



PROCLAMATION 2014P-002

A PROCLAMATION OF THE HEALTH CARE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO RECOGNIZE THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HEALTH CARE DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature passed the Palm Beach County Health Care Act (Chapter 87-450) on July 11, 1987; and

WHEREAS, the Act recognized that "...it is in the public interest to provide a source of funding for indigent and medically needy residents of Palm Beach County and to maximize the health and well being of Palm Beach County residents by providing comprehensive planning, funding, and coordination of health care service delivery"; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Palm Beach County approved the Act in a referendum on November 8, 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners adopted a work plan to implement the District effective October 1, 1989; and

WHEREAS, the Health Care District's current safety-net programs include the nationally-recognized Trauma System, school health clinics with dedicated nurses in nearly 170 public schools, the Edward J. Healey Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, several health coverage programs for uninsured residents, and a Pharmacy operation; and

WHEREAS, the Health Care District operates the county's only public hospital, Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade, a 70-bed, acute-care, all-private room facility accredited by The Joint Commission which opened its doors in 2009 and two years later began a Family Medicine Residency Program that focuses on the special health needs of the 35,000 residents of this rural, agricultural region; and

WHEREAS, the Health Care District operates the C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers located in Lantana, West Palm Beach, Delray Beach and Belle Glade that provide quality adult and pediatric medical care to all patients regardless of their ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, the Health Care District has provided funding to federal, state and local health initiatives and agencies, including Medicaid Match, the Low Income Pool Program, the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County, Florida Healthy Kids, the Children's Services Council, Children's Behavioral Health Program, Palm Beach Community College Nursing Program, Palm Beach County Medical Society's Project Access, Florida Community Health Centers, Genesis Community Health, FoundCare, Ryan White, Glades Health Initiative, the Caridad Center, Comprehensive Aids Program and Compass, Pahokee Clinic, the Glades Healthcare Foundation, and the Emergency Department Management Group; and

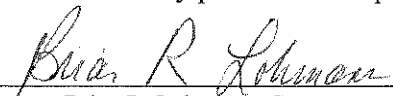
WHEREAS, today the Health Care District has matured into a health care system that each year provides life-saving care to more than 3,000 severely injured trauma patients, extends health coverage to nearly 40,000 uninsured county residents, enables uninsured expectant mothers to receive more than 70,000 services from doctors and other health care providers, tends to more than 170,000 students who make 683,000 visits to the public school clinics, provides vision and hearing tests to more than 50,000 students, and treats residents who make nearly 23,000 visits to the Emergency Room at Lakeside Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes the dedicated staff of the Health Care District and the many volunteers who have served over the years and continue to serve on the Health Care District's Board of Commissioners, subsidiary boards, and committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 13th day of November 2013, the HEALTH CARE DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the community, does hereby proclaim November 8, 2013 the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Health Care District of Palm Beach County.

Upon call of a vote, the Chair thereupon declared the proclamation duly passed and adopted this 13th day of November 2013.


Carol A. Roberts, Chair


Brian R. Lohmann, Secretary