

## ANNUAL REPORT FY2002-2003

### MESSAGE FROM PAUL GLUCK, M.D., CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Solving the vexing problem of the estimated 450,000 uninsured and underinsured residents of Miami-Dade County has become Mayor Alex Penelas' mission. To address this concern, he created a task force of 60 community leaders under the chairmanship of Dr. Steven Marcus, Dr. James Bridges and Carlos Saladrigas.

The Health Council of South Florida, using our recognized expertise and resources, played a vital role to support the work of the Mayor's Healthcare Access Task Force. With our extensive databases, we helped orient the members of the Task Force to the healthcare resources and disparities in our community. We also created a matrix allowing direct comparison of our community needs and proposed solutions to other similar communities across the United States.

Four working committees were created within the Task Force "to ensure that residents in Miami-Dade County have access to quality, convenient and affordable health care coverage through governmental and private partnerships." The imprint of the Health Council was evident in these committees with logistical support of our staff. In addition, three current Board members played active roles – I Co-Chaired the Governance Committee, along with Daniella Levine (former Chair of the Council's Planning Advisory Committee), Albert Collazo participated in the Improving Existing Delivery Systems and Resources Committee, and he and Dr. Deborah Mash served on the full Task Force.

Having attended most of the over 60 meetings of the Task Force and its 4 committees, our Executive Director crafted a cohesive report, documenting the findings and recommendations presented to Mayor Penelas and the Board of County Commissioners. The work of this Task Force is an important first step in a long process which will hopefully result in better healthcare for all the residents of Miami-Dade County.

### MESSAGE FROM SONYA R. ALBURY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FY2002-2003 brought exciting and new challenges for the Health Council of South Florida. As South Florida's designated health planning agency, many community groups and health service organizations have turned to the Council at the national, state and local levels for its professional assistance. Through the American Health Planning Association, the Council initiated the development of a ground-breaking set of electronic health planning tools, called the ePlanner concept. These tools can be utilized by local health departments, private health systems, policy analysts, and other consultants to assist in their planning activities, tailoring them to specific community needs. At the state level, the AIDS Insurance Continuation Program (AICP) has expanded its provision of special services so that clients can receive the fullest benefits from their health plans. At the local levels, the Council is working in both Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties to seek solutions to expand access to health care coverage and services for the uninsured. Our Planning and Ethics Committees have produced the Comprehensive Health Plan for District XI and a white paper on Ethical Standards to Promote the Health of the Community, these reports will serve as fundamental, guiding documents for years to come.



As we move toward the future, we are seeing a stronger emphasis on planning outcomes and the use of a more results-oriented approach. We see this in the Clergy End of Life Enhancement Project (CELEP) that is having a profound effect on participating faith communities across the state. The evaluation of the innovative Liberty City Initiative will identify new methods for improving access among high-risk populations in maternal and child health. The Community Access Project (CAP) evaluation will foster the replication of best practices in reaching, treating, and promoting health among underserved groups such as immigrants, low income populations, uninsured children and persons with chronic conditions.

These collaborative partnerships are what make our Council effective. Our appreciation is extended to all of you for your commitment and leadership in "improving health care in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties" and beyond!

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#### HEALTH COUNCIL OF SOUTH FLORIDA SERVICES

- Performing needs assessments
- Conducting special studies
- Designing health care market analyses
- Coordinating health planning events
- Coordinating community forums
- Facilitating focus groups
- Preparing literature reviews and meta-analyses
- Developing position papers
- Forming local and statewide community planning boards to address emerging health care issues
- Pilot testing of innovative programs
- Planning and implementing Request for Proposal processes for the allocation of funds
- Conducting health planning retreats
- Hosting educational seminars

## SPECIAL TASK FORCES

### Mayor's Healthcare Access Task Force

On February 15, 2002, Mayor Alex Penelas created the Mayor's Healthcare Access Task Force to identify viable solutions to reduce the growing ranks of uninsured residents in Miami-Dade County, which is estimated at more than 450,000.



Since the creation of the Task Force, the Council has contributed a significant level of technical support to the Mayor's office and the Task Force in its work to address healthcare coverage of the uninsured. During the 13-month period, the Task Force gathered and analyzed local health system data, considered best practices across the nation, reviewed healthcare delivery alternatives, and developed a number of options for the expansion of health care access and coverage for the uninsured in Miami-Dade County.

