



COMMUNITY HEALTH  
of SOUTH FLORIDA, INC.

"Patient Care Comes First"

September/October 2017

# HEALTHY BITS

Healthy Bits — A Newsletter Published by Community Health of South Florida Inc.

## CHI'S WEEK OF EVENTS ENRICHED FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) celebrated National Health Center Week with a marathon of 8 exciting events to highlight the non-profit, services and programs. CHI is one of about 1,400 community health centers nationwide that participated with week-long events. This year, the theme was "Celebrating America's Health Centers: The Key to Healthier Communities."

Aside from the traditional health fairs, CHI added two new events to the lineup this year: a dinner to honor community religious leaders and a luncheon to recognize law enforcement officers.

"We wanted to focus on these critical partnerships and express our gratitude," said Brodes H. Hartley Jr., President/CEO of CHI. "Law enforcement officers help keep our communities safe and they also help bridge the healthcare gap by bringing the mentally ill for care at our facilities and much more. We know that religious leaders help with the spiritual aspects of health and lead the way to positive health outcomes for our population."

When dozens of religious leaders came together at the Doris Ison Health Center, there was a sense of peace and power in the room. Some had knowledge about the federally qualified health centers, while others were surprised to learn about



*CHI leadership, political leaders and religious leaders join together for a photo after the religious leaders recognition dinner.*

the many resources offered to both the insured and the uninsured.

"I thought it was very educational to realize how effective CHI really is in the community," said Apostle John Chambers from Believers of Authority Ministries. "It was good to see the pastors and the religious leaders come together and let our congregations know what is available in the different locations."

Just a few days later, nearly 30 law enforcement officers enjoyed lunch and an awards ceremony. It was a relaxing atmosphere for the men and women with a tense job day in and day out. Local police Baker Act nearly 2,500 patients with severe mental illness at CHI's Crisis Stabilization Unit on an annual basis. This emergency and sometimes involuntary commitment to treatment has helped improve the health of those

patients as well as the overall health and safety of the community.

"These communities need help," said Officer Ronald Tookes of the Miami Dade Police Department. "That's why CHI is here. When I was coming through in the 90's I had a nurse in my office. I had three social workers in my office. But that nurse was most important. Because when you take a look at HIV and take a look at some of the other ills in our community, our young boys and girls are suffering these diseases."



*Members of the Miami Dade Police Department had fun after being recognized at the Law Enforcement Luncheon.*

CHI hosted five health fairs geared at getting families and children ready to go back to school. The kickoff event was the annual Back to School Health Fair, complete with free medical, dental and behavioral health screenings. Hundreds of

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# A Message from the President

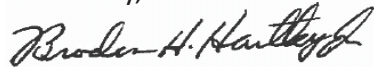
I am so proud of the work that our staff did to make National Health Center Week festivities a big success for Community Health of South Florida, Inc. The impact that we had on diverse areas of the community was tremendous and mirrors the dedication and commitment to quality healthcare that this organization sets forth every day. CHI cares for about 75,000 people a year, of all age groups and income demographics. But what if CHI wasn't there to fill the great demand for healthcare for all? The results would be destructive to all of us as a community. We must be advocates for healthcare and this is a critical time to get involved.

This year our nation is facing a possible repeal of major provisions of the Affordable Care Act and significant changes to Medicaid. This comes in addition to a potential 70 percent cut to the Health Centers Program when funding expires September 30<sup>th</sup>.

One in every 15 people living in the United States depends on community health center services. Organizations like CHI are also big economic engines of the community. With more than 800 employees, CHI is estimated to have an economic impact of nearly \$125,000,000 on South Florida.

I am personally asking each of you to enroll as an advocate, let our legislators know that people need community health centers like CHI, people need access to quality healthcare and people need health insurance. To sign up and let your voice be heard just go to [www.hcadvocacy.org](http://www.hcadvocacy.org). But don't stop there. Call your elected officials and let them know where you stand. Use social media to advocate for community health centers. If you follow CHI on Facebook or Twitter you can share its advocacy posts. Your voice is important and we cannot afford to be silent.

Devotedly,



Brodes H. Hartley Jr.  
President/CEO



## ***Don't Be Blinded By A Gimmick!***



**Many Vision stores advertise cheap glasses but then you walk out paying hundreds of dollars.**

***At CHI's Vision Department,  
we want you to see clearly!***

**Get low cost glasses without the tricks and  
leave looking like a million bucks!**

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# National Health Center Week (Continued)

children received free backpacks, school supplies and enjoyed lunch, entertainment, a bounce house, face painters and more.

Olivia Parra brought her six-year-old son Luis Castillo. "It's awesome, it is great for us," said Parra. "We don't have a lot of money. So, I personally appreciate this event because it helps with supplies and the entertainment is good too."



