



MR. ELVIN COBBS NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Elvin Cobbs

Mr. Elvin Cobbs, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor at Family Health Centers, Inc., was named the Employee of the Year for 2021 by Mr. Leon A. Brunson, Sr. Chief Executive Officer. The award recognizes an employee who goes above and beyond their normal duties, has an outstanding work ethic, meets achievements that positively impact the company, and is an overall good influence in the FHC organization. This is the highest award presented by the chief executive officer.

To be eligible for the award, the recipient must be a full-time employee and have at least one year of continuous employment with the organization. The employee is selected based

on four of the criteria areas including character, outstanding dedication, competence, and exceptional performance.

"We are proud to recognize Mr. Elvin Cobbs as the Employee of the Year," said Leon A. Brunson, Sr. "He has earned this award for his hard work, dedication, and passion. Mr. Cobbs has been employed at the Family Health Centers, Inc. for 20 years. He is widely known as a friendly, professional, and hardworking individual who actively serves and oversees all FHC satellite locations.

Mr. Cobbs is also known for his strong work ethic, leadership, and compassion and is noted as a strong advocate for the patients and the staff. He has been noted by his colleagues as an invaluable and irreplaceable staff member of the Family Health Centers, Inc. He serves the Family Health Centers, Inc. community in different capacities, from securing the buildings to ensuring operations run smoothly during challenging times. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, he has been a champion for our satellite locations by ensuring adequate precautions were put in place. This was a massive process and it occurred seamlessly with Mr. Cobbs in control.

In addition, he also ensured that safety precautions were set up and exhibited tremendous initiative and dependability during an acute time of crisis. He believes in leading by example and demonstrates this by going beyond expectations for the patients and colleagues.

"Being chosen as Employee of the Year for 2021, I am honored to receive this very prestigious award," said Mr. Cobbs. "To be an employee of Family Health Centers, Inc., a federally qualified health center that has been in the community for over 50 years, is very rewarding."

Congratulations Elvin Cobbs on being Employee of the Year for 2021!

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Mr. Elvin Cobbs
Facilities Maintenance Supervisor
Family Health Centers, Inc

FHC OPENS NEW TRAINING CENTER



The Family Health Centers, Inc. opens its new state-of-the-art training center. The training center is located next to Family Health Center's main site, 1445 Presidential Drive Street, Orangeburg, SC 29115, which will offer opportunities for employee training and staff development.

The 12,184 square foot facility will include a 250-seat multipurpose room that can be divided into four training rooms and will also house FHC staff, which include the finance, accounting, billing, purchasing, scheduling department, mammogram, X-Ray rooms, ultrasound, telemedicine, rural residency planning and development program, conference room, and staff lounge.

The facility will be used for new employee training and for annual refresher training for the existing workforce to keep them up to date with technological advances. The total investment for the new training facility is estimated at more than \$1 million.

"Ensuring our employees are current with technology will not only enable them to do their job, but ensures that the organization is at a forefront when it comes to competition," said Chief Executive Officer, Leon Brunson, Sr. The FHC training center is certain to play an important role in bolstering our region's reputation as a health care innovator and leader. The new training center will function as the hub for all FHC innovation while furthering our core vision, **YOUR HEALTH IS OUR #1 PRIORITY.**

Family Health Centers, Inc. Offering In-House X-Rays



Getting your x-rays just got easier. The Family Health Centers, Inc. will soon be offering In-House x-rays as a convenience to their patients, so they don't have to be referred out to another location. FHC Radiology department will be located at their new Training Center located at 1445 Presidential Drive in Orangeburg, SC, and will open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All radiology images are captured by the most skilled and certified technologists, using the most appropriate technology, interpreted by board-certified radiologists.

X-rays are a form of electromagnetic radiation, like visible light. Unlike light, however, x-rays have higher energy and can pass through most objects, including the body. Medical x-rays are used to generate images of bone, tissues, and structures inside your body.



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YOUR HEALTH IS OUR #1 PRIORITY!

Follow us at www.twitter.com/myfhc and
like us at www.facebook.com/familyhealthcentersinc

FHC Announces the Launch of their Brand-New Website



The Family Health Centers, Inc. launched a new website that gives patients better service and an easier online experience. <http://www.myfhc.org>

The new design is a user-friendly browsing experience for our trusted and valued patients and everyone visiting our website. The new site features a streamlined, modern design, improved functionality, and easy access to essential information to help users to find what they need in just a few clicks.

“We’re thrilled with the new look of our website and the design complements our goal of making a better online experience with our Family Health Centers, Inc. as user-friendly as possible,” said Carolyn Wigfall, Director of Outreach.

