



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, for nearly fifty years, America's community health centers have provided high quality, cost effective, and accessible primary and preventative care to all individuals regardless of insurance status or ability to pay; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee community health centers serve as the health care home for over 384,000 individuals each year; and

**WHEREAS**, community health centers are located in medically underserved areas and locally-controlled by patient-majority boards, making each health center responsive to the needs of the specific community it serves; and

**WHEREAS**, most community health centers are locally owned and operated small businesses and serve as critical economic engines helping to power local economies by generating billions of dollars in combined economic impact and creating jobs in some of the country's most economically deprived communities; and

**WHEREAS**, community health centers are a vital part of the state of Tennessee's Safety Net Program supporting care for uninsured adults and assisting the Department of Health in improving the health of people across Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, during this National Health Center Week, we recognize the significant contributions of Health Centers in their vital role as local engines for healthier communities and a healthier America;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee do hereby proclaim the week of August 10 through 16, 2014 as

*Health Center Week*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this fourth day of August, 2014.



*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Hight*

Secretary of State