

The National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 2005

40th Anniversary Celebration



CONTACT: Amy Simmons
(202) 296-1890/
cell: 202-309-0338
<http://www.nachc.com/>
asimmons@nachc.com

Representative Hastings Wins NACHC “2005 Superhero Award” *National Award Honors Lawmaker for Leadership on Behalf of Health Centers*

Washington, D.C. -- U.S. Representative Doc Hastings (R-WA) was honored by the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) with the “2005 Community Health Superhero Award” for his outstanding leadership in expanding health care access to millions of uninsured and medically underserved Americans. The award is given each year to Members of Congress who have played a leadership role to increase the number of Community, Migrant, Public Housing and Homeless Health Centers around the country that provide quality health care to medically uninsured and underserved people.

“Representative Hastings should be commended for his active support of America’s Community Health Centers,” said Craig Kennedy, NACHC’s Director of Federal Affairs. “His leadership and hard work on Capitol Hill have immeasurably helped the 15 million people who rely on health centers for their health care and the millions more who need them. He pushed his colleagues and the President to expand the program and we are sincerely grateful for his support.”

The federally-funded Community Health Centers program was established 40 years ago to help low-income and medically underserved Americans gain access to quality health care. Today, health centers serve as the family doctor for 15 million low-income children and adults in over 3,600 communities across the country – including over 500,000 Washingtonians. Health centers are located in Yakima, Pasco, Othello, Toppenish, Moses Lake and Wenatchee.

The success of health centers has won the attention and support of President Bush, whose FY 2006 budget requests a \$304 million increase in health center funding. The President has also pledged to put “a community health center in every poor county” in America.

###

Established in 1970, NACHC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to represent the interests of federally supported and other federally qualified health centers and to serve as an information source concerning issues of health care for poor and medically underserved populations in the United States.