The site features a clean visual design that reinforces the credibility of the FHC brand in order to build trust with each visitor. The website was built using a modern content management system to ensure that FHC staff can easily and efficiently make updates.

A GIFT: 600 BOXES OF FOOD

Family Health Centers, Inc. Hold Giveaway

Written by Gene Zaleski
Times and Democrat Staff Writer

Inflation is reaching levels not seen in 40 years, making it difficult for many to supply their daily needs.

The Family Health Centers, Inc. in Orangeburg took a little bite out of the high grocery costs by providing families with healthy food during a giveaway event.

"It is tremendously meaningful for us to be a part of this," FHC CEO Leon Brunson Sr. said.

Brunson described the food giveaways as "very positive" and something FHC is grateful to be a part of.

"We have 600 people every time we open up every Friday, basically," he said.

600 boxes of produce and nonperishable goods were given out from FHC's main site parking lot, located at 3310 Magnolia Street.

FHC has provided free food boxes to over 1,400 families in Orangeburg and Calhoun counties since the program started in January 2022.

The food giveaway is done at least twice a month, both at the Orangeburg and St. Matthews Family Health Center offices.

The food giveaway has been made possible through a \$130,000 South Carolina Department of Commerce grant for Orangeburg and Calhoun counties.

The grant was given to Harvest Hope Food Bank for its Mobile Food Pantry program.

Harvest Hope is South Carolina's largest food bank, providing over 20 million meals on average across the Midlands, Pee Dee and Upstate.

The grant will fund food giveaways on a monthly basis for the next year, Harvest Hope Food Bank Director of Development and Agency Relations Chad Scott said.

Scott said Orangeburg and Calhoun counties were selected for the food program grant due to the high rate of diabetes in the community.

"The boxes we handed out are food and produce geared toward those with that condition," Scott said. "As we evolved, we realized and identified specific health needs in specific communities where we can better allocate resources to provide the best quality foods that meet that specific need."

FHC Farmers Market Manager Katana Jones said, "Feeding the community is



Family Health Centers, Inc. CEO Leon A. Brunson, Sr. helps distribute food as part of the center's monthly food giveaway program. About 600 Harvest Hope food boxes were given thanks to a S.C. Department of Commerce grant.

everything. "Caring is definitely sharing. Groceries are high. Gas is high. Helping anybody at this point in time is a blessing."

FHC Outreach employee Davarsha O'Neal said the food giveaway is crucial during these times. "Grocery prices are going up," O'Neal said. "It is an opportunity to help the community with getting, not all the groceries, but some of the groceries they need to relieve them of their hardship at the moment." He said, "It feels good that I can actually help people."

Free food box recipients must meet the Commodity Supplemental Food Program income guidelines.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program works to improve the health of low-income families by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA foods. The CSFP program is administered through the Food and Nutrition Service of the USDA.

Family Health Centers, Inc. Hypertension Management Program

The Family Health Centers, Inc. has initiated a Hypertension Management Program. The Management program will offer:

- Hypertension Evaluation by a provider for 30 minutes with possible follow up. The provider will discuss methods to manage and treat high blood pressure along with medications if needed.
- Free Electronic Blood Pressure Monitors
- Free Android Phone which will send home blood pressure readings to your chart at Family Health Centers for evaluation by your primary care provider.

The Hypertension Management Program can help you manage, treat, and reduce your high blood pressure. Adult patients aged 18 or older who have a diagnosis of hypertension are eligible for the program. New patients are welcome.



Family Health Centers, Inc. Diabetes Management Program

Are you a diabetic or pre diabetic patient of the Family Health Centers, Inc.? Family Health Centers, Inc has a fresh produce program for all diabetic and pre diabetic patients. We have partnered with Food Share of South Carolina to provide qualified patients with free fresh food boxes filled with healthy fruits and vegetables.

All diabetic and pre diabetic patients must be referred to the VeggieRX program by medical staff. Once the referral is made, they will be contacted by the VeggieRX Coordinator with information on how to receive their box. Once the referral is processed, their box will be available for pick up twice a month from one of Family Health Centers' seven locations. After three months, all patients must visit with their medical provider for updated A1c levels for a new referral to receive a fresh produce box for an additional three months.

Diabetic patients will receive the following free gifts:

- Smart Phone w/paid service for one year
- Glucometer (Bluetooth enabled)
- BP monitor (Bluetooth enabled)
- Pulse Ox (Bluetooth enabled)

To be qualify for the free gifts, you must be established with a FHC provider and have a diagnosis of diabetes. Walk-in only patients do not qualify.

FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. OFFERING COVID-19 TESTING AND VACCINES



The Family Health Centers, Inc. rolled out a vaccination and testing program in January 2022 to combat ongoing variants of COVID 19. In doing so, FHC administrated record numbers OF COVID 19 Testing and Vaccines in all their service locations in Orangeburg, Bamberg, Calhoun, and Upper Dorchester counties.

Since 2020, the world has experienced these new variants of COVID-19. As a result, we have witnessed insurmountable amounts of fear, uncertainty, and death. As the country approaches its third year of adapting to the changes brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, we saw firsthand how the shutdowns and restrictions have impacted everyday life.

From remote work and school schedules to new ways to attend events and

church services, COVID-19 continues to alter how we live. After more than three years of adjusting to strict guidelines, many Americans got vaccines and started to resume a more normal life. But many more remain at risk until they get vaccinated, and experts are still tracking the emergence of virus variants that could pose new threats.

The Family Health Centers, Inc. administered a record number of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna to men, women, and children to reduce a person's risk of contracting the virus that causes COVID-19. Vaccines are highly effective against severe illness. FHC has administered the following doses from January 1, 2020 through March 15, 2022: Moderna Vaccine 1 – (15,052); Moderna Vaccine 2 – (14,870); and Moderna Booster – (5,286); Pfizer – (57).

FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. Receives \$200,000 Grant for Covid Vaccine Outreach Efforts



The Family Health Centers, Inc. recently was awarded \$200,000 from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) to promote health equity in Covid-19 vaccinations. The award is expected to last for six months and can be renewed up to three times for a total period of two years. FHC will use the funds to serve as trusted messengers within their communities to help reduce barriers to vaccine access among disadvantaged or underserved populations. “The

federal funding will support to ensure individuals in rural areas and minority or vulnerable communities obtain the information they need to make informed decisions about vaccines from people they know and trust,” said FHC Leon A. Brunson, Chief Executive Officer.

The outreach initiatives will be centered on increasing community-level engagement about the safety, effectiveness, and benefits of COVID-19 vaccines and why they are essential to ending the pandemic. The purpose of the COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach Initiative is to increase awareness and knowledge of COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccines, and/or reduce vaccine hesitancy or barriers, in a manner that results in increased vaccinations among members of key populations, such as: 1. those living in rural areas (areas that lack access to broadband, healthcare, and other services), 2. minority residents (African American, Latinx, Native American, Asian American and Pacific Islander, etc.), 3. and other vulnerable communities.

FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. OFFERING PAXLOVID COVID-19 TREATMENT



The Family Health Centers, Inc. is now offering Paxlovid COVID-19 treatment to qualifying individuals. The Paxlovid will be offered Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at all Family Health Centers located in Orangeburg, Holly Hill, Vance, Denmark, Neeses, St. George, and St. Matthews.

Paxlovid is indicated for the treatment of mild-moderate COVID-19 in adults and children (12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kg) with a positive COVID-19

test who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death. People must have symptoms of COVID-19 and those symptoms must have started within the last five days.

Paxlovid is an oral antiviral pill that can be taken at home to help keep high-risk patients from getting so sick that they need to be hospitalized.

100% of Family Health Centers, Inc. Employees Are Vaccinated Against COVID-19

One hundred percent of the Family Health Centers, Inc. (FHC) employees have been vaccinated against COVID-19. To provide and maintain a safe workplace and reduce the direct threat of Covid-19 to our employees, patients, and communities, FHC requires that all employees be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

"I am proud to announce that our employees at the Family Health Centers, Inc. are 100% fully vaccinated," said Mr. Leon A. Brunson, Sr., Chief Executive Officer. "Having a fully vaccinated workforce is an important measure in our duty to protect the health and safety of our staff, patients, and the communities we serve."

We at the Family Health Centers, Inc. are encouraging everyone to get vaccinated and fight the spread against Covid-19.

Covid-19 vaccines are safe and effective and are offered at all Family Health Centers locations Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and at our walk-in vaccination sites.



FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. RECEIVES \$750,000 FROM HRSA TO DEVELOP RURAL RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Family Health Centers, Inc. has received a \$750,000 in federal grant funds from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to develop a new Rural Residency Program. HRSA awarded approximately \$20 million in Rural Residency Planning and Development (RRPD) grants to recipients across 21 states. The awards will support recipients' efforts to develop new rural residency programs while achieving Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accreditation. "This grant award will provide us with the opportunity to explore how we can better train and attract more family medicine providers to serve patients in our rural communities," said Leon A. Brunson, Sr., Chief Executive officer, Family Health Centers, Inc. "Research determines that providers who train in rural communities are most likely to stay in those communities to practice medicine. Also, this grant funding will assist us in enhancing the pool of long-term practicing providers."

