

# HCSF

Health Council of South Florida, Inc.



*The source of unbiased health data; quality program planning, management and evaluation; strong community partnerships in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties; and targeted healthcare policy at the local, state, and national levels.*

Fall 2009 Newsletter

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Dear Community Partners:

As we conclude 2009, I would like to share a very special thank you with everyone at the Health Council of South Florida (HCSF) for their tireless efforts to maintain the high standards of service and to our supporters on the local, state and national levels that extend the HCSF mission. In addition I would like to applaud our loyal Community Partners who continue to propel the HCSF into a flourishing future. During this year, the state of our nation was littered with highs and lows, a tumultuous economic roller coaster and, for many, an indistinct or unclear future. The HCSF has embraced this year of challenge as an opportunity to adapt to the changing healthcare environment and continues distinguishing itself as the leading source of healthcare policy and management. With that, I introduce to you to HCSF'S latest all-inclusive guide, Miami Matters. A beacon of encouragement and knowledge, communities will now have the resources necessary to make well-rounded and sound decisions concerning the future wellness of their residents.

Miami Matters is a comprehensive resource that allows individuals to educate themselves on everything from community-based programs, to enhancing their community's resource allocation plans. Why is this program vital to strengthening Florida's communities? 2009 has taught all of us to be mindful of wasted time, finances and resources. Miami Matters is a cost effective, efficient way to communicate the advantages of working together and the benefits of having health conscious communities. Pooling HCSF resources with those of our community partners through Miami Matters creates a focused conduit of information and network that unifies people. We look forward to the inaugural launch. Keep reading for more details!

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Health Council of South Florida enjoyed collaborating at some recent events including National Association of Free Clinics Summit in San Diego, the United States Conference on AIDS in San Francisco, HCSF Board Retreat, and the Salud America Summit in San Antonio. It is an inspiration to share the company of others so passionate, proactive and dedicated to improving the healthcare policies that shape our communities. Investing in Floridians now, protects our beloved Florida in the future. Let us continue to work together and become an extraordinary example to our nation on how to be a catalyst for community transformation.

Best regards,  
Marisel Losa, MHSA  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Health Council of South Florida, Inc.

## STATE OF FLORIDA HIGHLIGHTS

### THE LEVY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

#### State of the State

*by Robert M. Levy, Legislative Consultant to HCSF*

This is the time of year when municipalities generally schedule their state of the city and/or county addresses, so I thought it would be a good time to report on how we view the state of the state.

In a word, it's abysmal.

University of Florida demographers reported in August that the state shed about 50,000 residents between April 2008 and April 2009. That should knock the number of Floridians down a notch from the previously reported 18.3 million. It's the first time since 1946 that Florida has been a net population loser. Even during the Great Depression, new residents swept into the state in search of work and leisure. But the severe housing contraction, combined with the sputtering of Florida's job creation machine, has eclipsed the state's former gravitational pull. It's not hard to understand if you look at some statistics:

- Florida ranks 49th in the nation in the percentage of children without health insurance. About 19 percent, or 763,000 children, do not have insurance, compared with a national average of 11 percent.
- Florida ranks 47th in the percentage of pregnant women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester.
- Florida spends only 3.1 percent of its resources on education-42nd in the nation.
- Florida ranks 50th in per capita spending on education, but ranks 16th in the nation in spending on corrections.
- Florida ranks 43rd in high school graduation rates, with 60.8 percent of public high school students graduating with a diploma.

- Florida students rank 48th in average composite scores on the ACT, a standard college entrance exam.
- Florida ranks 48th in juvenile incarceration rates, with a custody rate of 451.8 per 100,000 children ages 10 and up.
- Florida ranks 41st in child abuse fatalities, with 2.9 child abuse fatalities per 100,000 children.
- Florida's population growth, which has driven the state's economy since World War II, is stagnant.
- Florida's rate of income growth has fallen to 45th in the country.
- The real rate of growth in gross state product-the value of goods and services the state produces-has fallen to 47th in the nation.
- With a poverty rate of 12.5 percent, the number of people living in poverty in Florida has increased by 180,000 in one year.
- About 1.9 million Florida residents-about 1 in 10-receive food stamps.
- Foreclosures in Florida have quadrupled over the last three years. In the first four months of this year, new Florida foreclosure filings totaled 198,880.
- Per-capita state government spending is 44th in the nation, and Florida spends proportionately more of its budget on corrections than all but two states and a smaller share on education than most states.

