Six residents graduated from the Brodes H. Hartley Jr. Teaching Health Center at Community Health of South Florida Inc. (CHI) in June. Just a couple weeks later the program welcomed a new class of 12 residents with a white coat ceremony.

“The Teaching Health Center is growing its own physicians. That was the impetus behind creating the program and we are doing just that—creating our own,” said Brodes H. Hartley Jr., President and CEO at the 2nd annual graduation ceremony.

Drs. Jean Mandat, DO, Raul Molina, DO and Au-Co Nguyen, DO graduated from the family medicine program. Drs. Amy Bebawi, DO, Lisa Lownsbury, DO, and James Pfeifer, DO graduated from the psychiatry program.

According to Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah, DIO, CMO, CAO and Senior Vice President, since the program’s inception, CHI’s residents have conducted 13,300 patient exams. The graduating class did nearly 10,000 of those. Nearly 60 percent of those patients were uninsured.

“You are talking about the most vulnerable of our patients, the under-served and the under-represented by influence,” Dr. Amofah explained. “So, what I’m trying to suggest is that our residents have had a significant impact on the community.”

Chief Resident and graduating physician, Dr. Jean Mandat spoke at graduation.  “CHI was not an established program,” said Dr. Mandat. “So, deciding on coming here, took a lot of risk. But standing here today I think it was well worth it.”

Dr. Jean Philippe Austin, a prominent oncologist and philanthropist served as the keynote speaker. He gave the graduates valuable advice as they head out into the workforce. “Things change, the world evolves,” said Dr. Philippe Austin. “You have to keep up with the changes of your specialty. It is important to never stop learning to stay relevant.”

The Brodes H. Hartley Jr. Teaching Health Center at CHI is the first and only (HRSA) Health Resource Service Administration designated Teaching Health Center in the state of Florida.

See white coat ceremony on page 4
A Message from the President

I love to report that great things are happening at Community Health of South Florida Inc. (CHI) and we have big things planned in August. The success of the Brodes H. Hartley Jr. Teaching Health Center Program is tremendous! We just graduated our second class and once again all of them passed their boards. Since its inception in 2014, the program has grown stronger and continues to inspire and develop young physicians. In fact, we recently also held a white coat ceremony to welcome 12 new residents into the program.

Our teaching health center logo is the perfect representation of our residents. The logo includes the bald eagle, which has great vision, four times the strength of normal vision. Our residents have great vision because they chose CHI for their residency program. But, eagles also have great strength. They soar to great heights. Our graduating physicians are now prepared to soar to great heights. Also take note, that the talons of the eagle have a caduceus and an anchor. The anchor represents faith and the caduceus represents hope. So, instilled within our doctors is faith and hope: the bedrocks for compassionate care.

August is a busy month for us here at CHI and for many of you as you prepare your children to head back to school. At CHI, we are your family’s medical home. As such, we want to ensure a successful transition for all of you. Check out our schedule of events for National Health Center week celebrations and join us for all of the fun. We have key resources for your family such as free immunizations, health screenings, discounted school physicals, school supplies and much more. This year, the theme is Celebrating Health Centers: Home of America’s Health Care Heroes. Community Health Centers like CHI serve 27 million people nationwide and that number continues to grow. With innovative solutions to critical health care issues, Community Health Centers reach beyond the walls of their buildings to ensure access for all to healthcare.

Sincerely,

Brodes H. Hartley Jr.
President and CEO

National Health Center Week Free Festivities

August 4th SCHOOL PHYSICAL DAY in Monroe County.
School Physicals just $25 and Immunizations are Free!
Marathon Health Center • 10am-2pm
Tavernier Health Center • 8:30am-12:30pm
August 11 BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR
Doris Ison Health Center 10300 SW 216 St., Miami FL 33190
10am-3pm
Free Health Screenings, Backpacks, school supplies, family fun, entertainment and lunch
August 13 CHI will honor RELIGIOUS LEADERS in South Florida with a special invitation only dinner
August 15 MIGRANT HEALTH FAIR
Everglades Housing Community Center
19308 SW 380 St. Homestead FL 33034 • 10am-2pm
Free health screenings, backpacks, school supplies, family fun, entertainment and more.
August 16 CHI will honor LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS with a special invitation only luncheon
August 17th HOMELESS HEALTH FAIR
Chapman Partnership for the Homeless
11am-2pm (Closed to the Public)

August 18th SCHOOL PHYSICAL DAY for Miami Dade County at CHI health centers
School Physicals just $25 and Immunizations are Free! 8:30am-noon
Check out our website for more details: www.chisouthfl.org/event-calendar/
*Bring your child’s Immunization Records. Parent or Guardian must be present.

2018
House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi put the spotlight on Community Health of South Florida Inc. (CHI) when she visited the Doris Ison Health Center in May. The Congressional Democratic Leader toured the center and met with CHI leadership and patients to hold a roundtable discussion on the challenges that seniors face with access to healthcare, insurance and the cost of prescription drugs.

“This center is beautiful,” remarked Congresswoman Pelosi. “It respects the dignity of the people who come here. The way they are welcomed, the way they are treated with respect regardless of their ability to pay, so, I thank you for that.”

President and CEO, Brodes H. Hartley Jr., took the Minority Leader and Congressional Candidate Debbie Mucarsel Powell on a tour and walked them through the wide range of services and programs offered to its patients.

“It is an honor to have Leader Pelosi with us,” said Hartley. “CHI is a lifeline for so many, an anchor in South Florida and we believe the support of our federal partners like Ms. Pelosi and so many others make our mission to care for everyone and ensure access to high quality care a successful endeavor.”

CHI patient, Sandra Bovell, received that lifeline and continues to be a devoted patient after surviving cancer and open-heart surgery.

“CHI rescued me,” Bovell told Rep. Pelosi during the round table discussion. “I feel like this is my family because I come in and everyone knows me. There are some medications that I need, and I can’t afford it. Keith Williams (in medication assistance) is there he works really hard, he gets it for me.”

Hector Santos also told his story to the group. Santos is a small business owner who hit hard times and had to chose between paying the rent for his business office or paying for health insurance. He chose to pay the rent.

“The worst thing to do is to not have insurance,” said Santos after describing how he survived a heart attack. “The emergency room safety net covered that. But then, I needed medicine, access to a cardiologist and primary care and CHI came in and helped me out immensely.”

Minority Leader Pelosi vowed to take these stories back to Washington. She referenced a bust of Dr. Martin Luther King in Brodes H. Hartley Jr.’s office.

“Dr. King in his day said of all the forms of inequality, healthcare is the most stunning and damaging because people can die. He also said the correlation is there: ballot, legislation, your life.”

CHI celebrated its foster parents with a special brunch in May. The organization has 23 foster homes with children from all over the state. CHI is the largest specialized therapeutic foster care program in Dade County.
Continued from cover

The white coat ceremony is a rite of passage for new residents at the Brodes H. Hartley Jr. Teaching Health Center Program at CHI. The ceremony joins the symbol of the white coat with the virtues of responsibility, duty, honor, respect and compassion. The coat signifies authority and respect. Family members and CHI leadership attended the white coat luncheon to celebrate the incoming class.

CHI WELCOMES 12 NEW RESIDENTS INTO TEACHING HEALTH CENTER PROGRAM

School Physicals $25.00
Sports Physicals with EKG $65.00

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