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News Release

For Immediate Release

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Kenosha Community Health Center, Inc. Announces Launch of Mobile Medical Unit in Racine

Underserved residents to benefit from care three days a week

Kenosha Community Health Center, Inc., (KCHC) today launched its Mobile Medical Unit in Racine, which will visit locations where medically underserved residents live. This is the fourth health center for KCHC.

The clinic on wheels will begin operating at 8:00 a.m. today at Knapp Elementary School, 2701 17th St. The Mobile Medical Unit's full schedule is below.

The Mobile Medical Unit eliminates the need for transportation and brings health care to the community, providing a low-cost alternative to emergency room visits.

"The Racine Mobile Medical Unit was made possible through the Aurora Health Care Better Together Fund, which contributed \$500,000 toward furthering KCHC's mission to expand health care services for underserved residents," said Mary Coffey, chief executive officer of KCHC. "The grant from the Better Together Fund supported the construction, equipment and hiring of support staff, and we're so pleased to have the support to bring this unit to fruition."

Additionally, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission awarded \$23,110.47 to KCHC to purchase a mobile wireless telephone service, mobile and desk telephones, computers and connecting equipment and software. The telecommunications system was installed by Platinum Systems. Vehicle storage, inside structure insurance, unit fuel and unit repair have been made possible by a donation from the Racine Public Health Department.

The Mobile Medical Unit is a completely equipped, wheelchair and handicap-accessible 39-foot unit with two patient exam rooms. It is equipped to provide back-to-school physicals, medication management, routine medical care, flu shots, and management of chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and obesity and insurance enrollment to people who may not otherwise have any access to health care. The unit will be available for health fairs and community events in the fall.

"We're thrilled that the Mobile Medical Unit, a truly innovative approach to delivering care to underserved areas, is launching today in Racine," said Rachel Roller, senior vice president, Community and Government Relations for Aurora Health Care. "Organizations like Kenosha Community Health Center are putting Aurora Health Care Better Together Fund resources to work in creative ways to

benefit patients and extend the care that Aurora is able to provide to the most vulnerable in our communities.”

KCHC will provide comprehensive care to Racine residents through its collaborations with the City of Racine, County of Racine, Behavioral Health Services of Racine, Aurora Health Care and Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare- All Saints, Inc. Collaborations also include several social service agencies – Health Care Network, Racine Kenosha Community Action Agency, Familia Dental Group, Continuum of Care for the City and County of Racine, United Way and the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Racine.

Racine Mayor John Dickert welcomes the KCHC Mobile Medical Unit to Racine.

“An essential part of our vitality is access to health care,” he said. “The discontinuation of our federally qualified health center left our most vulnerable residents even more vulnerable. The closure of the health center likely increased the burden on Racine’s hospital emergency rooms as well. The urgent need to replace these safety net health services has now been met by KCHC who was ready, able and willing to meet the need and is well positioned to do so by virtue of its longstanding commitment to the underserved.”

While appointments are preferred to best meet the needs of the patients, walk-in appointments are welcome. Please call 262-925-1325 to schedule an appointment.

The following is the schedule of days, times and locations:

Tuesdays

Knapp Elementary School

2701 17th St., Racine

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wednesdays

Gateway Technical College

1001 Main St., Racine

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursdays

John Bryant Community Center

601 21st St. Racine

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

About the Aurora Health Care Better Together Fund:

The Aurora Health Care Better Together Fund is a contribution made to help community-based providers expand primary care and behavioral health services, as well as, sexual assault and domestic violence prevention and treatment programs. Learn more at aurora.org/bettertogether.

About Kenosha Community Health Center:

Kenosha Community Health Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit, Patient-Centered Medical Home, Federally Qualified Health Center, serving Kenosha residents since 1994 and offers comprehensive healthcare to underserved citizens which enables them to maintain their well-being by addressing health disparities. KCHC accepts most insurance coverage. Patients without insurance are eligible for a sliding fee discount schedule based on income and family size. Learn more at kenoshachc.org.

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