We do excel in two areas, however. First, for the fourth straight year, the National Coalition for the Homeless report ranked Florida first in the nation in violence against the homeless. And in the second area in which we excel, the state is on pace to handle 150,000 applications for concealed weapons permits, a 67 percent increase over 2008. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services was so overwhelmed that Commissioner Charles Bronson asked the Legislature for 61 temporary employees, giving him 202 workers to wade through a backlog of 90,000 concealed weapons applications. That number alone represents as many petitions as the state handled in all of 2008. We currently have 607,977 concealed-weapon permit holders. Most requests are approved as long as the person is over 21 and has no felony record.

Well, you say, at least there's the future. Midway through September, the Legislative Budget Commission gave its final blessing to a three-year long-range financial outlook. Depending on what the Legislature continues to fund, the budget shortfall runs anywhere from \$4.3 billion to \$13.3 billion over the next three years. Translation: the 2010 budget year promises to be particularly contentious, when election year politics will collide with financial reality.

Part of the budget shortfall is caused by needs in education. An estimated \$1.4 billion is needed to maintain per student funding levels. This number DOES NOT include any funding in the 2010-11 year for class size reduction. Additionally, lottery revenue is not growing fast enough to keep up with continued demands caused by programs such as the Bright Futures scholarship that picks up college tuition costs for students who do well in high school. Bright Futures expenses are expected to rise 14 percent in 2010-11. The increased cost is primarily a result of higher tuition rates over the next three years.

Roughly \$3 billion will be needed in Medicaid. Part of this need is driven by the fact that federal stimulus dollars that bulked up Medicaid will cease in 2010. Additionally, the shortfall reflects the presumption that state lawmakers will continue the medically needy program and the aged and disabled waiver program in 2010. But programs under current law are due to expire at the end of next year.

More than \$1 billion will be needed over the next three years for the state's prison system.

About \$326 million will be owed to the United States government to cover interest payments for unemployment insurance costs. The state's unemployment fund required a federal loan this year. While there is no interest on the loan today, the U.S. government will start charging interest in 2011.

More than \$1 billion will be needed for the state employees' pay and benefits package if lawmakers want to keep the Florida Retirement System actuarially sound. The projections show that \$372 million will be needed during the 2010-11 budget year just for the pension plan.

And finally, despite the fact that the state requires a balanced budget every year, the amount of debt continues to mount. In the last 10 years alone, the state's debt has gone from \$15.4 billion to \$24.3 billion. It is expected to reach nearly \$29 billion by 2014. The annual payments on that debt are nearly \$2 billion a year.

Amy Baker at the Legislative Budget Commission told the committee that the projected budget deficit for the next fiscal year is at least \$923 million and could rise to \$2.6 billion. Florida's unemployment rate along with declining property values has conspired to put downward pressure on state revenues.

So that's it, folks - the state of the state - pretty abysmal, as I said at the beginning.

For additional information concerning legislative healthcare issues, please contact Bob Levy at Robert M. Levy & Associates, Offices in Tallahassee (850) 681-0254 and Miami (305) 758-1194.

## AIDS INSURANCE CONTINUATION PROGRAM (AICP)



### 2008 AICP Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA)

The AICP is a Department of Health program for Floridians who are HIV Positive (symptomatic or AIDS) and need help paying their health insurance premiums,

deductibles and co-payments. The program is funded by the state of Florida Department of Health through the Ryan White Program (41%) and the State of Florida General Revenue (59%).

<b>AICP Program and Client Savings</b>			
	<b>Program Outlays</b>	<b>Value of Care Purchased</b>	<b>GVAR</b>
2006	\$7,151,207	\$34,275,276	\$4.79
2007	\$8,267,889	\$41,291,841	\$4.99
2008	\$9,605,221	\$43,941,919	\$4.57
Totals*	\$64,391,039	\$385,859,283	\$5.99
*Totals are cumulative for the period 1997-2008			

Administered by the Council, AICP purchased more than \$43 million in private health care services through program outlays of \$9 million for 2,437 clients in 2008. Costs per client average \$432 per month compared to \$1,762 per month under the Medicaid Program. Over the past twelve years, AICP obtained near \$6 in private medical care goods and services for every dollar expended.

For additional information, please contact Robert Sandrock, HIV/AIDS Division Senior Manager/AICP Director at (305) 592-1452, ext. 111 or via email at [rsandrock@healthcouncil.org](mailto:rsandrock@healthcouncil.org).

### FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF FREE CLINICS (FAFC)



Florida Association of Free Clinics (FAFC) is an association that works together with the National Free Clinic Association to provide valuable guidance and assistance to Free Clinic organizations, professionals, and their partners/suppliers as they seek to maximize their potential and respond to a rapidly changing environment. Currently the FAFC Committee is in the process of developing the FAFC's regulations, committee structure, and membership criteria.

