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### **IPHCA Honors Community Health Center Champion Congresswoman Lauren Underwood**

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Today, the Illinois Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA) honored Congresswoman Lauren Underwood of the 14<sup>th</sup> district for her leadership and support of community health centers and underserved populations.

Ollie Idowu, IPHCA President and Chief Executive Officer, presented the 2022 Distinguished Community Health Center Advocate Award to Representative Underwood at Greater Family Health’s Sycamore location. IPHCA and its member health centers are thankful for the Congresswoman's commitment to ensuring healthcare access and equity, including protections for the 340B prescription drug discount program, the Mommibus maternal health legislation, and assistance to providers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Congresswoman Underwood’s deep understanding of the health care industry, repeated introduction and support of legislation devoted to the belief that all Americans should have access to high-quality, affordable health care, and passionate support of community health centers are just some of the many reason why the Congresswoman is such a deserving recipient,” said Bob Tanner, President and Chief Executive Office at Greater Family Health.

“Community health centers are essential to promoting the well-being of people across Illinois’ 14<sup>th</sup> District, ensuring every member of our community can receive high-quality care,” said Underwood. “I am honored to receive this award, and I look forward to continuing to advance our shared mission of supporting high-quality, affordable care, addressing our nation’s maternal mortality crisis, and expanding access to mental and behavioral health care.

The award was presented by IPHCA on behalf of their national affiliate, the National Association for Community Health Centers (NACHC).

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*The Illinois Primary Health Care Association is a nonprofit trade association that serves as the voice of and champion for all 53 Illinois community health centers which serve over 1.5 million patients annually across more than 400 service sites in underserved areas across our state’s rural, urban, and suburban communities.*

