

FALL / WINTER 2010

E-HEALTHBEAT

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MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



Lillian Rivera
RN, MSN, PhD

As we start this new year, I would like to congratulate every employee for the great achievements we have had in 2010.

All our programs worked hard to advance public health in our community and one example is the tremendous effort we put in finalizing the mass vaccination campaign against H1N1 Influenza we started in 2009.

In September, we officially launched the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative. In the next two years our Department will work closely with community partners in order to promote good nutrition and physical activity.

By implementing CPPW at a local level we hope to lead the way in the fight against chronic disease in the county, the State of

Florida and the nation.

The funds we received from the federal government will enable us to expand access to fresh fruits and vegetables through community gardens and farms to institutions, promote healthy options in vending machines, promote breastfeeding, invest in activities that promotes physical activity, incorporate standards in community planning designs that encourage physical activity and enhance the safe routes to school and park programs.

Each year, new challenges await but I'm convinced that our employee's wisdom, hard work and professionalism are the best resources we count on to face those challenges.

After all public health is our passion.

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enewsletter@doh.state.fl.us.

National Initiative on Prevention Officially Launched in Miami-Dade



Administrator Lillian Rivera (center), shares the podium with community leaders, partners, and MDCHD staff.



Karen Weller, Assistant Community Health Nursing Director speaks to participants about CPPW.



Bridget Smith, Program Manager, presented CPPW's action plan and goals.

The Miami-Dade County Health Department (MDCHD) and other community partners launched officially in September the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative aimed at reducing obesity, increasing physical activity, improving nutrition, and decreasing smoking, four steps considered critical in order to reduce the incidence of chronic diseases and promoting health.

The CPPW Kick-Off Event, that took place at Sofitel Miami, was the idoneous setting to discuss how Miami-Dade County will lead the way in the fight against chronic disease in the county, the State of Florida and the nation. Participants had an opportunity to interact with members of the Communities Putting Prevention to Work Team, local decision makers and

the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade's Executive Board.

As part of CPPW, MDCHD was awarded \$14.7 million dollars for community prevention programs.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our community," said Dr. Lillian Rivera, Administrator of the Miami-Dade County Health Department. "With this funding our community will be able to expand access to fresh fruits and vegetables through community gardens and farms to institutions, promote healthy options in vending machines, promote breastfeeding, invest in activities that promotes physical activity, incorporate standards in community planning designs that encourage physical activity and enhance the safe routes to school and park programs.

MDCHD Supports Commissioner Martinez Health Event

Various programs from the Miami-Dade County Health Department participated last March in the annual health fair and exposition organized by the office of Commissioner Joe A. Martinez.

Health screenings, exhibitions on health

topics, immunizations and other services were provided to hundreds of participants. In a message sent to the Health Department, the Commissioner staff praised our programs for their enthusiasm and the services provided to the community.



Hundreds attended the health event.



An exhibition by the Disease Control program.



Nurses assist participants.



MDCHD did health screenings.

Nurses Honored for Decades of Service



Carol Morrison and Eileen Logan show their plaques and share a moment with colleagues at West Perrine.

Carol Morrison and Eileen Logan, two nurses from the Healthy Start unit retired from the Health Department after 41 and 25 years, respectively, of service.

Employees from Healthy Start gathered to honor Morrison and Logan during a luncheon at West

Perrine clinic.

Both nurses were among the first in South Florida to treat and help mothers with cocaine addiction and their babies, when the use of crack cocaine became an epidemic in the 1980s.

ALWAYS PREPARED

MDCHD Health Preparedness Team hosted Dr. Lillian Rivera during the National Preparedness Month, celebrated in September.



Grant for Dental Van Will Benefit Children in South Dade

The Miami-Dade County Health Department (MDCHD) received a \$30,000 grant from Health Foundation of South Florida to help support the Seals on Wheels Dental program. This mobile dental program is a school-based sealant program that provides preventive dental services to second grade children in the area of South Miami-Dade County. Dental examinations, oral hygiene instruction, dental cleanings, fluoride varnish applications, x-rays and sealants are provided on a van staffed by MDCHD dental health professionals on school grounds, during school hours.

The Health Foundation grant will help enable the van to serve children in more schools in South Dade. According to Lillian Rivera, RN, MSN, PhD, “the dental program will now service seven schools and five head start centers during the 2010-2011 academic school year. We are grateful for partners such as the Health Foundation of South Florida. Together we will continue to help reduce oral health disparities among the children of Miami-Dade County.”

For additional information, please contact the Miami-Dade County Health Department, Dental Program at 305-499-4922.

Health Foundation of South Florida, a nonprofit grant making organization, is dedicated to improving health in Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. By funding providers and supporting programs to promote health and prevent disease, the Foundation makes a measureable and sustainable impact in the health of individuals and families. For more information, please call 305 374-7200 or visit the Web site, www.hfsf.org

About the Miami-Dade County Health Department: The Miami-Dade County Health Department is part of the Florida Department of Health. The mission of the Miami-Dade County Health Department is to promote and protect the health of our community through prevention and preparedness today, for a healthier tomorrow. For more information please visit www.dadehealth.org



The dental van staff has provided services to thousands of children in Miami-Dade.