The Health Council of South Florida (HCSF) hosted two FAFC Committee meetings in September and October to discuss the establishment of the Association. The meetings were successful in its efforts to bring in community

leaders to share their thoughts, visions, perspectives and concerns for FAFC. The next several months promise to be exciting as the FAFC will have a positive impact on the communities it serves.

Membership to the Florida Association of Free Clinics (FAFC) is open to independent, private, nonprofit, community-based organizations that operate a volunteer-driven health care clinic that primarily provides free service to the low-income, uninsured people of Florida. In addition to the membership application, potential FAFC clinic members are required to complete the Free Clinics Nationwide Survey, which can be accessed at:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=CDNnePKCnSa\\_2fcDxCjVBHZA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=CDNnePKCnSa_2fcDxCjVBHZA_3d_3d)

For additional information please contact Manivone Douangdara, Community Health Specialist, at (305)592-1452, ext. 120 or via email at [manie@healthcouncil.org](mailto:manie@healthcouncil.org)

## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

### MIAMI MATTERS INITIATIVE



## Miami Matters

The development of the Miami Matters website is currently in progress with an expected launch date of late January of 2010. In order to follow the same methodology as the Community Health Report Card, a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) has been reconvened to guide the content of this dynamic website. The TAP will discuss the key indicators that will be followed on the website. The Miami Matters website will serve as a live version of the Miami-Dade Community Health Report Card, providing timely data in a user friendly format.

For additional information, please contact Shelley Glasgow-Wilson, Senior Community Health Specialist, at (305) 592-1452, ext. 107 or via email at [sglasgow@healthcouncil.org](mailto:sglasgow@healthcouncil.org).

## CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE



### AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT, COMMUNITIES PUTTING PREVENTION TO WORK GRANT

The Council is supporting the Miami-Dade County Health Department's submission to the Center for Disease Control for funding of a physical activity, nutrition, and obesity initiative under the "Communities putting Prevention to Work" grant, funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This community-wide initiative will seek to put in place preventative measures geared toward increasing physical activity and improving the nutrition of children, youth and adults in Miami-Dade County. Successful applicants will be notified in February 2010.

For additional information please contact Vanessa Rodriguez, Community & Advocacy Specialist, at (305) 592-1452, ext.118 or via email at [vrodriguez@healthcouncil.org](mailto:vrodriguez@healthcouncil.org)

## HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM



The Miami Dade County Hospital Preparedness Consortium (MDCHPC) continues to meet to discuss and strategize around existing preparedness issues affecting hospital response to emergencies. Consortium members have been discussing issues currently being tackled by hospitals around the resurgence of the novel influenza A (H1N1) virus in the Miami Dade population. In discussion are: challenges surrounding the treatment of patients presenting symptoms of H1N1 as well as matters that impact hospital operations. More importantly, consortium members are working closely with the Miami Dade County Health Department (MDCHD) to ensure timely and effective exchange of information in regards to H1N1 vaccination distribution and campaigns.

To be part of the discussion and be informed, please join us at the bimonthly MDCHPC consortium and committee meetings.

To RSVP to meetings and/or learn more about the MDCHPC please contact Jersey Garcia, Sr. Community Health Specialist at [jgarcia@healthcouncil.org](mailto:jgarcia@healthcouncil.org) or 305-592-1452 ext. 106.

For additional information about the Consortium, please visit <http://www.mdchospitals.org>.

### MIAMI-DADE HEALTH ACTION NETWORK (MD-HAN)



Debate on the overhaul of our current health system has been continually challenged by the identification of strategies that address health care access for the millions of American that are uninsured. The Miami Dade Health Action Network (MD-HAN) has been working over a year in identifying and showcasing innovative strategies for addressing this significant crisis. In the following months, the MD-HAN will be engaged in identifying other promising practices that can provide direction in designing a blueprint for strategically improving access to health care for the over 600,000 residents that lack health insurance in Miami-Dade County.

To learn more and/or participate in MD-HAN bimonthly Network meetings, please contact Jersey Garcia, Sr. Community Health Specialist at [jgarcia@healthcouncil.org](mailto:jgarcia@healthcouncil.org) or 305-592-1452 ext. 106.

### MIAMI-DADE OFFICE OF COUNTYWIDE HEALTHCARE PLANNING (OCHP)

#### CHRONIC DISEASE SNAPSHOTS

Snapshots on the status of diabetes, hypertension and asthma in Miami-Dade County are now available on the Health Council Website at [www.healthcouncil.org](http://www.healthcouncil.org) in a downloadable format. These 4-page documents were prepared on behalf of the Office of Countywide Healthcare Planning and contain the most recent data available on the prevalence of these conditions in the County. These documents also include information on chronic care self management and best/promising practices in diabetes, hypertension and asthma care from around the country.

