



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

Community Leaders Cut the Ribbon at CHI's Key Largo Health Center Open House



President and CEO, Blake Hall (center), cuts the ribbon at the Key Largo Health Center alongside community members, staff and supporters, celebrating the center's official opening in the Uppers Keys.

With a ribbon cut and loud applause from the crowd, Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) officially celebrated the opening of its newest location, the Key Largo Health Center.

"We've always envisioned opening a center in the Upper Keys," said CHI President and CEO, Blake Hall. "Now that we're open to the public in Key Largo, that dream has finally become a reality."

Community partners, healthcare providers, and board members gathered to mark the occasion and tour the state-of-the-art facility during the Open House. The new health center features four floors and offers a wide range of services, including primary care, pediatrics, and telehealth. CHI built out the large 9,000 square foot facility with future plans for growth.

"This is a medical home for the upper Keys," said Hall. "Our vision is to one day add more services such as dental and maybe even OB/GYN."

Visitors explored the modern examination rooms and dental suites, getting a firsthand look at the high-quality care environment CHI has created.

The new center replaces the former Tavernier Health Center, a move that's been in the works for several years.



Executive Vice President, Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah, gives a tour of the facility to guests during the July 17th Open House.

“When we opened the Tavernier location, we always knew it was a steppingstone,” Hall explained. “Our ultimate goal was to establish a larger, more permanent center that could truly meet the growing needs of the Upper Keys community.”

Since opening in March, the Key Largo Health Center has already started making a difference for the local community. With its expanded facilities and services, it is helping to improve access to quality healthcare for both residents and visitors. The center’s focus on comprehensive care and innovative services, such as telehealth, ensures that patients can receive personalized and convenient medical attention when they need

it most.

CHI’s Key Largo Health Center is more than just a new facility, it represents a long-term commitment to the health and well-being of the Upper Keys. As the community continues to grow, the center will remain at the forefront of providing essential care for all who walk through its doors.



President & CEO Message

This August we celebrated National Health Center Week. I'd like to take a moment to highlight the incredible work happening at CHI and in health centers across the nation. This annual awareness week was a reminder of the crucial role that health centers play in ensuring that healthcare is accessible to everyone. Our mission remains clear. Centers throughout the country serve 1 in 10 Americans, delivering care that promotes health and wellness for all.

Health Centers provide care to more than 32.5 million people nationally, and at CHI, our patients are at the heart of everything we do. They rely on us, and we are committed to meeting their needs every day. During this special week, we not only honored our dedicated staff, who go above and beyond to provide exceptional care, but also celebrated the vital contributions of our community partners. Whether it's through donating time, fundraising, or offering their support in countless ways, they make our work possible.

In other exciting news, I'm proud to share that we hosted an open house for our Key Largo Health Center, serving the Upper Keys community. Community leaders, patients, partners, and staff joined us for the opportunity to tour our state-of-the-art facility and learn more about the services we offer. With family medicine, pediatrics and telehealth, we are providing top-quality care to the people in the upper Keys. You can read more about that special evening in this newsletter.

Additionally, I am thrilled to announce that CHI received several Community Health Quality Recognition badges from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). These include the Behavioral Health Badge, the Diabetes Awareness Badge, the Silver Badge Award, and the Advancing Health IT Badge.



These recognitions are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our entire team. I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations and thanks to everyone who has contributed to making this achievement possible. We couldn't do it without you!

As we celebrate these successes, we also continue to advocate for the continued funding and support of health centers nationwide. Health centers are a lifeline for underserved communities, and it's essential that we ensure they remain funded and accessible for those who need them most. I continue to urge you to reach out to your local and national officials and raise awareness about the ongoing need for health centers in our communities. Your voice matters!

With the back-to-school season upon us, I want to remind families to schedule physicals for their children. Sports and school physicals are available now through September 30th at a discounted rate, and we encourage you to book your appointment today to ensure your child's health and readiness for the school year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support of CHI and for being a part of our mission to improve the health and well-being of our communities. Together, we are making a difference.

Blake Hall



COMMUNITY HEALTH
of SOUTH FLORIDA, INC.

Swing With Us to Keep South Florida Healthy!

2025 CHI

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Presented by



Help us raise essential funds to provide affordable, high-quality healthcare for South Florida residents.

Your support powers CHI's 13 health centers and a variety of outreach programs. Together we can ensure patients receive the comprehensive, compassionate care they deserve.

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

**At the Biltmore Golf Course,
an 18-hole, par-71 championship course**

1200 Anastasia Ave. Coral Gables, FL 33134

**Format:
Four-Person Team Scramble**

**Registration and
Practice Range**

9:00 a.m.

Tee Off

11:00 a.m.

Awards Banquet

to follow the end
of tournament



Register today at chisouthfl.org/golf

For sponsorships or underwriting, contact Lourdes de la Nuez at ldelanuez@chisouthfl.org | (305) 252-4861.

CHI Celebrates National Health Center Week: Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Present, and Looking Towards the Future

For more than 60 years, community health centers have provided care with access, equity, and compassion. They give vital healthcare services to millions of Americans who might otherwise go without. During this year's National Health Center Week, CHI proudly joined the National Association of Community Health Centers in celebrating its own more than 50-year legacy of service, impact, and community care.

It was a week of reflection and celebration, honoring the visionary trailblazers who identified the pressing healthcare needs in underserved areas and took bold steps to meet them. One of those trailblazers was Doris Ison, who in 1971 laid the foundation for CHI with only two trailers in Goulds. From these humble beginnings, CHI has grown into 13 state-of-the-art centers for comprehensive care and 58 school-based suites.

