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**HRSA Features Miami Beach Community Health Center
For its Response to COVID-19**

MIAMI, Fla., February 12, 2021 – [Miami Beach Community Health Center](#) (MBCHC) was featured in the February 9th *Primary Care Digest* for its response to COVID-19. The *Primary Care Digest* is a weekly e-mail newsletter sent by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to 1,318 health centers across all U.S. states, territories and the District of Columbia.

Health Centered on COVID-19

Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. Health centers across the nation have distinguished themselves in responding to the current pandemic. Here's a recent example:



MBCHC North Miami Center COVID-19 testing staff include (L to R): Licensed Practical Nurse Natasha Joseph; Medical Scribe Hulda St. Fleur; and Medical Assistant Daniel Pereira

additional staff for testing and educational outreach. MBCHC conducts drive-up and walk-up testing at all three of their locations, and tests 100 to 150 patients daily. As of Thursday, January 28, they had tested 20,613 patients. The COVID-19 positivity rate among their patients is nearly 16%, which is significantly higher than the positivity rate reported for the state, according to the Florida Department of Health.

MBCHC received the Moderna vaccine in early January and has since administered 900 first doses, at no cost, to health care workers with direct patient contact and people age 65 and older. They sent a mass text message communication to eligible patients informing them of the availability of the vaccine and describing how to make an appointment. They received another allotment of 900 doses last week.

Thanks to its HRSA funding, [Miami Beach Community Health Center](#) (MBCHC) has been instrumental in helping Miami, FL, respond to the pandemic. Most recently, they began distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

From the start, MBCHC transitioned quickly, moving from in-person visits to telehealth for non-essential patient visits. Nearly 40% of patient visits are now conducted through telehealth.

HRSA funding also allowed MBCHC's patients to obtain their prescription medications through a delivery service, rather than picking them up in-person at the health center. During a four-month period early in the pandemic, 838 patients had their prescriptions delivered.

As demand for testing increased, HRSA's funding enabled MBCHC to hire

About Miami Beach Community Health Center: Since 1977, [Miami Beach Community Health Center](#) is dedicated to providing quality medical care to the uninsured and underinsured in South Florida and turns no patient away for inability to pay. Visit www.mbchc.org for more information.

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