



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 14, 2008**

**Contact: Kevin Gowins, CNHC, 645-2810**  
**Hanna M. Greer, Commissioners, 462-5848**

## **Community Partnership Benefits Local Veterans**

**New Dental Program Created by Franklin County Commissioners Vision**

**Columbus, Ohio** - Columbus Neighborhood Health Center, Inc. (CNHC) has partnered with the Franklin County Commissioners and the Franklin County Veteran Service Commission (FCVSC) to provide basic primary dental care for eligible Veterans and/or their spouses in the County.

CNHC is now the preferred preventative dental care provider for FCVSC members. "Franklin County's veterans need access to good, preventative dental care," said Commission President Mary Jo Kilroy. "Working together with the Columbus Neighborhood Health Center and the Veterans Service Commission, we are able to step up to the plate and provide the necessary quality care needed by our community's veterans."

Commissioners will provide \$100,000 in support for dental care screenings, dental treatment plans, and corrective services for eligible veterans and their spouses. CNHC will administer the program and be reimbursed by the county. Veterans will be referred to CNHC Dental Centers by case worker.

"This is a great benefit for our Veterans and one we have not been able to provide until now," said Douglas Lay, Director FCVSC. "It is a proven fact that good dental care improves a persons overall healthcare. The veterans have been asking for dental services for some time and we are excited about the partnership we have created."

**Franklin County Commissioners, FCVSC and CNHC will kick-off the dental program at East Central Columbus Neighborhood Health Center – 1180 East Main Street, Columbus, OH. (Second Floor), Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 9 a.m. Members of the media are encouraged to attend.**

The CNHC primary care network is the largest, fastest growing urban health centers in Ohio and in association with more than 150 community partners will continue to promote and improve access to high-quality, primary care including dental services for central Ohioans. The five state-of-the-art centers are part of the nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Centers national network and a proud member of the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers and the National Association of Community Health Centers. For more information go to: [www.colnhc.org](http://www.colnhc.org).

###