

## CHI HOSTS A MARATHON OF EVENTS AND GETS A MAJOR GIFT

Leticia Ramirez came to take advantage of the free health screenings and have some end of summer fun. She and her daughters, Dionelis, 9, and Diomaris, 10, visited every health screening table offered at Community Health of South Florida Inc.'s (CHI) Back to School Health Fair.

"It's awesome and it has lots of different information in regard to different programs to help us," said Ramirez about the CHI fair. "They're very caring for all of the children here."

The Ramirez family was among more than 600 people who attended the mega health fair that included free health screenings, free backpacks, school supplies, giveaways, a bounce house, face painting, entertainment, lunch and more.

"There are a lot of families in this neighborhood that are in need and can't afford to get things," said Ramirez. "This is an awesome way of giving back to the community."

CHI packed the week before school with more than five events in celebration of National Health Center Week. The theme was "Celebrating Health Centers: Home of America's Healthcare Heroes." CHI employees donned capes to show their spirit throughout the week.

The organization also held a special dinner to honor local religious leaders for their partnership in bringing their congregations to care. In addition, CHI held a luncheon for law enforcement officers to thank them for their commitment to bringing those with



*CHI receives a \$100,000 donation from the Cornerstone group. (left to right) Miami-Dade County Commissioner Dennis C. Moss, Brodes H. Hartley Jr., CHI President and CEO, Abraham Levy, CHI Foundation President, Tiffani Helberg, CHI Vice President of Communications, Dewey Knight III, Lenny Wolf, Cornerstone Group Partner.*

severe mental illnesses to the Crisis Stabilization Unit.

The Cornerstone Group surprised Community Health of South Florida during National Health Center Week with a generous \$100,000 donation to help build a new Children's Crisis Center at CHI.

"This has been a tremendous week," said Brodes H. Hartley Jr., President/CEO "From the Cornerstone gift to our celebrations with law enforcement, religious leaders and local families, we are so grateful for all of the support and participation. These partnerships allow us to broaden our reach and ensure that everyone has access to high quality healthcare."

The week included a health fair in

Florida City for the families of migrant farm workers, plus a health fair at Chapman Partnership for the Homeless and it all wrapped up with School Physical Day at the majority of CHI's health centers. Hundreds of children received physicals for just \$25 and free vaccinations.



*The CHI Dental Team shows off their capes as they screen children at the Back to School Health Fair.*

# A Message from the President



As we head into the holiday season, I am filled with gratitude. The accomplishments of Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) and its staff continue to garner national attention. In August, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HRSA) recognized CHI as a "Health Center Quality Leader." CHI received the award for placing among the top 30 percent nationwide in clinical quality measures. It compares our measures to more than 13,000 other health centers throughout the United States.

That means that our patients are getting top quality care from our highly skilled, compassionate staff. That means that lives are being saved. That means that the quality of living for our patients is improving. That means that CHI is a leader in the country for healthcare and a resource that has been committed to eliminating barriers to healthcare access since 1971.

This Thanksgiving season, I ask each of you to recognize all your gifts: your health, your family, your friends, your homes, your jobs and so much more. Research has shown that gratitude can improve both your physical and psychological health.

According to a study published in *Personality and Individual Differences*, grateful people have fewer aches and pains and seem to feel healthier. Grateful people are more likely to exercise and go to regular doctor check-ups, pushing them to live longer.

So, I want to tell you that we are grateful to have you as our patients and our community partners. We want you to get the most out of this healthcare system. That is why we developed the CHI model which offers multiple services in one place. At most CHI health centers, you can see the primary care doctor, visit a behavioral health therapist, see the dentist, the pediatrician, the OB/GYN doctor and have the convenience of free medication delivery from our pharmacy. Soon we will be expanding upon this by building a Children's Crisis Center at our main campus at 10300 SW 216 St. Miami FL 33190. At the same location, we also recently finished our parking lot expansion to make it easier for you to park at the Doris Ison Health Center. Please park in the appropriate areas. In addition, we are planning to renovate and expand our Coconut Grove Health Center to be able to offer more services to more people in the community. We strive for excellence at CHI so that you can be confident you are getting the best care and the best service.

In gratitude,

Brodes H. Hartley Jr.  
President and CEO



## NEW EASIER TO USE ONLINE CHI PATIENT PORTAL IS NOW AVAILABLE TO YOU

### On the portal you can....

- Request an appointment
- Request a refill on medications
- Download a list of your medications
- Download copies of your records
- Review lab results
- Review immunizations
- Review vital signs

**How Do I Sign Up? Get your login information from the front desk staff at any CHI Health Center.**

# TEENS SHADOW CHI DOCTORS, PHARMACISTS AND MORE

Sixteen-year-old Sarah Lambert stepped into the exam room with Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah and said good morning to the patient sitting inside. The youth volunteer at Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) watched as Dr. Amofah genuinely listened to the patient and addressed his concerns. As she followed the Chief Medical Officer there were several key take-away lessons for Lambert.

“When you are with the patient, you have to make sure the patient understands their care plan,” said Lambert. “You have to be courteous to them.”

Lambert is a Junior at the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial High School and dreams of one day becoming a forensic psychologist. She was one of 27 high schoolers volunteering at CHI over the summer and one of a handful of those students who participated in a special shadowing program.

“We wanted to give the youth an experience beyond some basic things: clerical work, greeting patients etc.,” said Carol Blackwell-Curry, Volunteer Program Manager. “All those things are important. However, for those



*Sarah Lambert, Youth Volunteer looks on as Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah explains how he documents each patient visit.*

interested in medical careers we wanted to broaden the experience.”

