



November 14, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor, State of California  
California State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Protect Community Health Centers by Opposing Cuts to Medi-Cal**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

On behalf of the Coalition of Orange County Community Clinics I strongly urge you to protect key public health programs that community clinics and health centers (CCHCs) rely on daily in serving California's underserved and uninsured populations. As the medical home to 488,100 constituents in Orange County, we are counting your support to ensure that we can continue to provide the level of care so many in our low-income communities need and deserve.

As the Legislature convenes a November Special Session to fix our state's \$11.2 billion dollar budget revenue shortfall, we respectfully ask for your action on the following items that Governor Schwarzenegger has recently proposed:

- **Reject** the elimination of Medi-Cal optional benefits, and in particular adult dental, which is critical to all dental services provided by community clinics.
- **Reject** the roll-back of the Medi-Cal 1931(b) income eligibility levels from 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 72% FPL and reinstating the "100 hour" work rule, which limits an employed parent to 100 hours of paid work per month, regardless of income.
- **Reject** the reduction of benefits for newly qualified immigrants and immigrants who permanently reside under the color of law (PRUCOL).
- **Reject** the reduction of emergency services for undocumented immigrants.
- **Reject** the reduction of the federally mandated Medi-Cal eligibility level for aged, blind and disabled individuals from 127% FPL to 100% FPL.
- **Support** the Governor's proposal for sales, liquor and oil production tax increases.

California's CCHCs fully understand the fiscal predicament the state faces. We understand that our leaders have tough choices to make and that we all have a shared responsibility and shared sacrifice in lifting our state out of its economic crisis. However, we believe that the proposed budget offered by Governor Schwarzenegger disproportionately puts the responsibility of filling our state's revenue gap on those that are most vulnerable. Moreover, we believe that the Governor has not fully explored all available revenue generation options, such as the Vehicle License Fee (VLF), and that the adoption of his resulting proposed cuts will, in fact, cost the state far more over the long haul than any short term savings.

Again, Coalition of OC Community Clinics respectfully asks for your support of community clinics and their patients by protecting the programs that matter most.

Sincerely,

Isabel Becerra  
Chief Executive Officer

**Members:**

**Camino Health Center**  
San Juan Capistrano

**Clinica CHOC Para Niños**  
Santa Ana

**Community Care Health Centers**  
Huntington Beach

**Friends of Children Health Center**  
La Habra

**Gary Center**  
La Habra

**Healthy Smiles for Kids of Orange County**  
Garden Grove

**La Amistad Family Health Center**  
Orange

**Laguna Beach Community Clinic**  
Laguna Beach

**Lestonnac Free Clinic**  
Orange

**New Life Mobile Medical Clinic Orange County Rescue Mission**  
Tustin

**Nhan Hoa Health Care Clinic**  
Garden Grove

**Planned Parenthood**  
Anaheim  
Costa Mesa  
Garden Grove  
Mission Viejo  
Orange  
Santa Ana

**Puente a La Salud Mobile Clinic**  
Santa Ana

**Share Our Selves (SOS)**  
Costa Mesa

**Sierra Health Center**  
Fullerton

**St. Jude Healthy Communities**  
Fullerton

**UCI Family Health Center**  
Anaheim

**UCI Family Health Center**  
Santa Ana

**VNCOC /Asian Health Center**  
Santa Ana

**Isabel Becerra**  
Chief Executive Officer