

PROCLAMATION 2009P-001

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE HEALTH CARE DISTRICT BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS TO RECOGNIZE THE TWENTIETH
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;

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";

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

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

WHEREAS, the Health Care District's current programs include the nationally acclaimed Trauma System, school clinics with dedicated nurses in more than 170 public schools in Palm Beach County, the Edward J. Healey Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, several health coverage programs for the uninsured, and a Pharmacy operation;

WHEREAS, the Health Care District operates Glades General Hospital in Belle Glade, the county's only public hospital, and is currently constructing a new hospital and medical campus to serve all western Palm Beach County communities bordering Lake Okeechobee;

WHEREAS, the Health Care District has provided funding to federal, state and local health initiatives and organizations, including 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, County Health Department's Health and Dental Clinics, Florida Community Health Centers, Ryan White, Glades Health Initiative, the Caridad Center, Comprehensive Aids Program and Compass, Pahokee Clinic, Glades Healthcare Foundation, and the Emergency Department Management Group;

WHEREAS, today the Health Care District has matured to a health care system that each year provides life-saving care to more than 3,000 severely injured trauma patients, delivers over two million health services for uninsured residents, enables uninsured expectant mothers to receive more than 200,000 services from doctors and other health care providers, tends to nearly 170,000 students who make 655,000 visits to the public school clinics, provides vision and hearing tests to nearly 60,000 students, and treats residents who make nearly 19,000 visits to the Emergency Room at Glades General Hospital; and

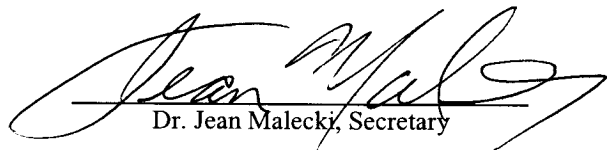
WHEREAS, this Board recognizes the dedicated staff of the Health Care District and the many volunteers who have served over the years and continue to serve on the Health Care District's Board of Commissioners, subsidiary boards, and committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 12th day of November 2008, the HEALTH CARE DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the community, does hereby proclaim November 8, 2008 the Twentieth 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 12th day of November 2008.



Jonathan R. Satter, Chair



Dr. Jean Malecki, Secretary