



PRESS RELEASE

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People's Republic of China Health Ministry Officials Visit Unity Health Care's Eastern Student Health Center at Eastern High School

(Washington, DC) On April 17, 2007, Unity Health Care's Eastern Student Health Center at Eastern High School hosted a study tour visit for senior representatives from the People's Republic of China Health Ministry. The study tour is an initiative of the China - World Health Organization (WHO) joint research project, "Study on the Management Model of Health Care for Migrant Children in Beijing."

Chinese officials included Dr. Xinxin, Director of Child Health Care Department Beijing OB/GYN Hospital, Maternal and Child Care Hospital Beijing; Dr. Jianhua Duan, Officer, Director of Child Health Care Department Beijing OB/GYN Hospital, Maternal and Child Care Hospital Beijing, and Ms. Rui Ma, Joint Scientific Research Manager, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Beijing. The visit allowed delegates the opportunity to learn from Unity Health Care, and other organizations, the best practices to help establish a Chinese health care management model for migrant children in determining appropriate systems to maintain children's immunization records up to date.

The Eastern Student Health Center (ESHC) at Eastern Senior High School is a school-based health center established, and maintained by Unity Health Care, Inc., in conjunction with the District of Columbia Public School system. The center opened in 2001 and is funded as federally qualified health center (FQHC). ESHC operates as a full-service health center for all students enrolled at Eastern High School. All services provided at the center are free to all students. Currently, there are 850 students at Eastern Senior High School, 75% of the student population is enrolled in the health center. Of the students seen in the center, 55% are covered by one of the District's Medicaid MCOs, 19% have private insurance and 26% have no insurance or their status is unknown. During school years 2004-2006, the center had an average of 3,400 patient visits per year.

"Unity Health Care is honored to share practical experience with the Chinese Health Ministry delegation," said Jose A. Aponte, Unity Health Care's Vice President of Administration & Operations who represented Vincent A. Keane, the organization's President & CEO. "The fact that 75% of the student body is enrolled in our health center at Eastern High School is proof of the dedication of our staff and the high value we place in school-based health programs," added Mr. Aponte.

The visitors were accompanied by Brooke Lehmann, MSW, Esq., Co-President, DC Assembly on School Health Care; Olga Acosta Price, Associate Research Professor, Department of Prevention and Community Health, Jennifer Ragins, Supervisory Public Health Advisor, Office of School Health Program, DC Public Schools, Barbara Parks, Clinical Program Administrator, DC Department of Mental Health Prevention and Early Intervention Program, and Charneta Scott, Ph.D., Program Manager, DC Department of Mental Health School Mental Health Program. Unity Health Care was also represented by Anne Squires, Health Center Director at Eastern Student Health Center; Dr. Danielle Dooley, Pediatrician, and Dr. Mark Minier, Medical Director of School-Based Health programs.

Unity Health Care (Unity) provides health care to uninsured, underinsured, and homeless men, women and children in the District of Columbia. Founded in 1985, it is the fourth largest community health center network in the country, offering a full range of health services regardless of patients' ability to pay. Unity operates 25 neighborhood facilities, including 11 community-based health centers, 9 medical sites in homeless shelters, and specialized health centers. Unity's mobile outreach vans travel throughout the city, providing care to homeless persons and "hard to reach" substance abusers. In 2006, Unity provided care to more than 70,000 people who accessed services more than 321,000 times.

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