State of Nevada Executive Department

A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, America's community health centers are at the core of our health care system and the nation's safety net delivering high quality, cost effective, and accessible primary care to all individuals regardless of their ability to pay keeping communities healthy and productive; and

WHEREAS, Health Centers are located in medically underserved areas and locally-controlled by patient-majority boards making each Health Center responsive to the needs of their community. In 2012, Nevada's (NV) two community health centers served 62,284 patients at 20 sites in 9 counties; and

WHEREAS, As local community owned and operated businesses health centers serve as critical economic engines helping to power local economies. In these tough economic times, health centers are economic drivers in their communities. According to the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), the overall economic impact of NV CHCs totaled an estimated $25.5 million in 2010 through a combination of health system savings and efficiencies, job creation, and related business activities; and

WHEREAS, Patients served by community health centers have lower hospital admission rates, lower lengths of hospital stays, and lower outpatient and other health care costs than those in underserved areas without health centers. As a result of their timely and appropriate care, health centers save $1,263 per person per year, lowering costs across the delivery system–from ambulatory care settings to the emergency department to hospital stays; and

WHEREAS, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize health centers across the state of Nevada, their staff, board members, and all those responsible for the continued success and growth of the program since it was created over 45 years ago. During this National Health Center Week, we recognize the multitude of ways in which Nevada's Community Health Centers are creating and empowering healthier communities by delivering high quality, cost effective, accessible health care;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim August 11 – 17, 2013, as

National Health Center Week in Nevada

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 17th day of June, 2013.

By the Governor: _____ *Governor*

_____ *Secretary of State*

By _____ *Deputy*