



HEALTHY BITS

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

THE BRODES H. HARTLEY, JR. TEACHING HEALTH CENTER CELEBRATES 2023 GRADUATION AND WHITE COAT CEREMONY



All smiles: Teaching Health Center leadership proudly stand with the 2023 graduating class

Family medicine graduate, Dr. Katina Richardson gave her commencement speech at the seventh annual Brodes H. Hartley, Jr. Teaching Health Center graduation ceremony as her fellow graduates shared proud smiles, reflecting on their transformative residency.

“Our paths were not easy, and the challenges were immense, but it was in these moments that we discovered our true strengths, resilience, and commitment to our professions,” she said. “CHI has given us the tools to go out and make a profound impact in the lives of our patients and community.”

After three long years, their special day had finally arrived. The intimate ceremony held on June 10th at Pinecrest Gardens celebrated four family medicine residents and three psychiatry resident graduates. The incredible accomplishment stood as a testament to their determination, perseverance and appetite for knowledge and growth as medical professionals.

A reflection of Community Health of South Florida’s Inc. (CHI) commitment to community health care, this group of doctors showed the organization’s dedication to innovation and growth.

"The strength of our program is a result of these talented residents," said President and CEO, Blake Hall. "We are so proud of you, and we love you."

CHI's Chief Clinical Officer and Chief Academic Officer of the Teaching Health Center, Dr. St. Anthony Amofah, smiled from ear to ear as he addressed the graduates in an emotional speech.

"Congratulations to the graduates, you did it!" he said. "We thank you so much for allowing us to be a part of your training. Graduation is not the end but rather, the beginning of a beautiful journey for you."

Keynote speaker, Chief Medical Officer of the National Association of Community Health Centers, Ron Yee, and Florida State Representative, Alina Garcia, also provided touching sentiments to the graduating residents during the ceremony.

The residents faced unique challenges during their residency, most notably a global pandemic that changed resident training and their patient care approach. However, through it all, they were able to adapt seamlessly and become better professionals.

As one class celebrated their accomplishments, CHI then welcomed the newest resident graduates on June 26, 2023. The White Coat Ceremony was the Teaching Health Center's ninth incoming class since its start in 2014.

With five family medicine and five psychiatry residents, the ceremony signified an incredible milestone in their careers. The room buzzed with anticipation as residents and their proud family and friends eagerly awaited the special moment. Dr. Amofah welcomed them and noted the significance of the moment.

"We are very grateful that we get to celebrate this important milestone with you," he said. "Faculty and program leadership reviewed about 2,500 applications to select the 10 of you. So, it is a big deal that you are here today, for you and for us."

Psychiatry resident Dr. Thaimy Del Prado expressed her excitement to begin her journey as a practicing clinician in her hometown of Miami.

"I am excited about meeting new people," she said. "I'm looking forward to expanding my medical knowledge and giving back to my community."

As each resident donned their white coat, Dr. Amofah left them with an important message.

"As you put on this white coat today, it is important that you don't see it as a symbol of power and authority," he said. "When you put it on, we want you to remember it is a symbol of service to humanity. This white coat must represent big hearts, compassion, empathy, and professionalism."



The newest resident class of the Teaching Health Center pose for their first group photo at the Doris Ison Health Center.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



It feels like summer is flying by. I hope you are enjoying some time with your families and remembering to take precautions in the extreme heat.

We have had so much to celebrate this summer. We graduated our seventh class of doctors from the Brodes H. Hartley, Jr. Teaching Health Center program. Soon after, we welcomed ten new residents to begin their training with a white coat ceremony.

Many of you are now preparing to send your kids back to class and CHI is here to help. Schedule your school or sports physical now with our compassionate pediatric team and schedule an appointment with our amazing vision and dental teams to cover all the bases for the kids.

We are excited to celebrate National Health Center Week festivities starting August 5th. This is a time when we highlight the value of community health centers all over the country, including Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI). Did you know that community health centers care for 30 million people (about the population of Texas) across the country? There are 1400 community health centers in the United States and CHI is one of the largest. We are proud to be caring for our community and ensuring that everyone has access to high-quality healthcare regardless of income or background. So, join us in learning more about CHI, the people we serve, community health centers, and celebrating a week's worth of events. You can see the schedule at:

chisouthfl.org/nationalhealthcenterweek

We are also celebrating the accomplishments of a great team here at CHI. That includes our own Chief Clinical Officer, Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah. He was recently awarded the Jessie Trice Hero Award from Health Choice Network. This distinguished award acknowledges his strong and strategic leadership and devotion to healthcare for all.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blake Hall". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Blake Hall

CHI HOSTS ANNUAL MEN'S HEALTH FAIR



(from left to right) Oscar Gonzalez, CHI's Vice President of Logistics and Facilities, Kenneth Gould and son, Juan Lopez, Benjo Reyes and son, and CHI's Director of Information Technology, Jose Carmona, pose for a photo at CHI's Men's Health Fair.

The Doris Ison Health Center was abuzz with contagious enthusiasm as men belted out lyrics to select songs in an energetic karaoke session. The excitement was all for CHI's Take Your Best Shot at Health: Men's Health Fair. It was a joyous atmosphere of men coming together to advocate for and celebrate a shared commitment to a healthy lifestyle.

