

## National Health Center Week, 2017

Whereas: Health Centers operated by Presbyterian Medical Services (PMS) are located in medically underserved areas and are advised by a Board and Councils which represent local populations, ensuring that their Health Centers remain responsive to the needs of the specific community they serve; and

Whereas: PMS Health Centers provide high quality, cost effective, and accessible primary care, oral, and behavioral health services statewide, helping to contain costs by encouraging prevention and early detection through patient directed outreach, education, and other enabling services and by managing chronic conditions and keeping patients out of costlier health care settings like hospital emergency rooms; and

Whereas: Many of the individuals served by PMS live at or below the federal poverty level and would otherwise commute long distances to access health care. Many of the communities served by PMS are located in remote, rural areas with geographical barriers which dramatically impact access to services.

Whereas: In 2016 some 15 percent of PMS Health Center consumers were uninsured; and

Whereas: PMS Health Centers provided 370,638 medical, dental and behavioral health visits to 71,892 New Mexicans in need with Cuba Health Center having served 27,429 Village of Cuba patients and surrounding communities in 2016; and

Whereas: PMS operates 43 Health Centers in 32 community locations in New Mexico, including Village of Cuba and surrounding communities.

Whereas: Throughout its history, PMS has worked collaboratively with communities, local providers, hospitals, local, state, and federal government to develop programs and services which meet the needs of the people living in these communities;

Whereas: The PMS Health Center model continues to prove an effective means of reducing healthcare disparities and overcoming barriers to healthcare access, including geography, income and insurance status, and in doing so, improves health care outcomes and reduces health care system costs; and

Whereas: National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize the dedicated staff, board members, and advisors of Cuba Health Center recognizing too its role as a small business and local employer,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Hatzenbuhler, Mayor of Cuba do hereby proclaim August 13-19, 2017, as

### National Health Center Week

I encourage everyone to visit Cuba Health Center during their Open House and participate in scheduled events to celebrate the important partnership between PMS Cuba Health Center and Village of Cuba.



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