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## **Manet Community Health Center Celebrates Expansion with Ribbon Cutting on July 21**

*Congressman Joe Kennedy III among the dignitaries to attend*

Quincy, MA (July 11, 2016) – A little more than two years since its opening, Manet Community Health Center in Taunton is celebrating the expansion of its site at One Washington Street with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. on July 21. Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III will be among the dignitaries on hand for the festivities. Following a brief program, attendees are invited to tour the site, meet the staff, and enjoy light refreshments. Community residents are invited to attend.

“When a patient arrives at a Manet Community Health Center, their doctors or nurses ask only how they can help. By opening another center in Taunton, Manet is continuing their commitment to filling gaps in our health care system wherever they exist. I applaud Cynthia and the entire Manet team on this achievement,” states, Congressman Kennedy.” The ribbon cutting will reveal the addition of three new exam rooms and forecast the intent of further expansion at the Taunton site by March 2017.

“The necessity for us to expand our space so early on is indicative of both the need for community health center services and our developing partnerships in service to the community,” says Cynthia Sierra, Manet’s Chief Executive Officer. “Yet, despite our steady growth there is a significant number of individuals and families in the communities of Taunton, Raynham, Attleboro, Norton, Berkley, and Middleboro who have not been reached and could benefit from the services provided by Manet.”

Manet provides high quality primary care services for patients of all ages. True to its mission, Manet provides services that are accessible, affordable, culturally competent and linguistically appropriate. The Taunton location is easily accessible by public transportation. The staff includes primary care providers (physicians and nurse practitioners) a nurse, medical assistant, patient service representatives, and a community health navigator who helps patients access care, apply for affordable health coverage and connects them with other local resources and services.

The Manet site in Taunton opened in 2014 with the support of a US Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, US Health Center Program, Affordable Care Act grant. Manet selected Taunton as the location for the center based on the health needs of the Greater Taunton area, where the cardiovascular death, lung cancer death and infant mortality rates are higher than the state average. Presently, Manet has five sites -- three in

Quincy, one in Hull and the newest site in Taunton each united by a dedication to provide unfettered access to the highest quality health care and supportive services regardless of coverage status or ability to pay.

Across the nation, health centers are responsible for:

- Producing \$24 billion in annual health system savings
- Reducing unnecessary hospitalizations and unnecessary visits to the emergency room
- Treating patients for a fraction of the average cost of one emergency room visit
- Maintaining patient satisfaction levels of nearly 100 percent
- Generating \$26.5 billion in economic activity and over 230,000 jobs
- Reducing infant mortality rates

For more information visit [www.manetchc.org](http://www.manetchc.org) or email [events@manetchc.org](mailto:events@manetchc.org).

**About Manet Community Health Center:**

*Founded in 1979, Manet Community Health Center, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) dedicated to providing preventive, primary and non-emergent urgent care to all, regardless of financial circumstance or health insurance coverage status. With three locations in Quincy, one in Hull and one in Taunton, Manet serves patients from numerous surrounding communities. Manet is accredited by The Joint Commission and its practice sites are recognized as Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Homes by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NQCA), and Pathway to PRIME by the MA Health Policy Commission. Manet provides services that are reflective of the languages and cultures of the communities it serves and offers a full array of services and programs for infants, children, adolescents, adults, and seniors. For more information, visit [www.manetchc.org](http://www.manetchc.org) or [www.facebook.com/ManetCommunityHealthCenter](https://www.facebook.com/ManetCommunityHealthCenter).*

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