Click on the links below for the specific snapshots:

- [Asthma](#)
- [Diabetes](#)
- [Hypertension](#)

## SMALL BUSINESS SURVEY

The Health Council is working with the Office of Countywide Healthcare Planning (OCHP) to design and implement a survey on the perceptions of health insurance by small-business owners. The purpose of the survey is to gain more insight into the needs and issues faced by small businesses in the decision to offer or not to offer health insurance to their employees. The survey was piloted in September 2009 with the support of the County's Small Business Development Department and more comprehensive roll-out will take place in 2010.

For additional information please contact Shelley-Anne Glasgow-Wilson, Senior Community Health Specialist, at (305) 592-1452, ext. 107 or via email at [sglasgow@healthcouncil.org](mailto:sglasgow@healthcouncil.org).

## MONROE COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

### MONROE COUNTY LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED (LCB)

A formal selection process to identify a new Community Transport Coordinator for Monroe County was conducted between June and September 2009 through the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP), under the supervision of the Local Coordinating Board (LCB). The LCB approved the recommendation that the current CTC, the Guidance Clinic of the Middle Keys, continue to serve as CTC for the five year contract period beginning in January 2010. The Guidance Clinic of the Middle Keys has served as the CTC for 11 years, providing quality services to the transportation disadvantaged in Monroe County under challenging geographic and economic conditions.

For further information please contact Shelley-Anne Glasgow-Wilson, Senior Community Health Specialist, at (305) 592-1452, ext. 107 or via email at [sglasgow@healthcouncil.org](mailto:sglasgow@healthcouncil.org).

## HEALTH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

### ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Health Council of South Florida's Ethics Committee continues to meet bimonthly to discuss and identify ethical issues related to health status, access to healthcare, and health disparities in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. The committee, chaired by Deacon Albert Mindel, has agreed to focus on three key areas of utilization, justice and stakeholders. The committee recently drafted the ethical statement that addressed the overall crisis of healthcare in the community from a general/ethical perspective. The draft statement communicates a general message of healthcare as a right and the importance of providing healthcare to all who reside in our community.

For additional information please contact Vanessa Rodriguez, Community Health & Advocacy Specialist, at (305) 592-1452, ext. 118 or via email at [vrodriguez@healthcouncil.org](mailto:vrodriguez@healthcouncil.org).

## POLICY, PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PPAC)

The Health Council of South Florida (HCSF) successfully re-established the Policy, Planning and Advisory Committee (PPAC). PPAC is comprised of Miami-Dade community stakeholders. The Committee nominated David Saltman, Visiting Professor of School of Social Work, Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work Florida International University, as a Chair for the committee. PPAC members have been working diligently to assist the Health Council Board of Directors to prioritize the HCSF's 2010 Legislative Agenda and other policy recommendations as requested by the Board.

For further information please contact Vanessa Rodriguez, Community Health & Advocacy Specialist, at (305) 592-1452, ext. 118 or via email at [vrodriguez@healthcouncil.org](mailto:vrodriguez@healthcouncil.org).

## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### **Friday, January 8, 2010**

Lifeline Transportation Coalition  
American Cancer Society  
8095 NW 12th Street, Suite 200  
Doral, FL

### **Monday, January 11, 2010**

Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade  
Executive Committee  
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
Health Council of South Florida Conference Room  
8095 NW 12th Street, Suite 300  
Doral, FL

### **Wednesday, January 13, 2010**

Miami-Dade County Hospital Preparedness Consortium  
Clinical and Ethical Issues Committee  
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM  
Via teleconference  
Call Jersey Garcia, MPH, Senior Community Health Specialist  
Health Council of South Florida  
305.592.1452, Ext. 106  
Email: [jgarcia@healthcouncil.org](mailto:jgarcia@healthcouncil.org)

### **Thursday, January 14, 2010**

Miami-Dade Health Action Network  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
General Meeting  
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Miami-Dade County Health Department  
8600 NW 17th Street, Suite 200  
Doral, FL

**Friday, January 15, 2010**

Monroe County LCB

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Quarterly Meeting

Marathon Court Center

**Thursday, January 21, 2010**

Health Council of South Florida

Ethics Committee

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Health Council of South Florida Conference Room

8095 NW 12th Street, Suite 300

Doral, FL

**Wednesday, January 27, 2010**

Miami-Dade County Hospital Preparedness Consortium Steering Committee

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

General Meeting

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Miami-Dade County Health Department

8600 NW 17th Street, Suite 200

Doral, FL

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