The Rural Residency Planning and Development Program grant will be utilized as start-up funding for a family medicine residency program at the Family Health Centers, Inc. The program will be a collaboration between Family Health Centers, Inc. (FHC), Orangeburg, SC; The Regional Medical Center (TRMC), Orangeburg, SC; and Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) in Spartanburg, SC. FHC, TRMC, and VCOM have come together to form a Graduate Medical Education Consortium to develop a rural Residency Program in Family Medicine that addresses the primary care workforce shortage and encourages providers to remain in the area to practice upon completion of their Graduate Medical Education. The Rural Residency Planning and Development program grant will allow the members of the consortium to plan and develop the necessary resident and faculty training curricula and recruitment strategies needed to conduct a high quality and sustainable Rural Residency program. The goal of the program is to train community-based practicing primary care physicians to become leaders in health care transformation and enhance teaching in community-based settings. The program is training primary care preceptors who will be prepared to supervise residents.

The goals of the project are achieved accreditation for the program through ACGME; ensure sustainability of the program through public or private funding beyond the period of performance;



and track resident's career outcomes post-graduation, including but not limited to retention in rural communities for at least five years after the first graduating class. The consortium will seek to matriculate the first class by July 1, 2023, but no later than the required date of Fall 2024.

The anticipated long-term goals of the program are:

- Training and retention of an increased number of physicians in rural, underserved areas, specifically within the healthcare service region of consortium partners; leading to:
- Improved access to health care for those in rural, underserved areas,
- Improved quality of care for those in rural, underserved areas, and
- Decreased cost of care for those in rural, underserved areas.

FHC is also preparing to enhance continuing medical education and Graduate Medical Education through the construction of a Training Center and Telemedicine Hub (over 12000 total square feet) adjacent to the main health center site in Orangeburg. The training center will include space for live training and will be equipped to provide training in telemedicine outreach as well as distance learning to support the educational needs of the residents. The new Training Center will expand the existing capacity of FHC for telemedicine outreach. FHC has received Distance Learning and Telemedicine funding to purchase the equipment for the Training Center from the USDA Rural Development office. The construction of the Training Center is scheduled for completion by Dec. 30, 2022.

VCOM goals of the programs are:

- Recruiting students from and educating students in the socioeconomically depressed regions of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, and Alabama, especially those in rural

Appalachia, the Delta region, and the tobacco and cotton regions of the Southern States.

- Recruiting students with a strong desire to care for medically underserved populations.
- Fostering a desire and commitment in medical students to an enhanced understanding of global healthcare and disaster medicine.
- Fostering primary care, and healthcare for medically underserved populations.
- Promoting primary care practices and osteopathic distinctiveness.
- Developing a diverse workforce of physicians who will practice in underserved areas.
- Providing outreach to rural communities and the uninsured.
- Promoting mission medicine.

TRMC is a VCOM-affiliated clinical rotation partner and has successfully met all requirements in partnership with VCOM to provide a model medical curriculum and training to VCOM's third and fourth-year medical students since 2013. Clinical rotations are designed to provide a rigorous and broad foundation for primary care medicine, including hands-on experiences in rural and medically underserved areas, through which students gain an appreciation for the many rewards of rural and community-based medicine. TRMC also operates outreach clinics in areas not currently served by FHC and plans to incorporate these clinics in the rural residency program.

FHC and TRMC both serve the rural and medically underserved area that encompasses Orangeburg, Bamberg, and Calhoun Counties in South Carolina. Orangeburg and Bamberg Counties are designated wholly rural by Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) while half of Calhoun County has a rural designation. The entire area has HRSA Medically Underserved Area (MUA) and Health Provider Shortage Area (HPSA) designations. The shortage of access to primary care is reflected in significant health disparities, especially among the low income and minority populations of the area.

The geographic area in which the proposed residency program will be located includes Orangeburg, Bamberg, Calhoun, and Dorchester Counties. The town of Orangeburg where FHC has its main site, and where TRMC is located, will be the base of the residency program.

FHC CELEBRATES HEALTH AWARENESS



Family Health Centers, Inc. staff wearing red to show support and raise awareness for heart disease!

Each month, the Family Health Centers, Inc. features a National Health Observance that align with our mission to improve health across the United States. Health Awareness months aim to raise awareness about certain health conditions and topics.