*Luis Castillo and a friend were all smiles after they had their dental consults and then met Ronald McDonald at the Back to School Health Fair.*

The federally qualified health center also provided similar resources at two fairs for the migrant/farmworker community, a health fair at the Chapman Partnership for the Homeless and a very successful school physical day held at all of CHI's 11 health centers. Sponsors for the week included: Wellmerica, Publix, the National Association of Community Health Centers and Aetna insurance.

"Since I've been the Commissioner for the area it's been my pride and joy to join you for so many wonder-



*Rocio Vivas, CHI Outreach worker tests a woman's blood glucose level at the Migrant Health Fair.*

ful events here," said Daniella Levine Cava, Miami Dade County Commissioner. Everything you do in the community is exemplary, the broad range of services you provide, the care and the love."

The grand finale of all the events



*CHI Board members and community members have fun playing a game during Casino Night.*

was Casino Night hosted by Community Health of South Florida, Inc.'s Foundation. The fundraiser brought in almost \$30,000 to help CHI build a children's crisis center.

With real casino games, open bar and delicious food, hundreds of participants enjoyed themselves while working toward a good cause.

"It's a great event," said Grant Miller, CHI Foundation member. "You are

helping people you don't know and that's the biggest gift in the world."

CHI Foundation President, Abe Levy, said sponsors like Sullivan Benefits, Call 4 Health, Christ the King Lutheran Church, The Leasing Experts, Inc., Gateway Health, Wellmerica and All Star Event Photography helped support the event because of the benefits that CHI provides to the community.

"CHI is the most incredible organization in South Florida for taking care of people whether they have money or not," said Levy. "This children's crisis center will be the saving grace for our younger generation. I can't think of a better reason to donate."

One in every 15 Americans depend on Community Health Centers for high quality, cost effective, accessible health care. CHI provides care to more than 75,000 people in South Florida, regardless of their ability to pay or insurance status.



*Chanel Marion, (left) youth volunteer and Teresa Brewton, (right) CHI employee, give away backpacks and school supplies at the Back to School Health Fair.*

## DR. PHILIPPE WINS STATE-WIDE AWARD

The Florida Association of Community Health Centers awarded Dr. Elizabeth Philippe the Jessie Trice Award at its annual conference this summer. The award recognizes a clinician for outstanding commitment to providing services to the underserved and dedication to quality improvement. Dr. Philippe has been with Community Health of South Florida, Inc. for more than 12 years and currently serves as Chief of Family Medicine and Assistant Designated Institutional Official for the Teaching Health Center.

“The award is confirmation of what we already knew about Dr. Philippe,” said Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah, Chief Medical Officer and Designated Institutional Officer for the Teaching Health Center. “She is a leader, an optimist, a teacher, a doctor and most of all the person you can always call on to ensure a positive outcome.”

Dr. Philippe has previously received the Physician of the Year Award at CHI, the CEO Award and the ACTion Hero Award from CHI. She has a passion for her job and for serving the community. Whether it is through volunteering at her church or leading Haiti relief efforts, Dr. Philippe has always dedicated herself to service.

She has also led CHI’s efforts to create diabetic clinics, which provide an opportunity for patients to receive focused medical care and practical educational guidance for managing diabetes. These

innovative activities have led to significantly better outcomes for thousands of patients. Under Dr. Philippe’s leadership, the teaching health center residents have excelled in research projects related to analyzing care gaps and the implementation of innovative practices aimed at improving outcomes in areas such as cervical and colorectal cancer.



*(left to right) Dr. Elizabeth Philippe, Chief of Family Medicine proudly poses with Brodes H. Hartley Jr. President/CEO after she received the Jessie Trice Award.*

## CHI BOARD MEMBER RECOGNIZED AS FIRST BLACK DISPATCHER

The Black Police Precinct Museum recently honored CHI board member, Carolyn Taylor Pates, in a special celebration for frontiersmen and women in law enforcement. It was titled the “First Five Pioneer Awards.” In 1966, Taylor-Pates

made history by becoming the first African-American to serve as a police dispatcher. Today, she proudly recalls the trials and tribulations of blazing that trail.

“The director fought long and hard, tooth and nail, to not bring African-Americans into communications at the City of Miami,” recalls Taylor-Pates about 1966. “He didn’t want me to come in the lunch room while he was in there. However, the trainer I had insisted I go in there and that was opening that door to go wherever I wanted.”

She also remembers the intensity of the job itself. It required her to be very attentive and focused. “I never lost an officer on my watch,” she boasted.

Despite the challenges, Taylor-Pates said she has plenty of good memories of her time as a dispatcher. She chronicled many of them in a book that she wrote called, “Lifeline Dispatcher.”

Pates comes from a family of dedicated public servants. Her late aunt, Doris Ison, helped to start Community Health of South Florida, Inc. in the early 1970’s and the main health center is named after Ison.



*Pates (right) on the job in 1970*



*CHI board member Carolyn Taylor Pates is interviewed by the media after receiving her award.*