The annual event, hosted by Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI), brought together a diverse group of men eager to engage in fun activities with family and friends.

Attendees enjoyed relaxing massages, engaging games of dominoes and basketball, and the hit of the evening, the NBA draft on the big screen. They also had the opportunity to discover essential health resources such as prostate health education and testing, mental health support, colon health screenings, plus blood pressure and glucose screenings.

CHI's Executive Vice President and Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Jean D. Pierre, believes that offering health events like this to the community creates an opportunity for men to be conscious of their health.

"By monitoring your physical and mental health, you gain valuable insights into your body's needs," he said. Regular and preventative check-ups, screenings and self-awareness empower you to catch potential issues early, prevent future complications, and allow you to take charge of your overall well-being."

Along with important health screenings and education, a handful of the guests also won raffles. Among the prizes were two signed basketballs by NBA legend, Glen Rice, Miami Heat tickets, a 40-inch TV and gas cards.

The event showcased CHI's continued dedication to providing accessible healthcare services to the South Florida Community.



**COMMUNITY HEALTH
of SOUTH FLORIDA, INC.**

Let's Celebrate Community Health Centers



Join us as we celebrate National Health Center Week from August 5-12, 2023!

For years, Community Health Centers across America, like CHI, have been the roadmap for strengthening our community. Through quality healthcare services, innovation, and compassion, Community Health Centers keep our communities moving in the right direction.



Saturday, August 5 **School Physical Day**

School physicals at CHI from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



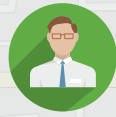
Wednesday, August 9 **Patient Appreciation Day**

On this day, we thank our patients for more than 50 years of loyalty! We will give our patients special tokens of our appreciation.



Monday, August 7 **Healthcare for the Homeless Day**

Our team will deliver CHI Care packs with drawstring backpacks, filled with supplies to the homeless in Marathon.



Thursday, August 10 **Stakeholder Appreciation Day**

CHI will deliver special appreciation gifts to officials and organizations in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.



Tuesday, August 8 **Agricultural Worker Health Day**

CHI Health & Resource Fair
Join us for health screenings, community resources, food, games and prizes for the whole family. Farmworker and other community organizations will be present with giveaways and information to help families.



Friday, August 11 **Health Center Staff Appreciation Day**

We're showing our appreciation for our health center staff's diligent work and commitment to patients at our health centers.

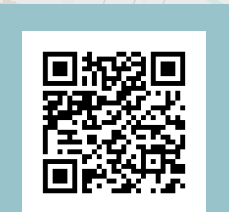


Saturday, August 12 **Children's Health Day**

We're enjoying a full day of family fun for our CHI staff at The Berry Farms to celebrate Children's Health Day! (Private Event)

To learn more about each event and to sign up to join us, scan the QR code or call!

(786) 272-2100





BACK TO SCHOOL

The new school year is around the corner! Avoid rushing to book your child's **ANNUAL PHYSICAL** at the last minute. Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) provides an affordable way to get your child back-to-school ready.

CHI will be conducting school physicals on

Saturday, August 5, 2023
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



School Physical

\$40

Sports Physical

With EKG \$50
Without EKG \$40

No need to wait!

Schedule an earlier appointment before August 5th

Most insurances are accepted

Evening and weekend hours are available

Please bring immunization records



(786) 272-2100

Participating Locations:

Doris Ison Health Center
10300 SW 216th Street
Miami, FL 33190

Martin Luther King Jr.
Clinica Campesina Health Center
810 West Mowry Drive
Homestead, FL 33030

West Kendall Health Center
13540 SW 135th Ave.
Miami, FL 33186

South Miami Health Center
6350 Sunset Drive
South Miami, FL 33143

Marathon Health Center
2805 Overseas Highway MM 48.5
Marathon, FL 33050

OUR COMPASSIONATE TEAM SERVING YOU



Semein Ayala stands in front of CHI's Mobile Medical Van

Semein "Junior" Ayala has been an Outreach Worker at Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) since April 2022. He is based out of the Everglades Health Center and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Clinica Campesina Health Center. He also works on CHI's Mobile Medical Van. Ayala serves as a crucial link between the community and CHI's health centers. He dedicates himself to educating the community about the services provided by CHI, helping individuals navigate Medicaid and insurance coverage, and frequently organizing events. Ayala deeply treasures the relationships he builds with people, considering it his greatest achievement to secure their access to high-quality healthcare. On the weekends, he enjoys resting at home, watching TV and preparing delicious meals for his family.

Rubis Vergara Ramirez is an APRN at CHI's South Dade Health Center. She started working at CHI in 2011 as a Site Manager at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Clinica Campesina Health Center. She enjoys working with minority groups and the underserved population. Now as an APRN, she works directly with patients and prides herself on providing the very best care. Her favorite part of the job is hearing success stories from her patients who are in better health after their visits. When Vergara Ramirez isn't saving lives at CHI, she loves to cook, go to the beach and travel.



Rubis Vergara Ramirez, employed at CHI for more than a decade, at South Dade Health Center