

# Press Release

Chicago, IL, April 22, 2020

# Chicago Family Health Center to Receive \$150K from Siemens Foundation to Support COVID-19 Response

• The Community Health Center is One of 12 Receiving Financial Support from the Non-Profit Organization

The <u>Siemens Foundation</u> today announced it is providing \$150,000 to Chicago Family Health Center (CFHC) to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. The community health center is one of 12 receiving financial support from the non-profit organization established by Siemens USA. Aligning with its dedication to social equity, the Siemens Foundation, including funding provided to it by Siemens Healthineers, is committing a total of \$1.5 million to support these critical healthcare providers so they can continue serving their communities when they are needed most.

"This generous grant comes at a time when Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) are struggling to keep their doors open despite being at the forefront of combatting this virus," said Barrett Hatches, Ph.D, CEO of Chicago Family Health Center. "At Chicago Family we serve the south side of Chicago, one of the areas most affected by COVID-19 cases and deaths. Whether it is due to the higher rates of chronic illness in these communities or the lack of healthcare access, it is still unacceptable that our neighborhoods bear the brunt of this virus. This funding from Siemens will help us in our efforts to treat, test and track COVID-19 among some of Chicago's most vulnerable."

Chicago Family Health Center was founded in 1977 to serve the marginalized and underserved populations of Chicago's south side. Today it is a network of six health center sites in South Chicago, Pullman, East Side, Roseland, Chicago Lawn and at Chicago Vocational Career Academy. As an FQHC, CFHC provides accessible, affordable, high quality primary, dental and behavioral healthcare as well as wraparound support services to more than 33,000 patients throughout Chicago. FQHC is

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a designation by the federal government to community health centers serving the medically underserved, uninsured or underinsured.

"Community Health Centers are a vital resource for millions of people in this country – particularly lower income families and those without health insurance," said U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL). "I applaud the Siemens Foundation for supporting health centers at this critical time, including Chicago Family Health Center, which is serving a community particularly hard hit by this pandemic. I will continue working at the federal level to provide health centers with the resources needed to get through this crisis and continue caring for patients in need."

"I want to thank the Siemen's Foundation for their generous donation to help in the fight against COVID-19," said Mayor Lori Lightfoot. "The business community plays a vitally important role in our City's response to this crisis and our future recovery. We are truly all in this together, and on behalf of myself and a grateful city, I thank Siemen's for their support."

"As the COVID-19 crisis disproportionately threatens lower-income and medically underserved communities, it's important for us to support the institutions that sustain our social compact," said David Etzwiler, CEO of the Siemens Foundation. "Community health centers and their staff are on the front lines providing primary care every day and they now play an especially critical role in our medical services infrastructure when emergency services and hospital settings are overwhelmed. Vital services like these are paramount to supporting equity across America."

The \$1.5 million total commitment is funded, in part, by the Siemens Healthineers Fund of the Siemens Foundation, supported by Siemens Healthineers business in the United States.

"It is a critical time to ensure all patients and families are able to access the care they need," said Dave Pacitti, Siemens Foundation Board of Directors member; President of Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc.; and Head of the Americas for Siemens Healthineers. "The nation's community health centers are a vital safety net for millions of patients, and these investments will help them to continue providing affordable care that strengthens the entire U.S. healthcare system in combatting the pandemic."

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For more information on the Siemens Foundation, follow @SFoundation on Twitter or visit siemens-foundation.org.

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### **About Chicago Family Health Center**

Chicago Family Health Center is a community-based, nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that provides access to comprehensive and coordinated healthcare services and programs on the south side of Chicago. At CFHC patients receive care regardless of their race, religion, gender, age, income or ability to pay. In 2019, CFHC served more than 33,000 patients with over 119,000 primary, dental and behavioral health visits.

#### **About the Siemens Foundation**

The Siemens Foundation has invested more than \$122 million in the United States to advance workforce development and education initiatives in science, technology, engineering and math. Our mission is inspired by the culture of innovation, research and continuous learning that is the hallmark of Siemens' companies. Together, the programs at the Siemens Foundation are narrowing the opportunity gap for young people in the U.S. in STEM careers and igniting and sustaining today's STEM workforce and tomorrow's scientists and engineers.

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