



NEWS

For Immediate Release

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The Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties and the Community Health Improvement Partners Reach a Milestone

(San Diego, CA-November 15, 2010)*****The Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) and its parent organization, the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties (HASD&IC), announced today that CHIP will be establishing itself as an independent 501c3 organization. For the past 15 years, these organizations have worked together to create a nationally recognized model for community health improvement.

CHIP was initially formed and organized in 1995, under the auspices of HASD&IC to meet the requirements of California Senate Bill 697, a law that requires private, non-profit hospitals to conduct a triennial needs assessment. With a specific task at hand, CHIP commenced with a volunteer board of directors and one part-time staff person to oversee the needs assessment process.

Since then, CHIP has grown to a staff of 15 with a \$3 million annual budget serving at the privilege of the community. CHIP has been afforded the opportunity to grow due to the in-kind support of HASD&IC and has demonstrated its sustainability. CHIP will continue to lead the community through innovative collaborations with the goals of improving the health of all San Diegans.

With its role as a neutral convener, CHIP brings together multiple agencies, organizations and individuals in a unique partnership with the expectation that partners set aside their own agendas and work collaboratively for the benefit of the community. CHIP staff manages volunteer work teams and public-private partnerships that address the critical healthcare issues identified in the triennial needs assessment through model projects that unify the community and effectively share resources. CHIP currently has more than 25 programs and workgroups.

HASD&IC and CHIP are committed to completing the 2010 needs assessment process and will provide the findings of the needs assessment to the public in January 2011. For now, both will work together on a transition plan that best supports our continued work to benefit the health of our region's communities.

The HASD&IC established in 1956 as the Hospital Council, is a non-profit organization providing leadership, representation, and advocacy on behalf of more than 35 hospitals and integrated health systems in the two-county region. HASD&IC's mission is to support its members by advancing the organization, management and effective delivery of affordable, medically necessary, quality health care services for the communities of San Diego and Imperial counties.

CHIP is a collaboration of San Diego health care systems, hospitals, community clinics, insurers, physicians, universities, community-based organizations and the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency dedicated to a common vision. CHIP seeks to improve the health of all San Diegans through needs assessment, advocacy, education, and programs best accomplished collectively.

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