February is American Heart Month, and the goal of Family Health Centers, Inc. is to show support and raise awareness for heart disease, which is the leading cause of death in the United States.

In celebration of American Heart Month, FHC staff celebrated "National Wear Red Day" to help build awareness of heart disease in both men and women. FHC staff wore red designer t-shirts in support of the day. The Chief Executive Officer, Leon A. Brunson, Sr., provided the red designer t-shirts to all staff members.

A pop-up banner and pamphlets were placed at each FHC satellite location highlighting American Heart Month.

In addition, the Family Health Centers, Inc. had a live zoom presentation on February 24th entitled "Pay Attention to Hypertension," presented by Mrs. Julia Hobson, Family Nurse Practitioner, at the Community Medical Center in Vance, SC.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States and is a major cause of disability. The most common heart disease in the United States is coronary heart disease, which often appears as a heart attack.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. Every year, 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease.

The good news: Heart disease can often be prevented when people make healthy choices and manage their health conditions. Communities, health professionals, and families can work together to create opportunities for people to make healthier choices.

During the month of March, the Family Health Centers, Inc. celebrated Colorectal Cancer Month. A pop-up banner and pamphlets were placed at each FHC satellite location highlighting Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Colorectal cancer, or CRC, is a disease of the colon or rectum, which are parts of the digestive system. Unlike most cancers, colorectal cancer is often preventable with screening and highly treatable when detected early.

Most cases of colorectal cancer occur in people ages 45 and older, but the disease is increasingly affecting younger people. Each year, about 150,000 Americans are diagnosed with this disease and more than 50,000 die.

Colorectal cancer may develop without symptoms.

With screening, colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. Colon cancer and rectal cancer are also highly treatable if caught early. That's why on-time screening is essential and lifesaving. Screening should begin at age 45.

In addition, FHC Presents Colorectal Cancer Screening Forum was held on March 24, 2022, with a zoom live presentation by Dr. Loren Harter, family medicine physician at Community Medical Center in Vance, SC. Dr. Harter discussed cancer facts, warning signs, and treatment options.





April is Alcohol Awareness Month

During the Month of April,
the Family Health Centers, Inc.
Celebrated Alcohol Awareness Month.

A pop-up banner and pamphlets were placed at each FHC satellite location, highlighting Alcohol Awareness Month. In addition, FHC Presents Smoking Cessation and Alcohol Forum was held on April 21, 2002 with a zoom live presentation by Hope Gibson, Adult Gerontology, Nurse Practitioner at St. Matthews Medical Center in St. Matthews, SC.

MYTH VERSUS FACT

ALCOHOL AWARENESS

MYTH

A drink may help a person relax and drive better.

If I eat before I drink, I won't get drunk.

Beer and wine are less intoxicating than distilled spirits.

Drinking coffee helps you to sober up.

A drink before bed helps you sleep.

Alcohol is a stimulant.

FACT

You should never drink and drive. Alcohol affects reaction time, coordination and vision quickly after consumption.

Food does not prevent alcohol from affecting your body. The alcohol will still be absorbed.

The Alcohol content of a drink is what makes you drunk, not the type of alcohol.

The only factor that reduces intoxication is time.

A drink before bed can actually make you loose sleep. It reduces your REM time.

Alcohol is a depressant.



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Beta Zeta Omega Chapter of Orangeburg Chapter Presented Gift Bags to FHC Employees

In honor of National Global Impact Day, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Beta Zeta Omega Chapter, Orangeburg, South Carolina, presented 150 gift bags to Mr. Leon A. Brunson, Sr., Chief Executive Officer of Family Health Centers, Inc. for all employees of the Family Health Centers, Incorporated on April 8, 2022. On behalf of the chapter, presentations were presented by Morgan Montgomery and Stacey Rock-Gilmore. Each bag contained chips, cookies, soft mints, water, an ink pen, and a thank-you-card from the sorority. Beta Zeta Omega is proud to recognize the Family Health Centers, Inc. for its dedication and commitment to providing affordable health-care services to the citizens of Orangeburg County and the surrounding areas. Mrs. Barbara Elliott Kirkland serves as president of Beta Zeta Omega Chapter.

Picture Left to Right: Mrs. Stacey Rock-Gilmore, Mr. Leon A. Brunson, Sr., and Ms. Morgan Montgomery

SELENA LOWERY NAMED APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF HIV SERVICES



Mrs. Selena Lowery currently serves as the Director of HIV Services at Family Health Centers, Inc. Previously, she worked for The Wright Wellness Center (formerly South Carolina HIV Council) as the Lead Medical Case Manager. Mrs. Lowery has devoted the past 12 years in HIV Prevention and Care at both the community and state level.

