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EXPANDING PRIMARY CARE ACCESS TO THE GROWING NUMBER OF UNINSURED IS MADE POSSIBLE BY A U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT GRANT TO THE PRIMARY CARE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (PCDC)
PCDC receives nation's largest CDFI grant to develop capital program for urban and rural communities.

New York, NY, October 21, 2003 --- Primary care access in New York State got a boost yesterday when the US Treasury, through its Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund awarded PCDC \$2 million to develop and expand community health centers in New York State. The grant, the largest of 34 awards made nationally by the Fund this year, will enable PCDC to: (1) create the reserves needed to leverage \$20 million in private investment for developing and expanding community-based facilities; (2) create additional primary and preventive care capacity to serve 85,000 people in low and very low income urban and rural communities; (3) create approximately 300 new permanent jobs in addition to new construction jobs; and (4) support President Bush's initiative to double the size of the federal community health center program. The CDFI Fund's grant will also create financing opportunities for urban and rural needs identified by the Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS) in their soon to be released statewide strategic plan.

"PCDC is a leader in providing affordable financing to create and expand critically needed health centers in the underserved low-income communities of New York City," said CDFI Fund Director Tony T. Brown. "I am very excited that this award will enable PCDC to expand its important work to other low-income communities across the state of New York."

Community based health centers provide a substantial source of jobs and economic mobility to low-income communities, generate vibrant economic activity and serve as a magnet for other businesses. More importantly, the accessible, affordable and cost effective primary and preventive care

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they provide is a vital support to the economic development and well-being of any community, reducing needless illness and dependency, cutting days of work and school lost, enhancing workforce participation and educational attainment, reducing financial pressure on employers and reducing the cost of health services to localities and states. Numerous studies throughout the 80's and 90's have demonstrated that patients served by community health centers incur up to 67% less in cost than those seen by other providers. The Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS) estimated that the savings to the Medicaid program in New York State in 2000 was \$376 million.

The Primary Care Development Corporation is a unique city, state, federal, philanthropic and private sector partnership that works to expand access to community based primary care services to New York City's medically underserved communities. Over the past nine years it has financed 31 community health center constructions and expansions totaling \$108 million in investments, creating capacity to provide primary care access to over 300,000 New Yorkers. PCDC is currently working with CHCANYS and the State legislature on the passage of a Capital Program bill that will further facilitate health centers getting the capital financing they need. The bill has been supported in the Assembly by Health Committee chair, Richard Gottfried and Senate Health Committee chair Kemp Hannon.

The CDFI Fund's mission is to expand the capacity of financial institutions to provide capital, credit and financial services in underserved markets.

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