Nurses Gather to Celebrate Profession, Talk About Services

Miami-Dade County Health Department's (MDCHD) nurses held their annual gathering last May at the Women's Park, where they exchanged results and ideas on our various programs and services to the community.

Exhibitions, presentations, workshops on different topics and recreational activities were part of the event.

Dr. Lillian Rivera, MDCHD's Administrator and other Senior Leaders attended the workshops.



Nurses from different programs.



Dr. Lillian Rivera listens to presenter Jorge Alonso



Senior Leaders attended the event.



Participants enjoyed exercises and relaxation techniques.

Ex Senator Peaden Visits New Center of Excellence



A group of leaders and staff shares a moment with Senator Peaden.



Senator Peaden tours the new building.



Administrator Lillian Rivera greets Senator Peaden.

Former State Senator Durell Peaden, Jr. paid a visit to the Miami-Dade County Health Department (MDCHD), where he had an opportunity to see first hand the completion of the new Center of Excellence at 1350 NW 14 St, in Miami.

During his visit, Peaden, who was the Chair of the Health and Human Services Appropriations

Committee in the Florida Legislature, was informed about the different programs and health services offered by MDCHD in our community.

He shared with Senior Leaders and other employees stories related to public health and its positive impact in cities and towns throughout the State of Florida.

Miami-Dade Fights Against Breast Cancer

October is dedicated to increase awareness of early breast cancer detection through education and screening.

According to the American Cancer Institute, last year an estimated 192,370 new cases of invasive breast cancer were diagnosed among women.

To commemorate the fight against this disease, the Miami-Dade County Health Department partnered with the Jackson Health System's Taylor Breast Health Center. Dr. Eneida Roldan, President and CEO of Jackson Health System, Dr. Ada Romilly, Medical Director of Breast Imaging/Taylor Breast Health Center, and Rene Ynestroza MBA, MSMIS, Chief of Staff/Senior Public Health Services Manager of Miami-Dade County Health Department (MDCHD) were guests of honor. Jennifer M. Prince, RN, Acting Director of The Women's Health & Preventive Services/Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program was the event's lead organizer. The activities included

testimonials from breast cancer survivors, speakers and raffles.

A second event was held at the MDCHD's Center of Excellence to help raise awareness among our staff, and also included speakers, raffles and other activities.

Maria Nolasco-Warden, MD, MPH, from the North Miami Family Planning Clinic, shared her story about the importance of early detection. Dr. Nolasco-Warden is not only an advocate, but a breast cancer survivor. She highlighted the importance of breast exams and mammograms as effective ways of preventing the disease.

A woman's best overall preventive health strategy is to reduce risk factors by avoiding weight gain and obesity, engaging in regular physical activity, and minimizing alcohol and tobacco intake.

Remember, the Best Protection is Early Detection!



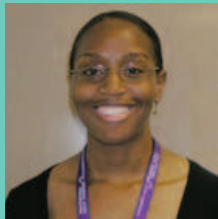
Dr Maria Nolasco-Warden and Jennifer M.Prince (right).

IN the Spotlight

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES WHO WERE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AND PROFESSIONALISM. THEIR HARD WORK MAKES OUR COMMUNITY HEALTHIER AND SAFER.

AUGUST



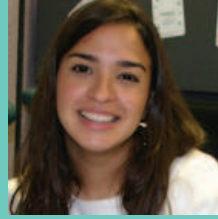
Natasha Ashley
WIC

SEPTEMBER



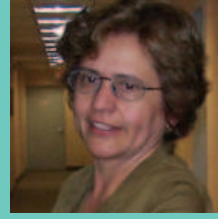
Sandy Oliver
WIC

OCTOBER



Lizbeth Londono
EPI

NOVEMBER



Maria Leon
Finance

DECEMBER



Norma Raudales
WIC

Outstanding Work



Congratulations to Ketty Ledan, who was awarded and recognized for her dedication and outstanding work on HIV/AIDS prevention at the World AIDS Day.

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD



Kudos to Florence Greer, who recently received the Presidential Award of Excellence for her community work. We are very proud of the work that Greer has done and continues to do in the community. She has been instrumental in mobilizing our community to bring HIV/AIDS education and prevention.

National Group Recognizes MDCHD

The National Association of County and City Health Officials presented Miami-Dade County Health Department with a Certificate of Appreciation for its participation in the H1N1 Sentinel Network, created to prevent the spread of H1N1 Influenza.

As part of the effort, the Department also launched a mass vaccination campaign that included opening several clinics throughout the county.



NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

presents this

Certificate of Appreciation

to
Miami-Dade County Health Department

for
their participation in the H1N1 Sentinel Network

Robert M. Pestronk

Robert M. Pestronk, Executive Director August 20, 2010



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.