According to Mrs. Lowery, this nation is on its third update to the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, yet most people who are not directly impacted by the strategy, have never heard of it. There is a national problem that elicited a response from the White House and most people have never heard of it. The first National HIV/AIDS Strategy was released in 2010 under the Obama Administration with three goals. The first goal was to reduce the number of new infections. The second goal was to increase access to care and health outcomes for People Living with HIV. The third goal was to reduce health disparities.

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) was later revised in 2015 and most recently, in 2021. In 2015, another goal was added to the plan to improve the coordination of programs in HIV. The 2021 version of NHAS sets forth bold targets for ending the HIV epidemic by 2030. The federal government required each authority or state to adopt its own plan to meet these targets. The plan for South Carolina is called *Ending the Epidemics*.

While the goals have been outlined by the plan, you may wonder how will the Family Health Centers, Inc. (FHC) fall in line to realistically reduce the number of people affected by HIV, increase access to care and health outcomes for People Living with HIV, reduce health disparities, and improve program coordination? The answer begins with the conversation. The conversation should begin with the patient's first medical visit and should be ongoing.

FHC is normalizing conversations around HIV and prevention and have routinized HIV testing and are empowering our clients with HIV prevention tools such as preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP). Our HIV care system is working hard to keep our clients virally suppressed and engaged in their care. We have representation in the community to help combat stigma and bridge the gap for underrepresented people and communities. We are forming relationships with other organizations and ensuring that we have meaningful inclusion from People Living with HIV in our conversations.

As we enter the 42nd year of HIV in the US, we must come together to have the conversation about Ending the HIV Epidemic. It is the responsibility of everyone at FHC. We recognize that there is much work that needs to be done to end the HIV epidemic. Therefore, we must keep the conversations going.

DR. TAMARA M. RICHARDSON APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF PHARMACY



Dr. Tamara M. Richardson, a Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist, has been appointed the new Director of Pharmacy at the Family Health Centers, Inc. Dr. Richardson has been employed at the Family Health Centers for more than 5 years.

She was born in Queens, NY and moved to Orangeburg, SC in the early 90's. She received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Management from South Carolina State University and her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of South Carolina.

Following her career in textile manufacturing as a process engineer and supply chain specialist, she entered the profession of pharmacy in 2010. She began working for Family Health Centers, Inc. in June 2016 and has served as staff pharmacist, pharmacist in charge, hypertension coach and interim Director of Pharmacy.

She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Tri-County Health Network Coalition and a member of the following: Williams Chapel A.M.E. Church, South Carolina Pharmacy Association, Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity, Inc., and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

When asked about her new position Dr. Richardson says, "I am dedicated to this community and profoundly grateful to be a member of this organization to contribute to the mission of promoting health and providing quality comprehensive health care to all with courtesy."

FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. WELCOMES NEW PROVIDERS AND STAFF MEMBERS



Towanna Enoch, a native of Georgetown, SC, joined FHC as the Provider for HIV Services. Ms. Enoch is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners in Adult Primary Care. She began her career as a registered nurse in 2004 and became a nurse practitioner in 2011. Her clinical background is diverse and includes experience in the medical/surgical, mental health, public health, women's health, primary care, and infectious disease

specialties. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and her Master of Science in Nursing Administration degrees at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC. She went on to complete her post-master's certificate specializing as an Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner at Duke University's School of Nursing in Durham, NC. She is highly focused on caring for underserved populations and trying to eliminate disparities in their care. Ms. Enoch resides in Columbia, SC. She enjoys traveling and spending time with her family.



Dr. Shante P. Gleaton joined FHC as Hypertension Educator. Dr. Gleaton is a doctoral prepared Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner certified by The American Nurses Credentialing Center. She received her Doctor of Nursing Practice from South University in Columbia, South Carolina and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Kaplan University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She has more than 15 years of health care experience and is qualified to diagnose a wide variety of

conditions across the entire lifespan. Her previous experience includes providing care in inpatient and outpatient settings, chronic disease management, telemedicine, pediatrics, acute care, geriatrics, nurse management, nurse education, and utilization review specialist. Shante is an active member of several professional organizations including the Sigma Theta Tau, American Nurses Association, South Carolina Nurses Association, and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Dr. Gleaton and her husband enjoy family time with their five children and traveling. She also enjoys reading, mentoring, and spending time at the beach.



