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Codman Square Health Center Receives Capital Grants New Wing to be built in 2011

The Health Center received word in October that it was the recipient of a \$7.95 million federal grant for the construction of a new wing on our 637 Washington Street building. The grant will support a 36,000 square foot addition that will be known as the Codman Square Health and Education Center. The project will cost \$14.1 million in total, of which all but about \$2 million has been raised already. The federal grant was made from the Department of Health and Human Services and was announced by Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

This addition will allow the Health Center to expand its clinical programs. And as part of the first-in-the-nation school/health center partnership, the expansion will allow for the further development of Codman Academy's relationship with the Health Center, which includes internships for students in the Health Center and training for students to be "Health Ambassadors" to their families and communities. The new wing will be the first LEED Gold Certified green building in Dorchester. Features such as wind turbines, solar panels, and a 'green roof garden' will promote health in the neighborhood as well as provide power for the building. In addition to the federal grant, the Health Center received word in November of a \$500,000 capital grant from the Smith Family Foundation, which will cover about a quarter of the remaining funding gap.



Shopping at the Farmer's Market with Mayor Menino; Mayor Menino poses with two CSHC patients, and Mount Washington Bank presents donation to CSHC, Dorchester House Multi-Service Center and Dotwell.

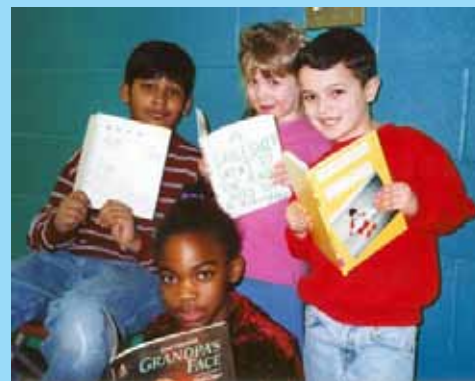
Dorchester FAMILY School Initiative

by Laura Santel

The Dorchester FAMILY School Initiative (DFSI), a partnership of the Lee, Holmes, and Fifield Elementary Schools in Codman Square along with DotWell and other community organizations, launched its Fix the Foundation Summer Literacy Program this July at the Joseph Lee Elementary School.

The program was a four-week intensive version of DFSI's Fix the Foundation program, a literacy intervention for first graders reading below grade level. 24 soon-to-be second graders had a great time with literacy activities: playing vocabulary board games, writing and illustrating fairy tales, and making word trees, to name a few!

In addition to these enrichment activities, each child received one hour of intensive tutoring per day. Students' reading skills were evaluated at the start and end of the program. After four weeks, the median score increased 15 percentage points, from 55% to 70%.



Fix the Foundation will begin its second year in the DFSI schools this fall. Many children in the three schools begin first grade without basic building blocks for academic success due to racial, ethnic and socioeconomic barriers. Unaddressed, these deficits are the roots of an achievement gap that persists throughout a child's time in school. By helping students reach grade level early, we hope to narrow the achievement gap, making sure that each student leaves first grade with a proper foundation for success.

Health Center Receives Awards

The Health Center received the City of Boston's first "Innovation in Primary Care" award from Mayor Menino in October. The award was for the Health Center's work with Codman Academy in both helping youth understand the determinants of health as well as introducing health careers to students through internships.

In addition, Bill Walczak was honored by two organizations in the fall. The Boston Business Journal presented Bill a "Champion in Health Care Lifetime Achievement Award." The second award presented to Bill was from the Massachusetts Health Council for his outstanding leadership in promoting and protecting the health of residents of the Commonwealth. Bill has dedicated his career to improving the health care system by creating access, improving service delivery and creating innovative programs that promote good health, education and lifestyle changes.

Two members of the staff at the Codman Square Health Center were presented the "Hidden Hero" Award on November 19, 2010. Dr. Unique Michaud and Jason Grantner were recognized for their outstanding service and commitment to the Codman Square neighborhood.

Most recently, Dotwell's Fiscal Health Vital Signs program was selected as a finalist for Root Cause's Social Innovators Award. Root Cause partners with individuals and organizations from the nonprofit, government, and business sectors to generate solutions to long-standing social problems through the distribution of resources based on performance.