Intensive dialogue was held concerning the organization and planning of health services. The Council developed the Task Force's Final Report that profiles its final recommendations and published them in the document, Mayor's Healthcare Access Task Force Final Report: Forging Health Partnerships for Community Action. Key recommendations centered on assuring accountability and transparency of health resources, improving access to care, offering health care coverage, and leveraging local funds to draw down new dollars to the community. Through its mission to improve healthcare in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, the Council will maintain a presence in spearheading community-wide efforts designed to better residents' access to quality healthcare.

The report may be viewed at: [http://www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/healthcare2002/FinalReport\\_Recommendations.htm](http://www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/healthcare2002/FinalReport_Recommendations.htm)

### An Action Plan to Improve Health Care Delivery in Monroe County



With the support of the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, the Council launched the Monroe County Community Health Initiative (MCCHI) in February 2002 to assess Monroe County's health care needs and resources. A year of extensive community-based research was conducted to obtain information on community perspectives, inventory the county's health care delivery system, assess the health status of its residents, and analyze health care utilization patterns. The Initiative's Task Force identified 15 final recommendations in the areas of public health/prevention, insurance/health plan development, direct services, and eldercare. Detailed and action-oriented strategies, as well as process and outcome measures are outlined for the County so that residents can work collaboratively toward realizing these community health goals.

### Monroe County Health Insurance Task Force

Based on findings from the 1999 Florida Health Insurance Study, one in five Monroe County residents under the age of 65 (21.16%) lacked health insurance coverage. In response to the County's growing uninsured crisis, the Rural Health Network of Monroe County Florida, Inc. convened a health insurance task force in May 2002. The task force's charge is to design and implement a community-based model that would offer affordable health care coverage to the working uninsured and businesses in the Florida Keys. The Honorable Mayor Dixie Spehar serves as Chair.

Through a Request for Proposals process the Task Force has recommended Milliman USA for actuarial services. Fundraising efforts are currently underway to raise funds for the feasibility study and actuarial analysis.

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#### Health Council of South Florida Committees and Task Forces

- AICP Statewide Technical Advisory Committee
- Clergy End of Life Enhancement Project Advisory Committee
- Health Care Ethics Committee
- Local Coordination Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged
- Miami-Dade County Trauma Advisory Committee
- Monroe County Community Health Initiative Task Force
- Planning Advisory Committee

## PLANNING AND RESEARCH

### White Paper on Community Health Sets Ethical Standards to Promote the Health of the Community

The Council's Health Care Ethics Committee spent over a year considering the ethical issues pertaining to the community's health. This effort culminated in the development of a white paper entitled "Ethical Standards to Promote the Health of the Community." The paper introduces ethical standards to be utilized by community leaders as they seek to support healthy living and a healthy environment for South Florida residents. Some key elements of the ethical standards include:

- ◇ Good Health as a Vital Community Responsibility
- ◇ Local Control
- ◇ Coordination of Funding
- ◇ Universal Access to Basic Health Care
- ◇ Collaboration
- ◇ Individuals Taking Responsibility for Their Health

The white paper provides *Recommendations for Action* to ensure the practical utility of the standards by various entities, including health care providers, the business community, and government officials, among others. This section offers tangible methods for applying these universal standards within specific sectors of the community.

### Planning Today to Meet Tomorrow's Health Care Needs District XI Comprehensive Health Plan 2003-2006

Under Florida law, the responsibility for planning for health care services is a collaborative effort between the State of Florida and a system of district agencies known generally as local health councils. This collaborative system of health care planning was established in the early 1980s with the passage of the Health Facilities and Services Development Act (Chapter 381.701-381.715 Florida Statutes).

Pursuant to the Act, the Council transforms data collected by the Florida Department of Health, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the U.S. Census Bureau, and multiple other sources into helpful information that consumers, health providers, advocates, and government can utilize to make informed decisions on health care issues. Through its 2003-2006 District XI Comprehensive Health Plan the Council, under the guidance of its Planning Advisory Committee, has assessed the overall health of district residents, inventoried health care resources, and identified means to mitigate barriers to care. The Plan provides data-driven recommendations for the community to implement to improve the health of the community. By undertaking implementation efforts today, our community will grow into a healthier district tomorrow.

### Addressing Miami-Dade County's Emergency Department Overload

The Health Foundation of South Florida, Inc. provided a grant to the Council to take an initial step toward addressing the growing crisis of overcrowded emergency departments in Miami-Dade County. A major outcome of this effort will be to identify possible solutions and key measures of hospital emergency department utilization that will track health system change as new innovations and alternative delivery options are introduced. Between February and April 2003, selected hospital personnel including Chief Executive Officers and Emergency Department Medical Directors, ambulance providers and professional provider associations were interviewed as key informants. A final report outlining aggregate interview findings, as well as an analysis of Ambulatory Care Sensitive (ACS) conditions will be available by the end of summer 2003.



