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MEDIA RELEASE

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National, State Leaders Honored with Tennessee Primary Care Association Awards of Excellence

(NASHVILLE, Tenn.) -- The Tennessee Primary Care Association recently recognized several leaders for their contributions to improving health care throughout the state.

Senator Lamar Alexander received the Association's William V. Corr Award, which honors outstanding leadership resulting in health policy development in Tennessee and is TPCA's highest honor. Alexander has been a long-time supporter of policy efforts that recognize the value of community health centers in Tennessee and across the country, and has been a leader in proposing and advancing legislation to invest in community health centers.

Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner Lisa Piercey received the Kathy Wood-Dobbins Executive Leadership Award. Piercey is a strong supporter of primary care services in Tennessee and has taken significant steps to expand access to care. She and her staff also have been committed to working with TPCA to find solutions for some of the state's most difficult health issues.

State Senator Jeff Yarbrow received the Irwin Venick Advocacy Award in recognition of his efforts to make healthcare accessible for all individuals and communities. Yarbrow has worked to improve the health and well-being of underserved and vulnerable Tennesseans, and has been a leader in proposing and supporting legislation to protect and invest in programs that benefit community health centers and the patients they serve.

The Tennessee Primary Care Association improves access to primary health care through leadership, advocacy, and support as the voice of community health centers. TPCA's membership is comprised of more than 30 non-profit primary care organizations; these organizations operate more than 200 clinic sites that provide high quality, comprehensive care to individuals and families throughout the state. Member health centers served more than 422,000 Tennesseans in 2018.

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