



Children's Health Fund

National Network

22 programs and 2 affiliates in 16 states and the District of Columbia



South Florida Children's Health Project



The South Florida Children's Health Project (SFCHP), was established as a response to Hurricane Andrew and today provides comprehensive health care predominantly to minority, uninsured and underinsured children in rural and urban areas throughout Miami-Dade County, Florida. The staff provides these services on their state-of-the-art mobile medical clinic (MMC). Most of the patients seen on the MMC are uninsured school-aged children between 5 – 12 years of age. A number of barriers such as limited transportation, lack of information, language, cultural differences and financial obstacles prevent these families from obtaining preventive health care. The SFCHP is part of Children's Health Fund's Referral Management Initiative, which is designed to ensure that children in high-risk populations have access to specialty care.

Serving Communities in Need



Over 75% of the families served by the SFCHP have been living in the United States for less than five years, with approximately 69% of Hispanic/Latino origin and 20% of Haitian origin. They are in need of comprehensive, primary health care, dental care, vision, and psychological counseling. Through nutritional evaluations conducted at community outreach events, it was found that more than 50% of the children seen by the SFCHP are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight. More recently, new pockets of medically underserved children and teenagers who lack primary care providers and/or do not qualify for the State Child Health Insurance Program have been identified. Ninety-seven percent of the patients seen by the SFCHP are uninsured, and approximately 3% have Medicaid.

Available Services

- Comprehensive primary care, including physical examinations and immunizations;
- Management of acute and chronic illnesses;
- Referral to subspecialty care and dentists;
- Nutrition assessment, cholesterol screening and body weight monitoring;
- Developmental and lead screenings; vision and hearing testing;
- Psychological counseling and case management; social work services;
- Community and social service referrals;
- Health education, literacy program, classes and presentations.

Program Sites

The SFCHP conducts scheduled clinics at service sites in underserved communities across Miami-Dade County. In Little Haiti, services are provided at Lakeview Elementary and the Center for Haitian Studies; in West Miami, the SFCHP visits the West Dade Regional Library; in Hialeah, St. Barbara's Catholic Church; in Homestead, Le Jardin Community Center #1 and #2, Mandarin Lakes Elementary and Gateway Elementary; in Florida City, Good News Care Center and Sembrando Flores; in Little Havana, St. John Bosco; in West Kendall, Kendall Library; and in Sweetwater, the Mildred Claude Pepper Community Center. The SFCHP also provides vaccines and health education at monthly community health fairs.

PROGRAM FACTS

Home Institution/Affiliation:

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Year Established:

September 1992

STAFF

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