Lambert said she enjoyed her time with Dr. Amofah and with several other CHI experts including: psychiatrists, laboratory and pharmacy staff. She learned the correct way to take a patient’s vitals, some of the processes in the pharmacy and watched in amazement as a lab machine separated plasma from the blood.

“To see they have a device that actually separates it as needed is pretty cool,” remarked Lambert.

The young woman also volunteered the bulk of her time over the summer in CHI’s Brodes H. Hartley Jr. Teaching Health Center. While most of her work there was organizational and clerical, it helped her to develop work ethic and more, said Margarita Torres, OB/GYN Residency Coordinator for the Teaching Health Center.

“We really appreciate Sarah,” said Torres. “She’s been an incredible asset to us helping us with everything that we ask her. She’s a very intelligent young lady, she’s a self-starter, very motivated.”

It was a summer of invaluable experience broadening young horizons, inspiring new ideas and cementing early goals for their futures.

“I did not have that chance,” said Dr. Amofah recalling his teenage years. “But my son had a chance here (as a youth volunteer) and I think that has molded him into wanting to stay in the healthcare profession and that is a really big motivating factor.”

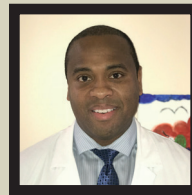
## NEW PSYCHIATRISTS TO SEE CHILDREN AT CHI

*Working hard to meet your family’s needs. We know the demand is big for psychiatrists who see pediatric patients. That’s why CHI recently added two highly qualified psychiatrists to its pediatric behavioral health team. They will see kids ages 5-17.*



**DANIEL GESSESSE, MD** recently joined the CHI Behavioral Health team and has experience in both child and adolescent psychiatry. Dr. Gessesse did his residency at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. Prior to joining CHI, Dr. Gessesse ran a private practice and worked

for the Children’s Home Society and Henderson Behavioral. “I love working with children,” said Dr. Gessesse. “They are more forthcoming than adults. That’s refreshing, and it makes the practice more enjoyable.” He will treat children for a variety of behavioral health issues including but not limited to ADHD, depression, and adjustment disorder.



**HOWARD PRATT, DO** returned to CHI to work in the children’s behavioral health department. Dr. Pratt did his residency at CHI’s Brodes H. Hartley Jr. Teaching Health Center and is currently also doing a fellowship at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital in child and adolescent psychiatry. Dr. Pratt

brings a unique perspective to pediatric psychiatry. He was once a middle and elementary school teacher and understands the challenges that children have in the classroom. He has a master’s degree from Hampton University and went to Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine. “I am happy to be back at CHI,” said Dr. Pratt. “I’m a real believer in CHI’s mission.”

# NEW LEADERS AT CHI



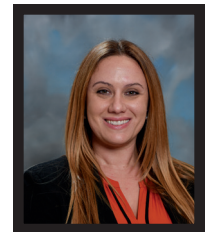
**Jeremy Radziewicz, MAcc** is the new Vice President of Finance at CHI. He brings seven years of experience, working with multiple Federally Qualified Health Centers. He has worked on federal, state and local financial regulatory reporting, grant reporting, financial modeling, 990 and audit preparation. Most recently he worked at CHI's sister company, Health Choice Network. Radziewicz graduated with his Master's of Accountancy from Florida International University with a focus in Assurance.

**Jose Carmona** is the new Director of Information Technology (IT) at CHI. He leads the daily operations of the IT Department and comes with more than 20 years of experience in the IT field for a variety of industries. Most recently, he worked for Prestige Health Choice, one of Florida's largest Medicaid managed care plans, as the Director of IT and Facilities. At Prestige, Carmona expanded IT & facility services in support of business growth to seven regions.



**Peter Wood, MPA** joins CHI as the new Director of Planning and Development. Wood last served as Vice President of Programs and Community Investments at Health Foundation of South Florida. He was responsible for investing over 90 million dollars in projects to promote health within the South Florida region. This included the development, management and evaluation of all grant making programs and processes. His new role at CHI aims to make similar strides. Wood co-founded and served through March 2018 as the co-director of the Miami Dade Age Friendly Initiative. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Friends of the Underline whose vision is to transform the land underneath a 10-mile stretch of the Metrorail into an activated linear park and walking and biking trail.

**Carolina Castillo** is the new Human Resources Director at CHI. She brings a combination of strong business sense along with solid skills in Human Resources. Most recently she worked for Red Bull Distribution Company as the HR Director for the Southeast. Prior to that, she was the HR Director for Leon Medical Centers Health Plans. She believes her job is to be a consistent message for the organization and a good balance for the company and its employees. Human Resources is a liaison between the company and its most important asset - its people. Castillo said she is excited to be working at CHI as she can see that her work is making a difference in the community.



**Kenneth Gould** returned to CHI as the Director of Logistics and Facilities. He worked for CHI in a similar capacity about 12 years ago. Most recently Gould served in a similar capacity as the Director of Community Operations at East Ridge in Cutler Bay. There he directed and supervised the construction and grand opening of a new three-story healthcare building. Gould also ensured a safe and easy brief relocation of residents. Gould is a Licensed Assisted Living Administrator and completed a fellowship in Leadership with Leading Age, the governance of senior living organizations. He will spearhead CHI's construction efforts including the expansion of its Coconut Grove Health Center, Marathon Health Center and more. He will also oversee environmental services maintenance, food and beverage services and transportation for the organization.

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