

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## National Health Center Week

### CRIDER HEALTH CENTER

**St. Charles County, MO**-The National Association of Community Health Center's National Health Center Week is fast approaching. From August 16-21 health centers across the country will use this week to put the spotlight on the need for health centers and the many benefits they offer to their communities. Health Centers like Crider are vital to the community. By providing quality health services to the underserved and underinsured, Crider's mission "*to build resilience and promote health through community partnerships*" continues to do just that, build partnerships. Many of the uninsured and underinsured rely on health centers for medical services. Due to the lack of primary health care services to person with persistent mental illness, recent studies found that these individuals die, on average, at least 25 years earlier than the general population.

In an effort to provide residents of St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren, and Franklin Counties with a "Health Care Home", Health Center now offers integrated health care, collaboration between medical, mental health, and dental services. Currently Crider Center offers medical services at their Wentzville location, along with mental health services. Crider has an additional medical services site in Warrenton and a Dental Clinic in Washington. Crider Health Center plans to offer medical, dental, and mental health services at all of their locations starting with an expansion of dental services in Warrenton, then Wentzville, and medical services in Franklin County. Dr. Peter Krewet, a part time pediatrician, was recently added at the Wentzville location and will be offering the Vaccine for Children's Program in the very near future.

The theme for the 2008 celebration, "**America's Health Centers: Home of America's Health Care Heroes.**" recognizes the hard work and effort health care professionals put forth every day to insure quality and consistent services to people everyday across the country. "It's important to educate the community that Crider Health Center is now a Federally Qualified Health Center and that we now offer affordable medical and dental services, in addition to our mental health services" says Greg Roebach, Vice President of Integrated Care.. Serving more than 45,000 people annually, Crider Health Center has served the St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Franklin counties since 1979.

Crider Health Center accepts most insurance plans, including MoHealthnet and Medicare. For individuals with no insurance there is a sliding fee scale available based on eligibility. For a minimal co-pay people will receive quality health care services at a discounted rate. Call Crider Health Center today for an appointment at 636-332-6000 or more information about all of the services Crider provides visit [www.cridercenter.org](http://www.cridercenter.org).

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