The week-long celebration kicked off with School Physical Day at five CHI locations. Children across Monroe and Miami Dade County were able to do school and sports physicals prior to starting school.

All week long, CHI shared stories and historic photos on social media. These posts showed how CHI grew from its early days into a lifeline for many families in Southern Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Today, community health centers serve 1 in 10 Americans, with the goal of reaching 1 in 3 in the years to come. In 2024, CHI served more than 62,000 patients from all walks of life and

backgrounds. Every patient is the heartbeat of CHI's mission. From appointments to outreach events, CHI works to build trusted relationships and make sure patients receive the compassionate, high-quality care they deserve.



Hammocks Health Center staff members (from left to right) Jacqueline Deulofeu, Anni Diaz Quintero, and Gloria Cedano smile together with their gifts for Staff Appreciation Day.



(from left to right) Florida Association of Community Health Centers representative, Mario Negron joins CHI Outreach members providing health screenings and information to the community at the Karis Carrfour Supportive Housing on Population Health Focus Day during National Health Center Week.

National Health Center Week also highlighted the importance of staff. From CHI's dedicated providers and logistics teams to security personnel and more, each plays an important part in making healthcare work at its best. In appreciation, all staff received a token of gratitude for their important contributions. Patients were also celebrated, with gifts and messages of thanks for the trust they put in CHI, allowing the organization the privilege of serving as their medical home.

This year's celebration included new themed days, such as Health Conditions Focus Day and Population Health Focus Day. For Population Health Focus Day, CHI's Outreach team provided health screenings and information at the Karis Carrfour Supportive Housing for formerly homeless families. Both spotlighted the essential role community health centers play in addressing chronic and acute conditions through

preventive screenings and vaccinations, while also caring for the most vulnerable. CHI emphasized pediatric vaccines, colorectal cancer screenings, and critical vaccines for people with weakened immune systems, promoting both awareness and action.

The week ended with gratitude and hope for the future.

"CHI is deeply thankful for everyone who contributes to our mission and shares our vision for a future where health is accessible to all," said Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah, Executive Vice President. "As the community grows, so will our services and outreach. But this progress depends on continued support. Community health centers across America need advocacy and funding to sustain and expand their reach. Raise your voice and let your local and national leaders know how important these services are to the well-being of our communities."



Dr. Joseph Mitchnader speaks with patient and dad on School Physical Day



BACK on the Field!

The new school year is here so book your child's annual school or sports physical today! Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) provides a safe and affordable way to get your child ready to play their favorite sport.

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT:

VISIT

CHISOUTHFL.ORG/SCHOOLPHYSICALS

CALL

(786) 272-2100



**PRICING GOOD FROM
AUGUST 1 TO
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

SPORTS PHYSICAL

With EKG \$50

Without EKG \$40

SCHOOL PHYSICAL

\$40

- Evening and weekend hours are available
- Please bring immunization records

SCAN HERE



CHI Expands School-Based Health Services to Reach More Students in 2025



Sharon Pottinger, Physician Assistant, provides care to a patient during an appointment at one of CHI's School-Based Health Center locations. In the 2025–2026 school year, this program will provide access to care for 50,000 students.

As the 2025 school year kicks off, Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) is stepping up in a big way to meet the growing healthcare needs of students across Miami-Dade County. Thanks to expanded funding from The Children's Trust, CHI has significantly increased its reach, growing from 35 school-based health centers in 2024 to 58 centers this year. These school sites now stretch from Coral Gables to Florida City, serving as access points for more than 50,000 students.

For many families, school-based health centers are a lifeline. They bring essential medical, behavioral, and preventive care directly to where children spend most of their time—school. With the latest expansion, CHI is making sure that even more children and their families can get the support they need, right at school.

In addition, CHI's mobile medical van will be at eight charter schools across the county.

This mobile unit delivers on-site care such as routine checkups, immunizations, and urgent medical concerns. It's all part of the organization's mission to remove barriers to care and improve health outcomes for children throughout South Florida.

According to Peter Wood, CHI's Executive Vice President, the success and expansion of this program are rooted in deep community partnerships.

“We’ve been serving students for many years,” said Wood. “CHI places a high priority in working closely with parents to meet the healthcare needs of their children. The Children’s Trust has played a crucial role in shaping the services we provide and in helping us scale our programs to reach more students than ever.”

This year also brings an exciting new development to the school-based health initiative: the introduction of telehealth services across public schools. With convenient virtual visits, students can be seen by a licensed provider without leaving school grounds, offering convenience. Appointment hours are the after-school period, giving families more flexibility and helping more students get care.

“If a parent cannot get in to see a doctor but they want their child to be seen for a bad cough, for example, they can request a telehealth appointment through an online form and get an appointment quickly,” Wood explained. “We’re making it easier than ever for children to get timely care.”

CHI also sees the increasing need for mental health services among school-aged children. At most locations, a licensed clinical social worker is available full-time to provide counseling and behavioral support. These services are also available through telehealth, so that help is available even when an in-person visit isn't possible.

As CHI continues to grow its school-based programs, its mission remains focused: improving the health and well-being of children and ensuring that all have access to care.



Our Compassionate Team Serving You



**Mayelin Barrios,
Medical Assistant**

[CLICK HERE](#)



**Beverly Hepburn,
Outreach and Enrollment
Programs Coordinator**

[CLICK HERE](#)