

**Mobilizing Community Health Workers
to
Mitigate the Spread of COVID-19**



CURRENT SITUATION

(UPDATED 8.26.20)

- 41,013 positive cases in Palm Beach County
- 313,083 tested of which 13.1% tested positive (41,013 cases)
- 3,196 hospitalizations
- 1,078 deaths
- Positivity rates in Tri-City Glades, Lake Worth Beach and parts of Jupiter are disproportionate and increasing significantly
- Disproportionate death rates in Western PBC



CHALLENGES

- Growing rates within certain minority populations indicate a need for more strategic communication to promote education and awareness and to dispel myths
- Unable to contact nearly 25% of individuals who have tested positive (rate is even higher in Western PBC, Lake Worth Beach and parts of Jupiter)
- More difficult to encourage and enforce isolation in certain geographical areas due to potential barriers
- Difficult to connect individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 to support services to help reinforce isolation



PROPOSED SOLUTION

Establish a Community Health Worker Program (CHW) to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

A Community Health Worker is a frontline health employee who is a trusted member of the community they serve. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as an intermediary between government, social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery.

A key component of a CHW program involves hiring trusted local community health workers who reflect same racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds of the communities served.



GOALS OF THE CHW PROGRAM

1. Build trust with community members
2. Encourage residents to get tested
3. Assist Contact Tracers in locating individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 and those who have been exposed
4. Assess and remove barriers that prevent isolation
5. Dispel myths about COVID-19
6. Distribute PPE and provide education and awareness



STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTED BY COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

- Maintain a presence at testing sites to encourage individuals who are tested to cooperate with the State Department of Health's (DoH) contact tracers when they call
- Immediately collect information from individuals tested (i.e. contact information, barriers to isolation etc.) to assist contact tracers
- Connecting residents to community resources and emergency supports that are available to assist with isolation
- Distribute Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at the testing sites and provide education and awareness to residents on ways to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Provide education and training via webinars and through other outreach efforts
- Checking in with residents to ensure their needs are being met during isolation



OUTCOME MEASURES

1. Increase participant knowledge about ways to prevent COVID-19.
2. Increase the number of individuals who have PPE.
3. Increase the amount of education and training that occurs within communities.
4. Increase the percentage of COVID-19 positive individuals contacted by Contact Tracers.
5. Increase the percentage of individuals who receive their test results.
6. Increase the percentage of people within household of positive person that are notified within the designated timeframe.



Lake Okeechobee

Hendry County

Martin County

Broward County

- CARIDAD CENTER
33415, 33460, 33462, 33463, 33467
- COMMUNITY PARTNERS OF SOUTH FLORIDA
33401, 33405, 33407, 33409, 33412, 33417, 33430, 33438, 33470, 33476, 33493
- FOUND CARE
33406, 33413, 33414, 33449
- FOUND CARE/CARIDAD CENTER
33461
- FOUND CARE/COMMUNITY PARTNERS OF SOUTH FLORIDA
33411
- GENESIS COMMUNITY HEALTH
33426, 33428, 33431, 33432, 33433, 33434, 33435, 33436, 33437, 33444, 33445, 33446, 33472, 33473, 33483, 33484, 33486, 33487, 33496, 33498
- HEALTH COUNCIL OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA
33403, 33404, 33408, 33410, 33418, 33458, 33469, 33477, 33478

ZIP Code	Total Cases	Positivity Rate	Total Deaths
33401	744	2.58%	22
33403	217	1.69%	4
33404	809	2.74%	10
33405	628	3.18%	4
33406	1006	3.68%	10
33407	941	3.04%	24
33408	237	1.28%	2
33409	838	2.66%	9
33410	554	1.62%	14
33411	964	1.34%	10
33412	143	0.92%	1
33413	367	2.21%	0
33414	682	1.14%	14
33415	1418	2.87%	21
33417	682	2.20%	16
33418	429	1.04%	11
33426	443	2.00%	18
33428	757	1.84%	13
33430	714	3.21%	20
33431	370	1.89%	10
33432	388	1.75%	2
33433	753	1.75%	33
33434	233	1.14%	15
33435	836	2.34%	32
33436	576	1.33%	22
33437	369	0.95%	23
33438	25	4.54%	1
33444	491	2.14%	11
33445	527	1.64%	16
33446	332	1.16%	23
33449	114	0.98%	5
33458	1048	1.84%	19
33460	1369	4.19%	32
33461	1367	3.08%	31
33462	724	2.24%	25
33463	1484	2.46%	31
33467	766	1.48%	23
33469	160	1.07%	9
33470	436	1.54%	3
33472	192	0.92%	7
33473	80	0.54%	1
33476	364	4.79%	8
33477	101	0.71%	2
33478	128	0.89%	2
33483	169	1.18%	7
33484	383	1.53%	31
33486	470	2.06%	6
33487	240	1.23%	1
33493	329	6.16%	9
33496	240	1.10%	9
33498	170	1.18%	4

Palm Beach County ZIP Codes

0 2 4 6 Miles

Disclaimer:
 "Legal: Palm Beach County is providing this data "as is," and Palm Beach County disclaims any and all warranties, whether expressed or implied, including (without limitation) any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. In no event will Palm Beach County be liable to you or any third party for any direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, special, or exemplary damages or lost profits resulting from any use or misuse of this data."



Palm Beach County
 GIS Service Bureau August 26, 2020