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NEW HAVEN AREA RESIDENTS TO BENEFIT FROM PASSAGE OF HEALTHCARE BILL

*\$1 Billion in New Funding Targets Health Programs, Services & Construction for
Community Health Centers*

New Haven, CT. — New Haven area residents are expected to see an increase in preventive health services and programs as soon as next year with the passage of President Obama’s signature legislative effort – Healthcare Reform. The legislation calls for numerous prevention and wellness initiatives designed to identify and treat health issues well before they become a health crisis.

Incentives to address major health issues such as diabetes, obesity and smoking-cessation are expected to be developed and funded through grants of the Department of Health and Human Services acting through the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) which oversees the Federally Qualified Health Center program.

Cornell Scott – Hill Health Corporation Chief Executive Officer Jamesina “Jai” Henderson commented on the legislation and the potential benefits for people in need of health services:

“We are thrilled to be able to help fill the void regarding prevention and wellness programs especially in the areas of chronic disease management like diabetes, weight management and smoking-cessation. All three of these conditions are major health factors today and must be addressed in a comprehensive manner. We’re honored to be

able to offer a fully-integrated system of care for the people who walk through our doors.”

In addition to the prevention and wellness initiatives, the legislation also impacts federally qualified community health centers through increased funding for construction and renovation. The Cornell Scott – Hill Health Center, with over 30,000 patients annually, is the largest community health center in the greater New Haven and Naugatuck Valley areas and is expected to request funding for the renovation of one or more existing sites.

Regarding the potential for renovation and new construction Henderson added, “our first dollar goes toward care every time. Our last dollar is used for our facilities and physical structures. After 40 years of serving the community, you have to take a step back and address the environment of care. Our buildings, reception areas and treatment rooms all contribute to the overall patient experience. These funds will help us make the improvements we need in order to continue to deliver the highest quality care and experience for the people of our community.”

With \$1 billion in new grant funding available for community health centers, the process for requesting funds begins in earnest later this spring as the start of the government’s 2011 fiscal year begins on October 1, 2010.

The Cornell Scott - Hill Health Center is the oldest and among the largest community health centers in Connecticut. The center provides integrated medical and behavioral health solutions throughout the greater New Haven area and the Naugatuck Valley with the goal of improving the health status of patients and the community at large. The Cornell Scott – Hill Health Center has been a leader in community healthcare innovation for over 40 years. Learn more at www.hillhealthcenter.com.

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