Siemens Foundation Provides $75K to Southside Medical Center in Atlanta to Support COVID-19 Recovery and Social Equity

- Southside Medical Center is one of eight additional community health centers receiving financial support from the non-profit organization, raising the total to more than $2M to 20 providers since April.
- Locations chosen to address the needs of the medically underserved, underrepresented and uninsured, advancing the Foundation’s long-term commitment to social equity and justice.

The Siemens Foundation today announced it is providing $75,000 to Southside Medical Center in Atlanta, Ga., to help in the COVID-19 crisis recovery and address racial disparities in accessing quality, affordable healthcare. The community health center is one of eight receiving financial support from the non-profit organization established by Siemens USA. These grants complement the $1.5 million in grants provided by the Siemens Foundation in April to 12 community health centers across the country.

“We greatly appreciate Siemens Foundation for having recognized us for the work we and other community health centers are doing,” said Southside Medical, Inc. President & CEO Dr. David Williams. “The grant is a testament to the fact that foundations such as Siemens are proactively recognizing there is a need for support and are working to provide it. On behalf of the community we serve and our board of directors, we are grateful.”

The oldest community health center in the state of Georgia, Southside Medical Center has 11 clinical sites throughout Metro Atlanta in Norcross, East Point, Riverdale, Hampton and Forest Park. Southside Medical Center employs a diverse
workforce of nearly 300 people. Being at the forefront of the COVID-19 pandemic and an essential service, the center has never ceased operations. The center tests 400 new patients every day and plans to utilize funds to replenish resources for its free testing sites such as tents, mobile medical units and additional staff.

“The Southside Medical Center is a worthy recipient of the support grant from the Siemens Foundation. This federally qualified community health center provides vital medical services, and a medical home, for residents of historic African-American communities where it is located. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the urgent necessity of improved access to healthcare in low-income communities in Atlanta and across Georgia and I am confident that Southside Medical will put these funds to good use in these deserving communities,” said Georgia Sen. Nan Grogan Orrock (D-GA). “We are very grateful for their many years providing much needed health and wellness services here in the heart of Atlanta, the birthplace of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the home of the King Center for Non-Violent Social Change. I appreciate the partnership that the Siemens Foundation is providing to assist Southside Medical Center in achieving its worthy mission. Community health centers are a great investment in meeting the healthcare needs of those lacking insurance and Georgia has one of the highest populations of uninsured people in the nation, which makes me doubly grateful for this partnership grant from Siemens Foundation.”

The Siemens Foundation has made a commitment to support these critical healthcare providers so they can recover and rebuild from the repercussions of the pandemic. The grants reinforce the Foundation’s continued resolve to promote diversity, equity and inclusion amid national efforts to address racism and promote racial justice.

“Six months into the pandemic, COVID-19 continues to disproportionately affect people of color, particularly Black people,” said David Etzwiler, CEO, Siemens Foundation. “Our commitment to eliminating health, education, and social justice disparities experienced by Black people is stronger than ever.”

The community health centers were identified using equity criteria developed by the Siemens Foundation in consultation with the National Association of Community Health Centers and the Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers.
The centers will receive funds over the next few weeks and are free to allocate it where it is needed most.

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

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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.