Dr. Marcela "Dolores" Farrer joined FHC as a part-time Podiatrist. Dr. Farrer is a surgically trained podiatrist involved in podiatry and wound care for over 29 years. She is board certified by the American Board of Wound Management (ABWM) since 2003. Dr. Farrer has been a board member of the Association for the Advancement of Wound Care (AAWC) for over 3 years and serves on multiple committees.

Dr. Farrer has experience in private practice, hospitals, wound clinics, and nursing homes. She worked for the VA Hospital in Columbia, SC for 8 years providing our nation's heroes with a comprehensive multi-specialty wound care program that resulted in above-average healing rates and decreased amputation rates. She was also the Primary Investigator involved in several research projects on new technologies. She lectures nationally to medical professionals to share her knowledge and experience as a wound care expert.

She is a graduate of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, completed a surgical residency, and obtained her MBA in her hometown of New Orleans, LA. She currently resides in Columbia, SC, and is excited to work with Family Health Centers to offer comprehensive podiatric and diabetic wound care.



Dr. Celena Hilliard Oliver, native of Columbia SC, has joined FHC as a Pharmacist at the main site in Orangeburg, SC. Dr. Oliver has over 20 years of experience in healthcare with experience in various areas such as public health, clinical research, and health education. She graduated from Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy with a Doctorate Degree in Pharmacy in 2021 and a Bachelor of Science degree in Public

Health in 2010 from The University of North Carolina Charlotte in Charlotte, North Carolina. She currently resides in Northeast Columbia with her husband and son and she enjoys meeting new people, music, and travel.

FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. WELCOMES NEW PROVIDERS AND STAFF MEMBERS

continued



April Smith joined FHC as the Director of Radiology. She will be performing x-rays as well as mammograms in FHC Orangeburg's newest state of the art facility housed in the Training Center. She is a registered Technologist through the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Ms. Smith is a graduate of Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College where she earned her Associate degree in Radiology Sciences. She is a former Trauma CT Technologist and a present

Mammographer and Radiographer. She is the mother of a 7-year-old son and enjoys spending time on the lake or beach and also enjoys traveling with her family and exploring new places



Syldra Stephens joined FHC as a Pharmacist with the St. George Medical Center Pharmacy. Dr. Stephens is a native of beautiful Walterboro, SC, where she currently resides. She graduated in 2009 from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Health Science and the Medical University of South Carolina and in 2013 with a Doctorate of Pharmacist. She worked for CVS for the first 8.5 years of her career before joining FHC. Dr. Stephens is married and has 2 sons

aged 10 years old and 20 months. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. In her spare time, she loves spending time with her family and traveling the world.



Catherine Simmons, a native of Harleyville, SC, joined FHC as a Family Nurse Practitioner at the Holly Hill, SC satellite location. Mrs. Simmons is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She began her nursing career in 2019 as a registered nurse and advanced to a Family Nurse Practitioner over the years. Mrs. Simmons received her bachelor's degree and pre-nursing requisites from Clemson University. She obtained her second bachelor's degree in nursing and her master's

degree in Family Nurse Practitioner studies at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC. Mrs. Simmons is qualified to diagnose a wide variety of health conditions from newborns to gerontology. She is an active member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society of nursing. She resides in Ridgville, SC and enjoys spending time with her husband, dog, family, and friends.



Kellie Weathers has joined FHC as a Behavioral Health Counselor. She will be providing behavioral services to our St. George, Holly Hill, and Vance locations. Kellie is certified as a Licensed Professional Counselor and has worked in mental health for six years.

She is a graduate of Erskine College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and minors in Biology and Health. She completed her Masters in Clinical Counseling at The Citadel Graduate College and got certified as a Licensed Professional Counselor.

She worked for the SC Department of Mental Health before coming on board with FHC. She enjoys spending time with her family, friends, and 8-month-old baby boy, Charlie.

*New Providers and Staff Members,
Thank you for all you do!*

FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. ANNOUNCES AND WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS



Dr. Jacob P. White joined FHC as the Director of Quality. Dr. White received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Carolina and his Medical Degree from the Medical University of South Carolina. Presently, he is pursuing his Master of Public Health through the University of South Carolina. He pursued training in Psychiatry and Internal Medicine, though public health has been his greatest interest and is central to his life's mission. For the past 19 years, Dr. White has worked with the South Carolina HIV Council/Wright Wellness Center, currently serving as the Chief Operating Officer. Each day he hopes to impact lives through education and the promotion of self-awareness that leads to self-efficacy so that individuals can make better decisions regarding their health.

Dr. White's interests include health disparities, issues of stigma and discrimination, and the contribution of the African American faith community in the promotion or reduction of shame and guilt that impact health seeking behavior. Some of the work and research that he has participated in has been published. Dr. White is focused on comprehensive service provision, from prevention of Health Concerns to Quality treatment of the same.



