

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 10 THROUGH 16, 2014, AS NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, health centers are located in medically underserved areas and have patient-majority boards, making each health center responsive to the needs of the individual community it serves; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, currently, there are more than 1,200 health centers nationwide serving as health homes for more than 22 million individuals at more than 9,000 locations across the country; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, health centers offer patient-focused, coordinated health care – preventive and primary care that families and individuals need, where and when they need it; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, health centers employ physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dentists, medical and dental assistants along with social workers, case managers, and community health workers as members of multi-disciplinary clinical teams designed to treat the whole patient, coordinating care and managing chronic disease, at the same time reducing unnecessary, avoidable and wasteful use of health resources; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, the health center model has proven to be an effective means of overcoming barriers to access for the medically underserved and in doing so, improving health care outcomes and reducing health care costs; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, Health for Friends served Norman as a community health center for more than 29 years before becoming affiliated with Variety Care, Oklahoma’s largest community health center; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize America’s health centers, their staff, board members, donors, supporters and partner organizations and all those responsible for the continued success and growth of the program since its creation almost 50 years ago, transforming care in local communities by delivering comprehensive, high quality, cost effective, and accessible health care.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 8. Do hereby proclaim the week of August 10 through 16, 2014, as National Health Care Center Week in the City of Norman and encourage everyone in Norman to visit and learn more about Variety Care and celebrate the important partnership between America’s Health Centers and the communities they serve.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of August, 2014.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

