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La Clínica del Pueblo and Doctors Community Hospital to Open New Clinic in Hyattsville

Hyattsville, MD – La Clínica del Pueblo and Doctors Community Hospital have partnered to provide preventative and specialty care at a new location adjacent to the Prince George's Plaza Metro Station. With funding from the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission, The Cafritz Foundation, The Meyer Foundation and The Split Rock Foundation, this outpatient clinic is projected to open in June 2016.

Prince George's County has the highest rate of uninsured residents in Maryland. In the Hispanic community, about 87 percent of adults lack medical insurance. In addition to an estimated 75 percent having limited English language proficiency, stigmas regarding certain conditions and immigration concerns are also factors keeping people from getting needed medical care.

La Clínica del Pueblo and Doctors Community Hospital's outpatient clinic will help address many of these socioeconomic and cultural barriers. As explained by Alicia Wilson, executive director at La Clínica, "This partnership broadens our ability to provide much-needed primary care, promote healthy lifestyles and advocate for change. Also, with the clinic being just a few steps away from public transportation, we will have a significant impact on thousands of underserved people who will no longer need to travel outside of their communities to receive quality care."

Staffed by family practitioners, case managers, and community health workers, the clinic will provide bilingual and culturally competent care to underserved residents using a holistic approach. Its outpatient program will include:

- Case management
- Health education
- Insurance assistance
- Mental health services
- Orthopedic services
- Primary care

- Radiology
- Social services
- Specialty services

"The focus of this collaboration is delivering the right care, at the right time and in the right place," shared Paul Grenaldo, chief operating officer at Doctors Community Hospital. "The clinic's wide range of accessible services will help people prevent illnesses as well as decrease avoidable hospital admissions and readmissions. As a result, it will strengthen the healthcare fabric of our entire community while lowering healthcare costs."

"The health of our residents and improving the health outcomes of our communities is a top priority of my administration," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "This partnership and the opening of this clinic in Hyattsville is going to help make Prince George's County healthier, safer and improve the quality of life for all of our residents."

Additionally, Delegate Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk stated, "Preventative health care benefits all of us by stopping illnesses before they can run rampant through our communities. Individuals benefit from better health and businesses benefit from less absenteeism due to illness. The preventative services provided by the new clinic, as delivered by biliterate, culturally competent medical professionals, will strengthen our communities."

Within the next few months, the clinic will have an open house at which time community members can tour the new facility and meet the team.

La Clínica del Pueblo was established more than 30 years ago to address the specific needs of Latino immigrants arriving from war-torn Central American countries. Currently, it has a comprehensive community health center in DC; LGBT health education and HIV prevention center in DC and Langley Park, MD; and school-based mental health services at Northwestern High School in Hyattsville, MD.

Doctors Community Hospital was founded in 1975 by leading physicians who were committed to ensuring that county residents had convenient access to a broad range of medical and surgical services. Today, it has primary care and specialty programs at offices in Bowie, Camp Springs, Clinton, District Heights, Greenbelt, Landover Hills, Lanham, Largo, Laurel, Riverdale and Suitland.

"The Community Health Resources Commission congratulates La Clinica and Doctors on this new and important partnership," commented Mark Luckner, executive director of Maryland Community Health Resources Commission. He shared, "This program will help expand access to affordable, high-quality services in the community."

Community members are encouraged to support this collaboration. By making a tax-deductible donation, they can help more underserved Maryland residents gain access to life-saving health care. To learn more or to make a donation, contact Rachel Ugarte, chief development officer at La Clínica del Pueblo, at rugarte@LCDP.org or 202-448-2836. Also, they can contact Robyn Webb-Williams, vice president, Doctors Community Hospital Foundation, at rwebb-williams@dchweb.org or 301-552-8670.

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About La Clínica del Pueblo

La Clínica del Pueblo is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) serving the needs of uninsured and underinsured Latino immigrants and others in need in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Today, La Clínica provides linguistically and culturally appropriate health and education services to over 20,000

men, women, youth and children, including: primary care, mental health and substance abuse services, HIV/AIDS care, interpreter services, health education and outreach. All direct services staff is bilingual and dedicated to La Clínica´s mission: "to build a healthy Latino community through culturally appropriate health services, focusing on those most in need." For more information or to support the work of La Clínica del Pueblo, visit www.LCDP.org.

About Doctors Community Hospital

Doctors Community Hospital is a premier medical and surgical hospital located in Lanham, Maryland. A 163-licensed bed facility that has earned numerous <u>quality awards</u>, Doctors Community Hospital provides a wide range of programs and services: <u>Bariatric and Weight Loss Center</u>, <u>Doctors Community Breast Center</u>, <u>Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine</u>, <u>Comprehensive Orthopedic Services</u>, <u>Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services</u>, <u>Doctors Regional Cancer Center</u>, <u>Emergency Department</u>, <u>Imaging Services</u>, <u>Infusion Center</u>, <u>Joslin Diabetes Center</u>, <u>Doctors Community Rehabilitation and Patient Care Center (transitional care)</u>, <u>Metropolitan Medical Specialists</u>, <u>Sleep Center</u> and <u>Vascular Health Program</u>. To learn more, visit <u>DCHweb.org</u> or call 301-DCH-4YOU (301-324-4968).