Courtenay Jamison has joined FHC as our Assistant Director of Nursing. In this role, she is responsible for coordinating and managing infection control audits, ensuring quality of care from nurses and MOAs, assisting with program coordination, direct patient care and much more. Mrs. Jamison is a native of Columbia, SC, and a graduate of Irmo High School. She graduated from Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College with an Associate degree in Nursing. Upon graduation, she started her nursing career at the Regional Medical Center in Orangeburg where she worked in the Medical Surgical Step-Down Unit. Later, she pursues her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Claflin

University. She is ecstatic about her role at The Family Health Centers, Inc. and is ready to make an impact on the community.



Rhonda Thomas joined FHC in the HIV Care & Prevention Services Department as the HIV Prevention Outreach Coordinator. She is a native of Orangeburg, South Carolina. Ms. Thomas is a graduate of Claflin University and South Carolina State University. Her professional journey began as a Ryan White Medical Case Manager intern for a non-profit agency, the SC HIV Council, and was later hired as a Medical Case Manager and program manager. She has over ten years of selfless community service. Ms. Thomas is the proud parent of one daughter, Bailey. Rhonda is an active member of

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and on her down time, she likes to try out new recipes with her daughter. She is also a member of Simply Unique Book Club where they discuss the book of choice. Ms. Thomas is also an active leader with Girl Scout Troop 628 at North Orangeburg United Methodist Church.



Makaylia Washington, serves as the Office Manager and Financial Services Representative for the St. George satellite location. Makaylia is a life-long resident of Orangeburg County where she resides in beautiful Santee. She is a proud recent graduate of Francis Marion University. Makaylia holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Administration and a minor in psychology. Makaylia enjoys shopping, spending time with her family, and being of service to all that she can. Makaylia looks forward to learning and growing with the FHC family.



Samone Williams is joining the Family Health Centers, Inc. Dental Department as Dental Assistant on the Dental Mobile Unit. She graduated from Fortis College as dental assistant in Columbia, SC. She is a jack of all trades and enjoys being a mother to her beautiful daughter. She is happy to be a part of FHC family and looking forward to learning and working for this organization.



Jamaar Wilson, a native of Orangeburg, SC, has FHC as Community Health Worker in HIV Services Department. He began his career as Student Activity Coordinator for Denmark Technical College after graduating in 2010. In 2014, he worked as Administrative Specialist for South Carolina Department of Social Services and in 2019 for South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. Jamaar Wilson created "Truth Iz" which is a creative entertainment platform for people living with HIV and those who are connected

to express and share their stories of life and triumph using music, art, dance, voice, and other forms of creative expression. Jamaar has many years of experience in vocal music and musical productions, event and program creating and facilitating, singing with several colleges including Denmark Technical College and South Carolina State University.

Community service, HIV advocacy, education, prevention and fighting stigma hold a special place in his heart. He has made a vow to share his experiences and gifts with the community with hope in changing the conversations and perceptions surrounding HIV/Aids, Healthy Relationships while encouraging the community to seek proper knowledge and making their health a priority.



Family Health Centers, Inc.
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Orangeburg, SC 29115

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FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

Family Health Centers, Inc.
3310 Magnolia Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115
803-531-6900

Denmark Family Health Center
5616 Carolina Highway
Denmark, SC 29042
803-793-4921

Family Health Center at Holly Hill
922 Holly Street
Holly Hill, SC 29059
803-496-7174

Norfield Medical Center
7061 Norway Road
Neeses, SC 29107
803-263-4086

St. George Medical Center
401 Ridge Street
St. George, SC 29477
843-563-5315

St. Matthews Medical Center
558 Chestnut Street
St. Matthews, SC 29135
803-874-2006

Community Medical Center
10278 Old #6 Hwy.
Vance, SC 29163
803-492-3031

Dental Mobile Unit
3310 Magnolia Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115
803-747-1929

Optometry Mobile Unit
3310 Magnolia Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115
803-707-0445

Denmark-Olar Elementary
1459 Soloman Blatt Blvd.
Denmark, SC 29042

Denmark-Olar Middle School
45 Green Street
Denmark, SC 29042

Denmark-Olar High School
197 Viking Circle
Denmark, SC 29042

St. Matthews K-8 School
135 Saints Avenue
St. Matthews, SC 29135

Sandy Run K-8 School
450 Old Swamp Road
Swansea, SC 29160

Calhoun County High School
150 Saints Avenue
St. Matthews, SC 29135

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