integrated primary/behavioral health care delivery model will be enhanced to include implementation of Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) practices, an evidence-based method used to identify and prevent abuse and dependence on alcohol and illicit drugs.

Charles Bandoian, CEO, states "We are very excited to have been awarded this grant for service expansion. The need for increased access to affordable health care services to treat and prevent substance abuse grows daily, so we are honored to be part of the solution in Central Illinois."

HCHC will increase its staff qualified in identifying and treating substance abuse at its Carver and Garden clinics, allowing all Heartland patients access to substance abuse services.

About HCHC

Heartland Community Health Clinic (HCHC) has been in operation since 2004 as a Federally Qualified Community Health Center. The clinic began as an answer to the growing concern of a lack of access to affordable healthcare in Peoria, IL. Its mission statement is to **provide high quality health care services accessible to all**. For information, news, and events, visit www.heartlandchc.org.

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