

Hampton Roads Community Health Center, 25 years | Anniversary issue

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Hampton Roads Community Health Center puts on an annual health fair, which provides a fun atmosphere, free health screenings for children, food, fun, and back to school supplies. - Original Credit: Courtesy photo - Original Source: Handout (HANDOUT)

Founded: May 1995

Headquarters: Portsmouth

About Us: Formerly known as Portsmouth Community Health Center Inc., the facility opened as a federally qualified health center on May 14, 1995, in Portsmouth to provide affordable, accessible health care to Portsmouth's residents. In 2001, we expanded our services to Norfolk and adjusted our name to Hampton Roads Community Health Center. Today, we operate five sites.

Current leadership: Barbara Willis, CEO

Milestones reached: Integrating behavioral health with primary health care, including adding licensed clinical social workers, and introducing telehealth services with psychiatrists. Providing healthy eating options under the care of a registered dietitian. Expanding dental services to include crowns, bridges, partial and full dentures.

Obstacles overcome: The COVID-19 pandemic is the greatest obstacle we have endured and overcome. This global disease has tested our capacity and revealed new opportunities for our organization to serve our patients and the community at large. We successfully modified our patient care processes and initiated new infection control policies and telehealth services.

Keys to longevity: “Increasing patient engagement so that they have a stake in their health and wellness. Helping to identify social determinants that cause patients to disengage from participating in the process of addressing their health issues. Addressing performance measurements to improve chronic condition patient outcomes by lowering blood pressure, reducing bad cholesterol levels, and identifying environmental issues that impact their health. Working closely with community partners by being present as one of a few health safety nets in our area that they can count on,” CEO Barbara Willis said.

What’s next: We will adapt by embracing the use of artificial intelligence that helps the provider and clinical staff to spend attentive time with the patient, by incorporating telemedicine and other mechanisms to communicate with patients outside of the exam room, and by positioning ourselves to offer convenient services to our patients, such as on-site pharmacy, podiatry and optometry.

For more info:

757-393-6363

Hrhc.org, Facebook.com/HRCHCVA, Instagram.com/hrhealthcenter/, Twitter.com/HRCHCVA, om/HRCHCVA, Bit.ly/HRCHCYouTube and LinkedIn: Bit.ly/HRCHCLI



Hampton Roads Community Health Center opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in May 1995. - Original Credit: Courtesy photo - Original Source: Handout (HANDOUT)



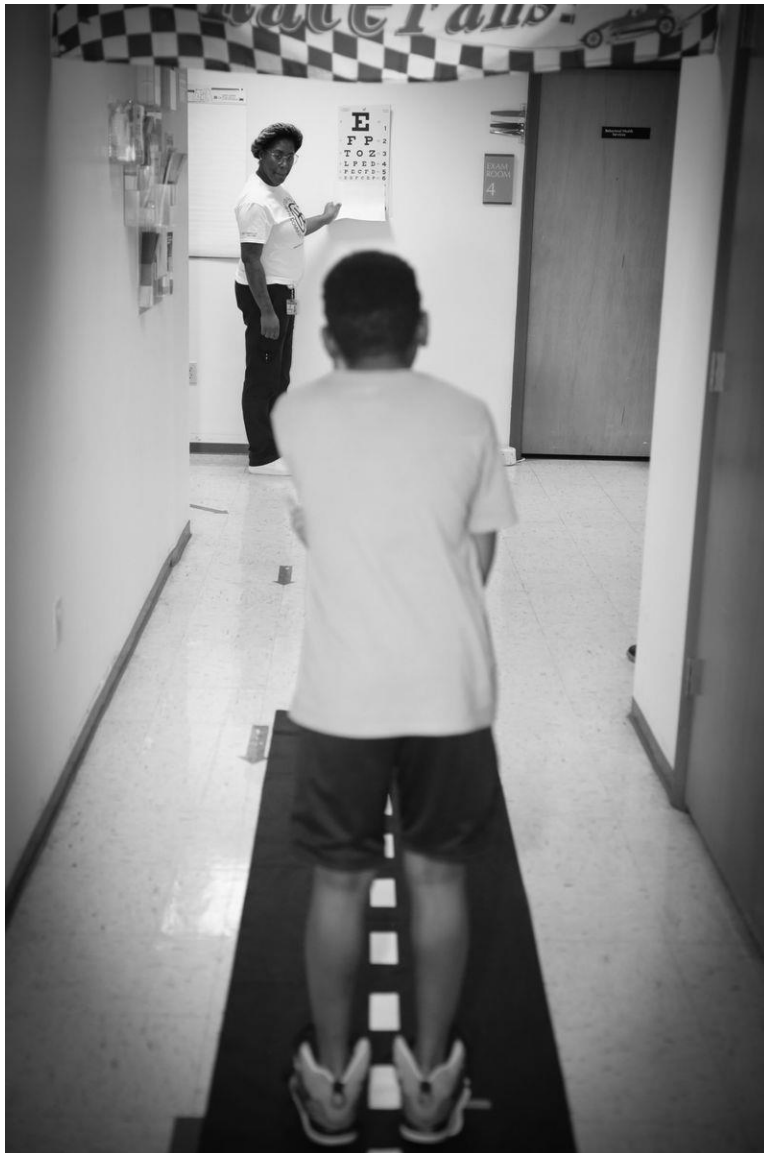
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Topics: anniversary issue, Hampton Roads Community Health Center