MLK Scholars Program



MLK Summer Scholars program is a seven-week summer jobs program for Boston youth, and is one of the largest corporate-based summer jobs program in the nation. Codman Academy students were placed in clinical and community service areas of the Health Center. Over our tenure with the MLK Summer Scholars program, we have found that our high school students can be great employees, entrepreneurs and professionals.

Pictured from L to R: Chief Development Officer, Tony Stankiewicz, MLK Scholars, Willis Pujols, Benjamin Eduwensuyi, Sabrina Harris, Arielis Monegro and Monique Pabon in the front, CEO, Bill Walczak

Men of Boston Cook For Women's Health 2010



Thank You to all who helped make this year's Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health event a great success. Celebrities and politicians rubbed elbows with the 1,000 attendees while enjoying sumptuous servings from 30 restaurants. CNN's John King broadcast live, interviewing Mayor Tom Menino, Gov. Deval Patrick, former Gov. Mike Dukakis and Sen. Scott Brown as the event was happening.



We recognize Partners Health Care for signing on as the Executive Chef sponsor. We extend our thanks to all of our corporate sponsors, celebrity chefs, magnificent restaurants, and our guests. The proceeds from the event will be used toward our women's health initiatives and improving women's health care. A portion of the monies raised will supplement a grant we received from the federal government to purchase a new digital mammography machine. The machine will be installed and operational in early 2011.



Plans are already underway for next year's Men of Boston event which is scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2011. We look forward to your continued support of the Health Center's women's health initiatives. Visit www.menofboston.com for a full gallery of photos.

Pictured above: CEO, Bill Walczak and Chris Douglass of Ashmont Grill, CNN Anchor, John King, CEO, Bill Walczak and Governor Patrick; Author, Michael Patrick MacDonald with Kathie Mainzer of Bella Luna.

Call Center Is Up and Running! Phone Number: 617-822-8271

The Call Center is fully operational at the Codman Square Health Center. Some of the benefits to using the Call Center:

- Faster service for making appointments.
- The ability to speak directly to a dedicated call representative or nurse.
- Improved access to quality care.
- And is more convenient.

Digital Signage Grant

Codman Square Health Center has received a grant to improve health literacy through digital signage. Patients will be viewing vignettes shown on large television screens that are located in the waiting rooms. Health care messages will be broadcasted throughout the day. Videos will be produced about relevant health issues such as diabetes, cancer prevention, nutritional information, and how to make the most of your medical visit. The goal is to improve health outcomes and educate our patients on health topics.

Pharmacy Opens at Health Center



Codman Health Center is pleased to announce that the Pharmacy at Codman Square is open and thriving! In just two months the pharmacy had already exceeded expectations for the number of prescriptions that were being filled, well over 200 per day. Lola Anderson, a patient stated, “it is such a convenience for me. I don’t have to travel all over Boston to get my prescriptions filled. After my doctor’s visit, I go downstairs and my prescription is waiting for me. The pharmacy is just another reason I love going to the Health Center.”

The full-service pharmacy is located on the lower level of the Health Center. It is open to all community residents as well as patients of the Codman Square Health Center. Patrons can transfer existing prescriptions to the pharmacy or bring in their refills. The pharmacy is run by Eaton Apothecary, which operates other community based pharmacies and is very committed to serving the Dorchester community. You can contact the pharmacy by calling 617-265-7400.

Pictured above: Mayor Menino cuts the ceremonial red ribbon to the new pharmacy held by City Councilor Maureen Feeney CEO Bill Walczak, and COO Sandra Cotterell.

Codman Square Health Center Announces Health Leads Partnership

This fall, Health Leads (formerly Project Health) began a partnership with Codman Square which connects patients to community resources including food, childcare, job training and utilities assistance, among others. Health Leads has a resource desk located on the second floor of the Health Center that is staffed by Health Lead advocates.

The advocates assist patients dealing with issues such as completing applications for food stamps, obtaining discounted rates for utilities and telephone subsidies, enrolling children in Head Start and afterschool programs, writing letters of advocacy, connecting patients with Dotwell programs, etc. The Resource Desk is staffed Monday through Saturday.



Codman Square
Health Center

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CODMAN SQUARE HEALTH CENTER