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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Center for Closing the Health Gap Named 2016 Agency of the Year by National Association of Social Workers

CINCINNATI, OHIO – JANUARY XX, 2016 – The Center for Closing the Health Gap – a Cincinnati non-profit dedicated to promoting awareness of health disparities through education, training, advocacy and outreach – has been named the 2016 Agency of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Nominated in the small agency category and selected unanimously by the NASW-Ohio Chapter Region 6 Nomination Committee, the Health Gap will be honored at the Spring 2016 Region 6 Recognition Reception on May 6 at Cincinnati Museum Center. The Health Gap was nominated by Marilyn Hoskins, a licensed social worker and a Region 6 Executive Board Member.

The NASW is the largest and most recognized membership organization of professional social workers in the world. There are more than 130,000 members nationwide and 4,700 in Ohio. NASW is the only organization dedicated to advocating for the entire profession of social work.

“To have our mission and work validated by such an esteemed organization as the NASW is rewarding and has energized our entire team,” said Dwight Tillery, founder and CEO of The Center for Closing the Health Gap. “The community of social workers here in Cincinnati transforms lives and neighborhoods every day. We have the same goal, centered on building a culture of health across Cincinnati, and this honor will only raise our profile and amplify our message even more.”

Other NASW 2016 award honorees include:

- Public Citizen of the Year – Major Charmaine McGuffey
- Public Official of the Year – Councilman Wendell Young
- Emerging Leader of the Year – Angela P. King, LISW-S
- MSW Student of the Year – Lauren Stoll
- BSW Student of the Year – Jai’la Nored
- Agency of the Year (large agency category) - Cincinnati Union Bethel
- Outstanding Service to Social Work – Crystal E. Bossard, LSW/LICDC-S
- Social Worker of the Year – Anzora Adkins
- Lifetime Achievement – Jean Sepate, LISW-S

For more information about the NASW Ohio chapter, visit <http://www.naswoh.org>.

About The Center for Closing the Health Gap in Greater Cincinnati

The Center for Closing the Health Gap promotes awareness about health disparities through education, training, advocacy and outreach activities for organizations and individuals in Greater Cincinnati. The Center maximizes collaborative opportunities by working with organizations, associations, health institutions and other stakeholders to promote health and disease prevention. The Center's goal is to improve the health status of the African American, Latino and Appalachian populations. For more information, visit www.closingthehealthgap.org. Follow the Health Gap on Twitter @CCHGcincy or Facebook @CloseHealthGap.

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