

# In The Spotlight...

*dedicated to exemplary people, places & things that distinguish Texas music.*

editor's corner by:  
Bruce Warren



**Health Alliance for Austin Musicians**  
512-322-5177  
HealthAllianceForAustinMusicians.org

The mission of the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians is to provide access to affordable health care for Austin's uninsured musicians, focusing on prevention and wellness.

Austin is the "Live Music Capital of the World," yet many professional working musicians are self-employed and rarely have access to health insurance. Without insurance, they can't afford preventive health care, including primary medical care, basic dental services and mental health counseling.

The music industry is an important contributor to Austin's economy:

- Nearly \$1 billion in economic activity, more than \$25 million in local tax revenue each year.
- It provides 11,200 jobs.
- Austin has more than 8,000 musicians.
- Millions of dollars added to the city's economy and tens of thousands of visitors from around the world brought annually by Austin City Limits Music Festival and South By Southwest Music & Media Conference.
- Source: Texas Perspectives, City of Austin, 2004

If you are an uninsured, professional musician in the Austin-area, you may be eligible for low-cost primary health care services, basic dental care and mental health counseling provided by HAAM, the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians.

#### HAAM Services Include:

- Mental Health counseling provided by SIMS Foundation.
- Primary Health Care provided by Seton Healthcare Network.
- Dental Care services provided by St. David's Community Health Foundation.

**SERVICES** - Basic dental care, mental health counseling, and primary medical care (family practice physicians, care management/social services, lab services, nutritional counseling, health education, referrals to specialty care). For more information call 512-322-5177.

- Applications are now available online.

#### HAAM Services Include:

- Mental Health counseling provided by SIMS Foundation.
- Primary Health Care provided by Seton Healthcare Network.
- Dental Care services provided by St. David's Community Health Foundation.



**COSTS** - Sliding scale fees and minimal co-pays and charges are applicable to all HAAM services.

**ELIGIBILITY** - Currently, resources are limited, so we are serving eligible, working musicians. Each service has its own eligibility requirements. (see below)

#### PRIMARY CARE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Must reside in Travis County
- Must provide 3 references who will be contacted to corroborate that applicant is a working musician (examples: club owners, booking agents, record labels, etc.)
- Must currently be employed or have been employed in the last 12 months as a musician, and have the ability to document that employment.
- Must be living at 250% of the Federal Poverty Level or below
- Must NOT currently have health insurance and NOT have access to health insurance at less than 10% of gross income
- Must NOT have had health insurance in effect for the 3-month period preceding this application, unless there is an IRS qualifying event
- A working musician's spouse, partner, and children may not be included to receive primary care services, however efforts will be made to locate services for them.

#### DENTAL CARE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (ST. DAVID'S):

- Must reside in Austin or surrounding areas (50 mile radius)
- Must provide 3 references who will be contacted to corroborate that applicant is a working musician (examples: club owners, booking agents, record labels, etc.)
- Must currently be employed or have been employed in the last 12 months as a musician, and have the ability to document that employment.
- Must NOT currently have dental insurance
- A working musician's spouse, partner, and children may be included

#### MENTAL HEALTH CARE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (SIMS):

- Must reside in Austin or surrounding areas (50 mile radius)
- A working musician's spouse, partner, and children may be included
- Please call the SIMS confidential client line at (512) 494-1007 to apply

For more information on H.A.A.M call 512-322-5177  
Or visit their web site @ HealthAllianceForAustinMusicians.org

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