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MEDIA RELEASE

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Tennessee Primary Care Association recognizes contributions of East Tennessee Congressman and other health leaders

(NASHVILLE, Tenn.) -- The Tennessee Primary Care Association (TPCA) recognized three statewide community health leaders at its President's Dinner recently.

The William V. Corr Award, which honors outstanding leadership resulting in health policy development in Tennessee, was presented to **Congressman Phil Roe**, who represents Tennessee's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. In recognizing Roe, a physician, TPCA Chief Executive Officer Kathy Wood-Dobbins noted that the Congressman is attuned to the health care needs of Tennesseans and has visited Community Health Centers on numerous occasions. His leadership and responsiveness to Community Health Centers is exemplary.

The Susan P. Smith Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions in advancing health center programs and working to strengthen partnerships between health centers and TPCA staff, was presented to **Sean Gilliland**, chief information officer of Primary Care and Hope Clinic in Murfreesboro. Gilliland serves as a resource on information technology and data analytics for colleagues and has been instrumental in supporting the work of the Association's Center for Quality in Community Health.

TPCA also presented an honorary award to **Patrick Lipford**, director of the Tennessee Department of Health's Office of Primary Care. Lipford was recognized for his support of community health and workforce development in Tennessee's underserved communities.

(more)

TPCA recognizes contributions ... 2/2

“We are pleased to recognize these award winners for their contributions to community-based primary health care in Tennessee,” said Wood-Dobbins.

The Tennessee Primary Care Association improves access to primary health care through leadership, advocacy, and support as the voice of Community Health Centers. TPCA’s membership is comprised of more than 30 non-profit primary care clinics operating more than 200 satellite sites that provide high quality, comprehensive primary care to people across the state. Member health centers served more than 396,000 Tennesseans in 2013 and continue to see their patient numbers grow.

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About the Award of Excellence namesakes

William V. Corr, J.D., organized and administered community health services in East Tennessee in the early 1970s. He worked with state policy makers to analyze Tennessee law and its impact on the delivery of primary care. His work laid the foundation for future primary care policy, and Corr and his colleagues helped to form the Tennessee Primary Health Association (precursor to TPCA) in 1976. He currently serves as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Susan P. Smith was a certificated family nurse practitioner and a member of the U.S. Public Health Service Commission Corps who provided nursing services in the mid-1970s to a community health center in Bean Station, Tenn. She also helped to organize the Association and served on its board as an officer and director for three years.