



COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF RICHMOND

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Community Health Center of Richmond Receives \$150,000 for Integration of Electronic Dental and Medical Records

The Community Health Center of Richmond has received a \$150,000 grant from The Staten Island Foundation to support the purchase and installation of an integrated electronic dental records management system at its second facility, the CHCR Dental and Medical Specialty Center.

The grant funding will be used to purchase the eClinicalWorks dental module, train staff and equip each of the six dental operatories, the dental x-ray room, medication room, patient registration, primary care exam rooms, and work stations with computers and communications and networking hardware. The funding will also support initial licensing and software fees, and project management costs. CHCR has been using the eClinicalWorks practice management and electronic medical records system at its primary care facility since June 2011.

"The Staten Island Foundation is pleased to support the Community Health Center of Richmond in its effort to integrate electronic dental records into their new facility," said Betsy Dubovsky, executive director of The Staten Island Foundation. "The use of new technologies that increase efficient and effective delivery of services to clients aligns with our interest in investing in approaches that improve the quality of life for Staten Island residents, particularly those who are least advantaged."

An integrated practice management and electronic medical records system enables health care facilities to improve efficiency, ensure the availability and accuracy of patient records at the point of care, collect data to measure outcomes, coordinate patient care among multiple providers and enhance overall quality. The system also provides comprehensive reporting capabilities for business decision-making purposes. Federal initiatives to expand community health centers also encourage the use of electronic medical records management systems.

"This grant from The Staten Island Foundation speaks volumes about their commitment to their mission to help agencies such as ours improve our infrastructure," said Henry Thompson, CHCR chief executive officer. "This grant enables us to advance our health information technology capabilities, so that we can enhance our quality of care for patients."

As a Federally Qualified Health Center, CHCR provides affordable, accessible, quality health care to low-income, working poor and medically underserved residents on Staten Island regardless of their ability to pay. In 2011, CHCR served 9,821 patients and managed 22,235 patient visits at its primary care center located at 235 Port Richmond Avenue on the North Shore of Staten Island.

The CHCR Dental and Medical Specialty Center located at 439 Port Richmond Avenue is scheduled to open for patients in June 2013. The project is supported by a \$4.9 million HEAL 6 grant from the New York State Department of Health and a federal grant for operational funding of \$487,500 from the Health Resources and Services Administration.

In addition to dental care, the center will provide primary care, ophthalmic care and coordinated diabetes care management with a podiatrist, certified diabetes educator and endocrinologist on site.

The Staten Island Foundation provides grant funding for education, human services and the arts. The foundation was created in 1997 by the former Staten Island Savings Bank board of directors and its chairman, Harry P. Doherty, when the bank converted to a public company.

More information about the Community Health Center of Richmond is available on the Internet at www.chcrichmond.org.

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