

PCHC to Provide Health Care at Crossroads RI

On December 1, 2006 Crossroads Rhode Island, a national leader in providing a continuum of care to the homeless, transferred the operation of its health clinic at 160 Broad Street to PCHC. Crossroads will continue to run the homeless shelter at the same address.

Crossroad's expertise in working with the homeless population and PCHC's expertise in operating successful health centers for at-risk patients make this an ideal collaboration that will benefit more homeless people.

Anne Nolan, CEO of Crossroads says, "PCHC has the resources and expertise to serve the needs of our clients. Through PCHC we will be better able to address the acute needs of the homeless and ensure a continuum of quality health care."



Frank Gonsalves receives health screening from Patricia Moreau, RN at the newest PCHC Health Center at Crossroads RI.

Over 1,600 patients are served each year at the Broad Street health center. Under the direction of PCHC, the Broad Street clinic will continue to serve the homeless as well as other PCHC patients for whom the location is convenient. Under the agreement, PCHC also assumes operations of the Crossroads dental clinic.

The decision, which followed many months of discussion and included a lengthy due diligence process, lets Crossroads and PCHC excel at their core competencies: care and shelter for the homeless and quality health care, respectively.

For more information on this project, please contact Lynda Greene, Director, Satellite Clinics, at 401-444-0400 x3121.

Gala Event Raises \$100,000



Bill Annino, Bethany French, Brad French, and Dean Voyer pause for a photo opportunity at this year's Gala Event.

On November 3 The Biltmore Grand Ballroom was hopping with music and laughter as over 240 people enjoyed themselves at PCHC's third annual gala. The event raised close to \$100,000 to help provide primary care to the uninsured residents of Providence.

Party goers danced to the music of Steve Anthony and Persuasion and enjoyed net-

working with new and old friends. Thanks to the generosity of vendors and our wonderful staff we had many items for our guests to bid on at the silent auction.

The staff of PCHC thanks our Leadership sponsors Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island and a Citizens Bank Foundation grant; Event sponsors BCOG and Cornerstone Group and all our guests for their support of this event. Please set aside November 2 for Gala 2007!



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PCHC Physician Wins Prestigious Award

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Miguel Prieto, director of the PCHC Internal Medicine Department, who received the Clinical Leadership Award from the Rhode Island Health Center Association (RIHCA). RIHCA's mission is to improve the quality and delivery of primary health care in Rhode Island, particularly for medically indigent and underserved people.



Dr. Miguel Prieto, his wife, Ilse, and twin sons Johann and Hermann, celebrate Dr. Prieto's Rhode Island Health Center Association's Clinical Leadership Award at PCHC Gala Event

The Clinical Leadership Award is a statewide honor given to an outstanding clinician who helps health centers integrate new ideas and advances that result in improved patient care.

Dr. Prieto received the award due to his efforts in electronic prescribing, development of a program for opiate-addicted patients, development of new standards of care for internal medicine, improved peer review processes; and for his tireless advocacy for Latinos and education on health care issues within the Latino community.

Dr. Prieto's contributions to PCHC, his patients, and the community are greatly appreciated.

PCHC Mission Statement

"Provide neighborhood-based, high quality and accessible primary medical care to improve the health status of the residents of Providence and surrounding communities, regardless of their ability to pay."





June Carrara, PCHC newborn Nurse Coordinator with Abrahan Alvarez, Surian Sanchez and their son, Abrahan Alvarez

Program Spotlight

PCHC Newborn Care

Taking home a newborn from the hospital can be both joyful and intimidating. To assure that new parents leave the hospital with more confidence on how to best care for their infant, PCHC has a wonderful program that educates parents on what to watch for, how to take care of their infant, how to breast feed, and how to take care of themselves during the first weeks of life with an infant.

After the delivery of their baby, mothers are visited by Newborn Nurse Coordinator, June Carrara. June is a Registered Nurse and certified Breastfeeding Specialist. She has years of experience in pediatrics and recently received training as an Adoption Specialist. June works closely with our pediatricians, nurses, WIC staff and breastfeeding peer counselors to provide comprehensive services to PCHC patients.

June reviews basic care of the newborn, assures that the mother has a post-partum appointment and that the baby has his or her first pediatrician's check-up after three weeks. June also arranges for a visiting nurse for the first week of birth and she helps the new parents, many of whom do not speak English, with any post-delivery issues. New mothers leave the hospital with an emergency number and also with June's personal number, further extending the community of safety and assurance. Many of the mothers are first-time parents and single.

PCHC makes every effort for the experience of first-time motherhood to be filled with more joy than anxiety, and more support than a sense of overwhelming. Your support helps fund our Newborn Care Program, giving young mothers and their infants a good start to a happy and healthy life.

