

# Community Benefits Report

presented Fall 2013



# YEARS

*Keeping Our Community Healthy*





A message from our CEO

This year the Health Care District marks a major milestone - 25 years of providing health care services to the residents of Palm Beach County. In 1988 the Health Care District was established through a ballot referendum. Since then, the Health Care District, working in partnership with public and private providers, has woven a strong health care safety net that benefits residents of all ages and from all walks of life. In this report we proudly present an overview of what we've accomplished, as well as highlight an important new program serving our community.

From the outset, our mission has been to fill gaps in community health care without duplicating state or federal programs. Primary care access is one of those critical gaps. We crafted our health coverage plans to ensure that eligible uninsured residents can access primary care services. We took that commitment a step further this year when the District assumed the operation of the C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics, which provide medical care for adults and children regardless of their ability to pay. In rural, western Palm Beach County, where there is a growing need for primary care physicians, we graduated our first class of Family Medicine Residents at our public hospital, Lakeside Medical Center. This residency program is one of the few in the nation that is dedicated to training primary care doctors to serve rural communities.

We have carefully built a unique safety net system with the goal of minimizing the impact on local taxpayers. In fact, over the last 25 years, we've lowered our millage (tax rate) fourteen times. Our current millage is actually below what it was in 1990.

Looking forward, the implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act will impact our health coverage plans. We will be notifying and assisting members of our plans who qualify for the federal health care marketplace to enroll in the new exchanges. In addition, new enrollment to our Vita Health program will end October 31, 2013. This transition will mean fewer members in our health coverage plans. However, for those residents who cannot otherwise afford or access health coverage we remain committed to providing quality health care now and into the future.

*R. Wiewora, MD*

Ronald J. Wiewora, MD, MPH  
Chief Executive Officer and Chief Medical Officer

Over the last 25 years, we have filled critical gaps in the existing health care system in Palm Beach County. As a result, residents benefit from a strong health care safety net - on the ground, in the air, around the clock.



**Life-saving care** for the more than 3,000 people a year who suffer life-threatening traumatic injuries.



**School Nurses** who care for more than 174,000 students, from pre-K to 12th grade, in 167 public schools in Palm Beach County.



**Health coverage plans** for residents who cannot afford private health insurance and who do not qualify for any government health care programs.



**Quality health care** for rural western Palm Beach County residents at Lakeside Medical Center, the only acute-care hospital in the agricultural region.



**Skilled nursing and rehabilitation** for residents who require 24-hour inpatient care as a result of debilitating illness or traumatic injury.

For more information, and a timeline of our progress, please visit us at [www.hcdpbc.org](http://www.hcdpbc.org)



**Health Care District**  
**PALM BEACH COUNTY**

Our vision is to be the model for innovative health care delivery. We look to strengthen the health care safety net while acting in the best interest of county taxpayers.

**Opening the C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics**

In July 2013, the Health Care District ensured the continuity of community-based primary care services by assuming direct operation of the four clinics that were formerly part of the Palm Beach County Health Department.

These Federally Qualified Health Clinics, located in Delray Beach, Lantana, West Palm Beach, and Belle Glade, are projected to provide primary care services for approximately 25,000 adults and children a year, regardless of their ability to pay. The four clinics are dedicated to the legacy of the late Dr. Carl L. Brumback, the county's first Health Department Director.

To make an appointment at any of the clinics, please call 561-642-1000.



Pediatric examination at the C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinic in West Palm Beach.



From left: Nikerson Geneve, DO, Family Medicine Residency Program Director and Director of Medical Education, with the graduates Tarah Freyman, DO, Tricia Nielsen, DO, and Nader Abdallah, DO

**Training the rural community doctors of tomorrow**

Lakeside Medical Center, the county's only public safety-net hospital, owned and operated by the Health Care District, graduated its first class of Family Medicine Residents on June 25th, 2013. The hospital was accredited in 2011 by the American Osteopathic Association to offer the program. It is one of the few residency programs in the nation with a focus on the special health needs of populations in rural areas.

There is a critical shortage of primary care doctors serving rural America. Fewer than five percent of new medical graduates choose to serve in rural communities. We are very proud to be helping to fill that gap here in Palm Beach County.

**Relocating the Edward J. Healey Rehabilitation and Nursing Center to a new facility**



Health Care District Board and committee members, the District's CEO and staff, County Commissioners, resident Carrie Middleton, and relatives of the late Edward J. Healey officially open the new Center. Cutting the ribbon: District Board Chair, Carol A. Roberts.

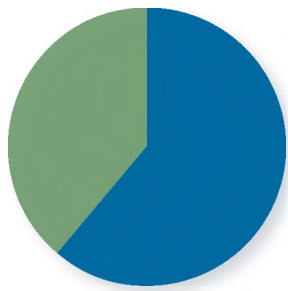


Giving residents healing and hope: physical therapy on new equipment.

