

# Press Release

Newark, April 21, 2020

# Newark Community Health Centers to Receive \$100K from Siemens Foundation to Support COVID-19 Response

 Newark-Based 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 \$100,000 to Newark Community Health Centers (NCHC) 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.

"On behalf of Newark Community Health Center and our Board of Trustees, we want to thank the Siemens Foundation for granting us \$100,000 for general operations during this difficult time, said Pamela Clarke, CEO and president of NCHC. "Without this award, we would struggle to serve the community under the demands of this public health emergency. We thank them for the critical support to FQHCs across the nation."

NCHC is one of the largest providers of comprehensive primary care services for the uninsured and medically underserved populations in New Jersey's most densely populated cities. NCHC provides obstetrical and gynecological care, pediatric care, adolescent medicine services, internal medicine, geriatric care, dental care, a comprehensive HIV/Aids program, substance abuse evaluation and referrals, mental health counseling, podiatry, optometry and nutritional counseling. In 2019, NCHC served 52,659 patients.

The NCHC is closely monitoring COVID-19 and is remaining open with our regular operating hours to help provide critical services to this community while following strict guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to keep its staff and patients safe. NCHC is screening patients for COVID-19 at each site, practicing social distancing in our waiting rooms, converting its group meetings to teleconference, and are offering telehealth visits for all our patients.

The NCHC was selected using equity criteria developed by the Siemens Foundation in consultation with the National Association of Community Health Centers, the Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers, and Siemens. The center is free to use the funding as it deems necessary in response to the crisis.

"I would like to thank the Siemens Foundation for providing critical support to Newark Community Health Center during this time of crisis," said Congressman Albio Sires (D-NJ). "NCHC has been a fixture in the greater Newark area for over three decades, providing accessible, affordable care to some of the most underserved families and individuals in our community. Community health centers across New Jersey, and the country, are continuing to operate on the frontlines of this pandemic, while navigating complex and sometimes unprecedented challenges posed by the rampant diffusion of this virus. I have great appreciation for the work of Dr. Pamela Clarke and all of her staff who have dedicated and continue to dedicate themselves to our community for so many years."

"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."

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

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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.

### **About Newark Community Health Centers**

Newark Community Health Centers, Inc. (NCHC) has been standing strong in the Greater Newark, Essex County community for 34 years. We continue to grow and have redefined our strategic plan to increase community access to quality health care, reduce health care disparities and improve our financial position. NCHC has been awarded level three NCQA Patient Centered Medical Home 2011 recognition and is one of the largest providers of comprehensive primary care services for the uninsured and medically underserved populations in New Jersey's most densely populated cities. NCHC provides obstetrical and gynecological care, pediatric care, adolescent medicine services, internal medicine, geriatric care, dental care, a comprehensive HIV/Aids program, substance abuse evaluation and referrals, mental health counseling, podiatry, optometry and nutritional counseling. We take pride in our accomplishments and we are very excited about our second federally funded renovation. We are committed and dedicated to providing quality health care to our patients during this difficult financial era. NCHC's goal is to meet the health care needs of the communities in which we serve and help people live stronger, healthier and happier lives. In 2019, we served 52,659 patients.