For more information on the Newborn Care Program, please contact Marie Ghazal, VP Patient Care/Nursing Services at 401-444-0400 x3120

A Breath of Relief

Asthma is a debilitating condition that afflicts a growing number of people in the country. It can rob children of the joys of participating in sports, neighborhood activities, and the simple pleasures of running, skipping and playing. For brothers, Danny Reyes, 13, and José Lopez, 9, their severe asthma meant that they could not lead a much-wanted active life...until they received care from PCHC.



José Lopez and Danny Reyes, asthma patients at PCHC, enjoy life to the fullest.

Breath for Danny and José came in gasps. Every breath was an effort and their mother, Aurora, feared that each breath would be their last. When the boys first came to PCHC for care, Marilyn Hammond, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, helped them get on proper medication; and Eliza Beringhouse, one of PCHC's certified asthma educators, showed Danny and José how to deal with their asthma through simple lifestyle improvements.

Today both boys live active, healthy lives despite their severe asthma. Danny and José attend the Boys and Girls Club everyday after school. Danny loves to play basketball. When asked how his treatment has changed his life, he said, "Now the boys want to play with me and pick me to be on their team because I can play, and I play well. Before my treatment, no one wanted to play with me because I was always tired and could only sit around." José was quick to add, "I feel normal. I can play tag and swim and never get tired. I run faster than I ever could and I love it!"

Aurora is grateful for the care received by PCHC. With tears in her eyes she comments, "It is a great relief and joy to know that my boys can play and enjoy life like every other child their age. It is great to not have to worry about them every minute and to see them happy with so many new friends. Thank you PCHC for giving them back their lives."

If you or a friend could benefit from the Asthma Services at PCHC, contact Judy Morris, 401-444-0400. If you wish to make a donation to this valuable service, please contact Loretta Tharp on Extension 3175.

Support PCHC This Holiday Season

Please consider a donation to the Providence Community Health Centers when planning your year-end giving. As we enter 2007, the flu and cold season begins. Many people without insurance will need care at this time and your donation can help provide that care. Please help us to bridge the gap to quality care.

Contact Loretta Tharp, Director, Income Development and Public Relations at 401-444-0400 x3175.

Olneyville Receives Champlin Foundation Grant

The PCHC Olneyville Health Center, which provides primary care to over 5,500 patients, recently received a \$69,000 grant from the Champlin Foundation, which will be used for new bathroom facilities and HVAC system.

On behalf of all PCHC staff, and especially the doctors, nurse practitioners and nurse mid-wife at Olneyville, we wish to thank the Champlin Foundation for its generosity over the years. The Champlin Foundations comprise three foundations, the first of which was established in 1932. The Foundation makes direct grants to tax-exempt organizations, substantially all in Rhode Island, mostly for capital needs. One important goal of the Foundation is to fund tax-exempt organizations that will have the greatest impact on the broadest possible segment of the population.

PCHC Passes JCAHO with Flying Color

This past summer PCHC went through their third accreditation with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). JCAHO is the nation's predominant standards-setting and accrediting body in health care, evaluating nearly 16,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. PCHC has been JCAHO certified since 1999. The accreditation process is a rigorous one and includes, among other items, a site visit and review of all policies and procedures. Thanks to our qualified staff, PCHC once again received accreditation from this prestigious organization.

We Spell Volunteer: L-I-B-B-Y

Elizabeth (Libby) Nault began working at PCHC in November 1987. As a registered nurse and certified diabetes educator, Libby was hired for the Diabetes Outreach Education Program, which, at that time, was funded by the Department of Health.



Libby Nault is honored at a recent PCHC All-Staff Meeting

She traveled to PCHC health centers to educate patients with diabetes on how to live a healthy life. In 1994 the funding for the program ended – but Libby was so dedicated to her patients and to the program – she stayed on as a volunteer.

Now, almost 13 years later, Libby still volunteers to educate our patients and she still has the commitment, compassion and strength that is the hallmark of a great humanitarian.

Thank you, Libby, for all of the lives you have brightened in your years of service.

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51% of PCHC Board Members are also our patients.

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THE PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS LOCATIONS

Administrative Offices
375 Allens Avenue
401-444-0400

Allen Berry
202 Prairie Avenue
401-444-0570

Capitol Hill
40 Candace Street
401-444-0550

Central
239 Cranston Street
401-444-0580

Chafee
One Warren Way
401-444-0530

Crossroads
160 Broad Street
(401) 521-2255
(phone to change January, 2007)

Olneyville
100 Curtis Street
401-444-0540

Dental Clinic
557 Broad Street
401-444-0430

Met School Clinic
325 Public Street
401-752-2600

Whitmarsh Clinic
557 Broad Street
401-444-0483

Visit us at www.providencechc.org or call 401-444-0400