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PHC Honors Senator Tom Harkin for His Years of Dedication to Community Health

Des Moines, IA -- June 25, 2019 -- On July 2, 2019, Primary Health Care will honor Senator Tom Harkin for his lifetime commitment to community health and wellness in a naming and dedication ceremony at the new PHC Wellness Center.

“Senator Harkin often said, ‘We don’t have a healthcare system, we have a sick care system,’” said Dr. Bery Engebretsen, MD. “At the Wellness Center, we are trying to correct that for our patients and community.”

During his time in office, Harkin tripled funding for community health centers and authored the creation of the \$15 billion Prevention and Public Health Fund, a dedicated stream of funding for public health, wellness, and prevention initiatives.

The dedication event will be in the community garden outside of the East Side Clinic and Wellness Center, 3509 E. 29th St., Des Moines, IA 50317 from 6-8 p.m. Light appetizers and refreshments will be served. A short program with remarks from Harkin will take place at 6:45 p.m.

The PHC Harkin Wellness Center provides free Medicare and Medicaid wellness exams, as well as support groups focusing on topics surrounding health and wellness in both Spanish and English. A community garden and walking path are also located here and are open to the surrounding neighborhood to use.

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PHC is a nonprofit community health center with 15 locations throughout Ames, Des Moines and Marshalltown. They provide medical, dental, behavioral health, HIV care, homeless support and other services to the medically insured, uninsured and underinsured to help to meet their health care needs. PHC works to bridge the gaps in care identified by the communities they serve in Iowa for more than 35 years.