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HHS awards Family Health funds to support Health Center Quality Improvement

MOBILE, Alabama — The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), has announced more than $117 million in quality improvement awards to 1,318 health centers across all U.S. states, territories and the District of Columbia. HRSA-funded health centers will use these funds to further strengthen quality improvement activities and expand quality primary health care service delivery.

Family Health, the primary care division of the Mobile County Health Department, received an award. It is broken down into two groups:

- Funding was received in the Advancing Health Information Technology (HIT) for Quality category.
- Funding was also awarded in the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Recognition category.

“These quality improvement awards support health centers across the country in delivering care to nearly 30 million people, providing a convenient source of quality care that has grown even more important during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. “These awards help ensure that all patients who visit a HRSA-funded health center continue to receive the highest quality of care, including access to COVID-19 testing and treatment.”

Health centers deliver comprehensive care to people who are low-income, uninsured or face other obstacles to getting health care. Health centers have been on the front lines preventing and responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency, including more than 3 million COVID-19 tests. Health centers continue to provide essential services for our nation’s most vulnerable and medically underserved populations.

HRSA’s quality improvement awards recognize the highest performing health centers nationwide, as well as those health centers that have made significant quality improvements from the previous year.

Health centers are recognized for achievements in various areas:
- Improving cost-efficient care delivery.
- Increasing quality of care.
- Reducing health disparities.
- Increasing both the number of patients served.
- Increasing patients’ ability to access comprehensive services.
- Advancing the use of health information technology.
- Achieving patient-centered medical home recognition.

In 2019, Family Health provided services to 40,594 unduplicated patients. For a list of award recipients, visit: https://bphc.hrsa.gov/programopportunities/fundingopportunities/qualityimprovement/index.html

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