### Transportation Disadvantaged Program

While Monroe County (Florida Keys) is well-known as a tourist destination for recreation and its tropical lifestyle, the County is facing many challenges for its residents with transportation being an ongoing and significant one. Through the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program, many persons who are unable to access transportation services due to physical or mental disability, income status or age, are able to have the means to attend to daily activities such as employment, medical treatment, educational/vocational training and daycare services.

The Council serves in an important role as the Designated Office Planning Agency (DOPA) that offers technical assistance to the Local Coordinating Board (LCB). The LCB monitors, evaluates, and provides advice and support to the local transportation activities and coordination of services by the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC). Key achievements this past year are: the acquisition of a new vehicle by the CTC, expanded public bus service routes, and the development of the 2002 Monroe County Transportation Disadvantaged Plan. The CTC has experienced a 67.6% increase in coordinated total trips from 2000 (67,967) to 2002 (113,921), resulting in better and more frequent service to the community. The Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) has been instrumental in the continued success of the local TD Program through the TD Trust Fund which accounted for 44% of the local program's funding in 2001 and 55% in 2002. Other funding sources included AHCA (11%-13%) and various local entities.

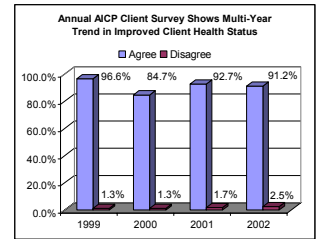


## AIDS INSURANCE CONTINUATION PROGRAM

After more than a decade of service, Florida's AIDS Insurance Continuation Program (AICP) continues to be a solid example of highly innovative and cost-effective health program planning. Through the collaboration of the Health Council of South Florida with the Department of Health and the Florida Legislature, as well as numerous community based organizations across Florida, the AICP has financially assisted to date almost 6,000 Floridians with HIV/AIDS in preserving their private health insurance. The AICP not only promotes clinical access to medical professionals experienced in treating HIV/AIDS, but also prevents many of these insured Floridians from enrolling in the State's Medicaid program. In calendar year 2002, this public/private collaborative successfully assisted more than 2,500 eligible State residents in purchasing approximately \$30 million in care and treatment services. Moreover, the AICP is continuing to set new standards in the enhanced statewide enrollment of under-served populations and has an exceptionally high participant satisfaction rating, demonstrating high value to clients and governmental funders alike.

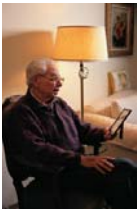
### Florida AICP 2002 Annual Client Survey Generates Great Response and Important Data

The 2003 AICP Annual Client Survey was distributed to 1,364 active AICP clients in December 2002. By mid-February 2003, 681 (50.0%) active AICP clients surveyed had responded. These AICP clients indicated a consistently high degree of satisfaction in several key programmatic areas. A total of 97.9% favorably rated Florida's AICP. Moreover, when asked if their personal health had improved over the prior year of program enrollment, 91.2% indicated such improvements had occurred, and a strong majority (81.4%) expressed satisfaction with their health plan.



## SPECIAL PROJECTS

### Clergy End of Life Enhancement Project



In September 2002, the Health Council of South Florida, Inc., in collaboration with the Hospice Foundation of America, Inc. and the State of Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), launched the Clergy End of Life Enhancement Project to provide statewide, educational services to clergy and faith communities in Florida. As the lead regional coordinator, the Council conducted both the "Train-the-Trainer" workshop and the pilot test in Homestead, followed by programs in Westchester, Overtown and the North Miami-Dade/Ft. Lauderdale area. Twenty-six regional trainers received comprehensive training on end-of-life care options, grief and bereavement. A total of 24 educational sessions were held in six regions across the state.

The educational sessions were very successful with over 600 participants statewide. Participants indicated that the educational sessions facilitated the exchange of ideas with members of other faith communities and promoted greater understanding and awareness. Preliminary results show that over three-quarters (77.6%) of the participants reported their knowledge had increased on end-of-life care issues after completing the sessions. As a result, these sessions have helped clergy and lay leaders become better prepared to serve individuals who are experiencing a life-limiting condition and/or loss of a loved one.

### American Health Planning Association's (AHPA) ePlanner Initiative

The AHPA's ePlanner concept refers to an electronic system of gathering, examining and analyzing health planning resource information and materials. The Council is producing Phases I through III of the ePlanner for the Association. The ePlanner products consist of the Summary of Identified and Evaluated Links for the ePlanner Initiative, Step-by-Step Web-based Guide to Conducting a Community Needs Assessment, and a guide for Certificate of Need Program review and analyses and information for applicants to consider.



