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MEDIA ADVISORY

NEW REPORT CHALLENGES MYTH OF FREE HEALTH CARE FOR THE UNINSURED

Audio Press Conference January 15

A survey of 6,884 uninsured Americans found that most who receive medical care have enormous difficulty affording care, even at institutions with a mission to provide services to the poor and uninsured. In fact, half the uninsured who used “safety net” facilities reported medical debt.

The survey report, *Paying for Health Care When You’re Uninsured: How Much Support Does the Safety Net Offer?*, is being released by The Access Project, a resource center affiliated with Brandeis University.

Interviews were conducted in 18 states: **Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.**

AUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15
1 P.M. (EST)
TOLL-FREE CALL-IN #: (877) 679-9045
CALL TO RESERVE: Nancy Bennett, (800) 834-1110

SPEAKERS:

Mark Rukavina, Executive Director, The Access Project, Brandeis University

Dennis P. Andrulis, primary researcher of the report. Research Professor, State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

Michael Beachler, Director, Rural Health Policy Center, Penn State College of Medicine

Sonia Bouvier, Director, Hampshire HealthConnect, Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton, MA

Dan Hawkins, Vice President for Federal, State and Public Affairs, National Association of Community Health Centers

Embargoed report, personal stories, contact information for national experts and local spokespeople, and links to related health issues websites will be available Monday, January 13, at www.accessproject.org

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