We're excited to launch this newsletter as a helpful resource to learn more about the Health Care District and the many services our unique healthcare system provides in Palm Beach County. We believe that today's healthcare is a team effort—and, it starts with our patients and employees at the center.

Until recently, we were considered the county's best-kept secret. The opioid crisis and then the COVID-19 pandemic shone a spotlight on the evidence-based services we provide to the community and our dedicated employees that make them possible.

In 2020, we were the leader in the county’s COVID-19 response, rapidly mobilizing the county’s first four-lane, drive-through mass testing site, which later expanded to three vaccination mega-sites. These efforts spilled into our mobile vaccination clinics and the School Health program where our school nurses were the main healthcare provider for COVID screening and testing in over 170 public schools.

That year we also launched the innovative Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program to combat the opioid crisis. Through a unique, public-private partnership, the District, county government and HCA Florida JFK North Hospital opened an emergency room called the Addiction Stabilization Unit (ASU). Now, we’ve added another tool to our belt: free Narcan in our clinics to reverse opioid overdoses and save lives.

None of this would be possible without the teamwork of our healthcare army, over 13-hundred strong! They are true healthcare heroes...saving lives, expanding access to care and keeping our community healthy.

We’re proud to be a healthcare leader. We appreciate working with our community partners and thank our patients for entrusting us with their care.

Stay tuned as we add more life-saving services for our community. We have more exciting news to come. To keep up-to-date with the latest information about the Health Care District, follow us on social media.

-Darcy Davis
OUR NEW CLINIC AT ST. ANN PLACE IS SERVING NEWLY-HOMELESS PATIENTS

Since opening our new clinic inside the homeless outreach center St. Ann Place, our nurses have seen an influx of recently homeless patients impacted by local rent increases.

“We’re seeing newly-homeless families, younger clients and senior women with advanced health conditions who’ve lost their spouses and don’t know what to do,” Robert Glass, Associate Director of St. Ann Place and member of the C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics’ Board, said. “Having a nurse here on a daily basis allows her to see the dynamics of each client and connect with them, which is invaluable as they often don’t have anyone who cares about them in a compassionate way.”

This new clinic is the latest addition to our network of ten primary care clinics around the county. Since opening in December, the clinic has provided physical exams, wound care and other services five days a week. Patients can also be seen by a physician and mental health provider who help coordinate their care.

If ordered by a physician, prescription medications can be delivered to the clinic the same day as the patient’s visit, which is a huge benefit as the patients often have no transportation to pick up their medications.

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50-year-old Marie (who did not wish to use her last name) says St. Ann Place has been a lifesaver since an $800 rent increase this year forced her to live in her car with her service dog. She visits several days a week to take a shower, get food stamps and see the nurse to treat her asthma with a nebulizer, which helps her breathe.

“When I’m outside, it’s hard to use the nebulizer machine because of the high cost of gas to run the car; I can’t afford it,” Marie said. “It’s difficult. Living on the street’s not easy when you need medicines and things like that and places like this are a big help, especially the health care here.”

One of our nurses, Michelle Cambridge, has been stationed at the St. Ann clinic helping patients in a similar situation as Marie.

“I love the work that I do,” she said. “Every single day I have an impact on someone’s life.”