Final products will be presented at the fall 2003 Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association.

### Cystic Fibrosis Employment Outreach Program

The Cystic Fibrosis Employment Outreach Program (CFEOP) serves persons age 18 years of age and older who are living with cystic fibrosis. Adults with cystic fibrosis face special challenges in the workplace, and CFEOP along with the State of Florida's Vocational Rehabilitation Services, will assist program participants to identify appropriate and meaningful work situations, access professional employment counseling, obtain professional training, and nurture workplace-related skills. Council staff is conducting outreach activities to locate adults with cystic fibrosis for the program. The program has been expanded to include teens aged 17 to 18. Through these support services and outreach efforts, persons with CF will be able to live fuller and more active lives.

## Special Projects continued...

### Miami-Dade County Trauma Advisory Committee

The Miami-Dade County Trauma Advisory Committee (TAC) offers specialized advice to the Board of County Commission regarding the provision of transportation and medical care to victims of trauma. For over a decade, TAC has also assisted in the coordination of efforts made by the public and private sectors to enhance the availability and quality of trauma care. In supporting sound planning of trauma care services for Miami-Dade County, the Council provides professional health planning services to TAC as it sets priorities identified by the Committee to serve the best interests of Miami-Dade County residents.

## Liberty City Outreach Initiative

In October 2002, the United Way's Success by Six Initiative awarded the Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade County a three-year grant in the amount of \$320,000. The goals of the Initiative are to lower the number of preterm births in the area and to increase both the number of pregnant women who receive a Healthy Start prenatal screening and the number of women who address their risk-behaviors through participation in Healthy Start Care Coordination. Historically, a high percentage of mothers in Liberty City who received a Healthy Start screening qualified as high risk. Project partners are the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Center and the Economic Opportunity Family Health Center. The Miami-Dade County Health Department is providing data support and the Health Council of South Florida is taking the lead on performing the project's evaluation of program interventions to measure the initiative's success and challenges.



## The Health Council – at a Glance:

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

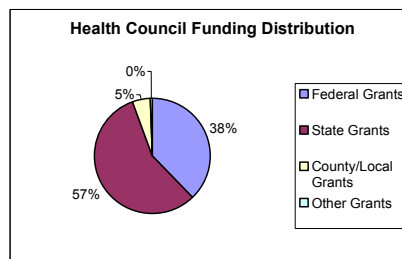
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### PROFESSIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sonya Albury, Executive Director  
 Miguel Mudafort, Financial Administrator  
 Robert Harris, Data Manager  
 Nicole Montgomery, M.P.H., HIV/AIDS Program Director  
 Priscilla Pouchet, Office Coordinator  
 Vianca Stubbs, M.P.H., Senior Health Planner  
 Troy Johnson, M.P.H., Health Planner  
 Shaleen Hamilton, Research Associate  
 Wendy Sejour, Research Associate  
 Mary Lichtenberger, Research Associate  
 Elizabeth Tirado, Administrative Assistant  
 Ana Wheelock, Receptionist  
 Janice Lachhman, M.P.H. Intern

Health Council of South Florida, Inc. Annual Budget  
 for July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003

Federal Grants	
AIDS Insurance Continuation Program (AICP)	\$2,539,137
State Grants	
AIDS Insurance Continuation Program (AICP)	\$3,653,879
Florida Department of Health-Planning Councils	\$150,000
Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged	\$17,320
County and Local Grants	
Hospice Foundation of America/Clergy End-of-Life Enhancement	\$131,250
Miami-Dade County Department of Human Services	\$125,000
Monroe County Community Health Initiative	\$40,000
Health Foundation of South Florida/Mayor's Healthcare Access Taskforce	\$23,614
Health Foundation of South Florida/Emergency Department Overload	\$12,247
Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade/Liberty City Outreach Initiative	\$10,630
Other Grants	
Cystic Fibrosis Adult Employment Outreach for Miami-Dade County	\$12,672
American Health Planning Association ePlanner Project	\$20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,735,749</b>



### New Directions

- Seek Trauma Agency designation working with the Miami-Dade County Trauma Advisory Committee
- Address the medical liability insurance crisis
- Participate in formal evaluation of the CAP Initiative
- Pursue innovations in health insurance design and evaluation
- Explore development of a certificate program in health planning
- Promote health education programs
- Expand efforts in reducing health disparities