Highlights from the NACHC call Thursday, April 2, 2020:

Jim Macrae, associate administrator, BPHC, HRSA
- Encourage people to go HRSA website FAQ, updating on daily basis
- FTCA program, pushing back deadline by extra 60 days, application due in July instead of May, application guidance should be coming out soon, this change is based on your feedback
- CHCs already drawing down the $100 million in the first coronavirus bill, HRSA tracking what’s being spent, about 5 percent of CHCs already spent 75 percent or more of their allotments, submit very brief application to us, including a budget and two-page summary of what you are doing with resources, whether you’ve already spent the money or what you plan to spend it on. Tried to make it as easy as possible.
- How soon will the money in the latest coronavirus bill be distributed? $1.3 billion for CHCs? Within 18 days or sooner. Will be put in payment management system, can use for expenses back to January 2020.
- How must that money be spent? First category on CHCs (supplies, offsite or onsite facilities, in parking lot, separating regular patients from COVID-19 patients, alterations and renovations to facilities. Second category direct support efforts for COVID-19 (treatment, mild and moderate, and testing onsite or through telehealth). Third category, maintain or increase capacity basis primary care services (support CHCs to make transition to telehealth or separate sites for COVID-19 and well-baby care. Resources able to bring back staff and maintain staff and reassign staff. Increase telehealth capacity.)
- How divided? Will be distributed on a different formula then the $100 million but similar, a base amount and then based on number of patients and uninsured patients
- 65 percent of CHCs have submitted data to us. Some technical difficulty with the data itself. Some issues with data integrity.

Tom Van Coverden, CEO, NACHC
- Many significant revenue reductions for many health centers, some being overwhelmed.
- NACHC is asking Congress for: 1) mitigation for COVID-19, additional $7.6 billion next six months 2) $41.9 billion request to expand 3) workforce program National Health Service Corps and Teaching Health Centers, $7.8 billion over eight years 4) $20 billion over five years going forward.
- NACHC is working with Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C. who is very close to CHCs in SC.

Seiji Hayashi, MD medical director Mary’s Center, CHC in DC
- Trying to give an example of what seems to work. Lack of testing really put us behind the eight ball.
- 4-8 week rotation of providers, three phases, 1) Non respiratory clinic for a week, then 2) to a respiratory sick clinic for a week, then 3) 4-6 weeks of telework. Spaces out the risk ample time to recover.
- Medicaid in DC is allowing equal payment so PPS is maintained.
- No mixing of respiratory and non-respiratory patients.
- No longer allow walk-ins. They are immediately referred for a televisit.
- Offer masks to all patients and staff.
- All staff meetings are virtual.