In the spring of 2013, the Health Care District proudly opened the doors of its new 120-bed Edward J. Healey Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Riviera Beach. The new center replaces a facility that had been providing care for more than fifty years. The only facility of its kind in Palm Beach County, the Healey Center provides long-term and short-term skilled nursing and rehabilitation to residents who require 24-hour-a-day care as a result of debilitating illnesses or traumatic injuries, such as strokes, brain injuries, and spinal cord injuries. The Healey Center is named after the late Florida Representative Edward J. Healey, who also served on the Health Care District Board from 1992 to 2001.



## How we fund our safety net system

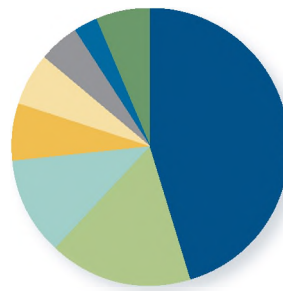


- General Revenue.....61.2%
- Program Revenue.....38.8%

General Revenue comes mainly from the County's ad valorem property taxes and investment income. Program Revenue comes mainly from charges for our services, grants, and contributions.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Full financials are in our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year that ended on September 30, 2012, available on-line at [www.hcdpbc.org](http://www.hcdpbc.org)

## Where we allocate the revenue



- Health coverage plans.....45.3%
- Lakeside Medical Center.....16.7%
- Trauma System.....11.4%
- Edward J. Healey Center.....6.6%
- School Health Program.....6.2%
- Hospital Medicaid patients<sup>1</sup>...4.8%
- Funding collaboratives.....2.7%
- Other.....6.3%

<sup>1</sup> The state and the counties share the cost of hospital in-patient services for Medicaid patients. The Health Care District funds Palm Beach County's share.

## How the results benefit residents of Palm Beach County

A full **94 percent** of the Health Care District's expenditures are used to provide direct health care services to residents. The data below is for the calendar year 2012 unless otherwise noted.

### Health Coverage Plans

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Residents enrolled in our health care plans <sup>1</sup> ..... | 39,759  |
| Number of member visits to Primary Care doctors.....           | 203,771 |
| Number of prenatal care services provided.....                 | 70,067  |
| Number of prescriptions filled by plan members.....            | 563,917 |

### Lakeside Medical Center

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Number of patients admitted during the year.....      | 3,624  |
| Number of Emergency Room visits.....                  | 22,712 |
| Number of outpatient registrations.....               | 9,761  |
| Total number of patients treated during the year..... | 33,544 |

### Trauma System

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Trauma patients treated last year.....                             | 3,069  |
| Number of patients transported by our Trauma Hawks.....            | 613    |
| Survival rate of patients taken to our Trauma Centers.....         | 97%    |
| Total number of trauma patients since inception <sup>2</sup> ..... | 53,732 |

### E.J. Healey Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Number of residents (on average) last year.....                   | 96    |
| Average age of residents.....                                     | 48    |
| Hours of physical, speech, and occupational therapy.....          | 6,250 |
| Number of residents discharged from the Center <sup>3</sup> ..... | 17    |

### School Health

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Number of School Nurses in the 2011-12 school year <sup>4</sup> ..... | 207     |
| Number of students who used School Nurse services.....                | 124,622 |
| Total visits to School Nurses in 2011-12.....                         | 683,280 |
| Student health screenings administered <sup>5</sup> .....             | 146,338 |

<sup>1</sup> Program memberships as of December 31, 2012: 14,998 in Coordinated Care, 1,334 in Maternity Care, 12,654 in Personal Health Plan, and 10,773 in Vita Health.

<sup>2</sup> Period from May 1991 to December 31, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> Residents of the Healey Center who returned to their families or to assisted living facilities in the community in the calendar year 2012.

<sup>4</sup> Includes 204 Registered Nurses and 3 LPNs.

<sup>5</sup> School Nurses conducted 35,082 Body Mass Index and 10,608 Scoliosis screenings last year. Our Health Support Technicians completed 50,379 vision and 50,269 hearing screenings.

## Who oversees the Health Care District

The Health Care District is governed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners. Three Commissioners are appointed by the Florida governor and three by the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County.

In addition, the Director of Florida Health Palm Beach County also serves on the Board. At least one of the seven Commissioners must reside in the Glades and one must be an elected official.



**Carol A. Roberts**  
*Chair*  
Appointed by the Palm Beach County Commission in October 2008.



**Philip H. Ward III**  
*Vice-Chair*  
Appointed by Florida Governor Rick Scott in October 2011.



**Brian R. Lohmann**  
*Secretary*  
Resident of the Glades appointed by the Palm Beach County Commission in September 2011.



**Alina M. Alonso, MD**  
Director of Florida Health Palm Beach County since July 2009.



**Nancy C. Banner, Esq.**  
Appointed by Florida Governor Rick Scott in October 2011.



**Angeleta Gray**  
Commissioner, City of Delray Beach. Appointed by the Palm Beach County Commission, March 2013.



**Leslie B. Daniels**  
Appointed by Florida Governor Rick Scott in May 2013.