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Contact: Trudy Pacheco, 305-538-8835, Ext. 1712

E-mail: tedwards@mbchc.com



## Miami Beach Community Health Center Received Over \$700K of Medical Supplies from Direct Relief

benefitting underserved patients in the community

MIAMI, Fla., February 15, 2017 – Last year, Miami Beach Community Health Center (MBCHC) received free medicines and supplies from Direct Relief with a wholesale value exceeding \$700K. This generous contribution provided much needed assistance to low-income and uninsured patients. "Direct Relief's assistance is literally life-saving for many of our patients and cannot be measured simply in dollars," said Trudy Pacheco, MBCHC's Director of Grants and Project Development.

Direct Relief supports MBCHC's mission of providing high quality, affordable health care to medically underserved residents. Last year, MBCHC provided services to 42,059 unduplicated patients, a 17.5% increase over the previous year. MBCHC's partnership with Direct Relief helps to remove barriers to care by making available, at no cost to the patient, much need medication they would not otherwise be able to afford.

Direct Relief is the only nonprofit recognized by the <u>National Association of Boards of Pharmacy</u> as a Verified-Accredited Wholesale Distributor. In 2016, Direct Relief experienced its largest year of support, distributing over \$137 million worth of medicines and supplies to 1,302 nonprofit healthcare facilities across the U.S. It is estimated that these providers operate more than 4,000 clinical delivery sites and care for more than 21 million patients nationwide. Since 2005, Direct Relief has distributed over \$691 million in support to its large network of healthcare providers. MBCHC looks forward to its continued partnership with Direct Relief in improving the health and care of medically underserved residents in the community.

About Miami Beach Community Health Center: Since 1977, Miami Beach Community Health Center has been dedicated to helping the uninsured and underinsured in South Florida obtain affordable, quality medical care. MBCHC is the only full-service ambulatory care health center in Miami Beach offering patients a sliding fee schedule. Visit <a href="https://www.mbchc.org">www.mbchc.org</a> for more information.

**About Direct Relief:** Direct Relief is a humanitarian aid organization, active in all 50 states and 70 countries, with a mission to improve the health and lives of people affected by poverty or emergencies. Founded in 1948, Direct Relief's pharmaceutical assistance programs focus on maternal and child health, the prevention and treatment of disease, and emergency preparedness and response. Visit <a href="https://www.directrelief.org">www.directrelief.org</a> for more information.