

*“Proudly Serving Our Community Since 1947”*



# SAINT LUCIE COUNTY HEALTH ACCESS NETWORK Low Income Pool Assisted Project

# A Community-based SYSTEM of Health Services



# History

- 2005 - Community Health Improvement Plan:
  - Provide health care for 52,000 uninsured
  - Reduce health disparities
  - Promote healthy behavior
- 2006 - United Way Needs Assessment:
  - Health and dental care needed
  - Services were fragmented
- 2008 - Health Access Network incorporated
- 2009/10 - Foundation and United Way grants
- 2010 – Pediatric dental project launched (non-LIP\$)
- 2010 – HANDS volunteer clinic opens 10/25/10
- 2011 - LIP Grant project launched



# Mission and Goals

**Mission:** to create a **system** of health services to the low-income, medically uninsured and under insured people of St. Lucie County.

- Create Navigation System
- Expand Primary Care Services
- Link to Medical Home
- Provide Enhanced Services
- Chronic Disease Management
- Fill gaps in health services



# Network Partners

- Allegany Franciscan Ministries
- Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County
- Florida Atlantic University
- **Florida Community Health Centers**
- Florida Power & Light Company
- Indian River State College
- **Lawnwood Regional Medical Center & Heart Institute**
- **Martin Memorial Health Systems**
- Mustard Seed Ministries



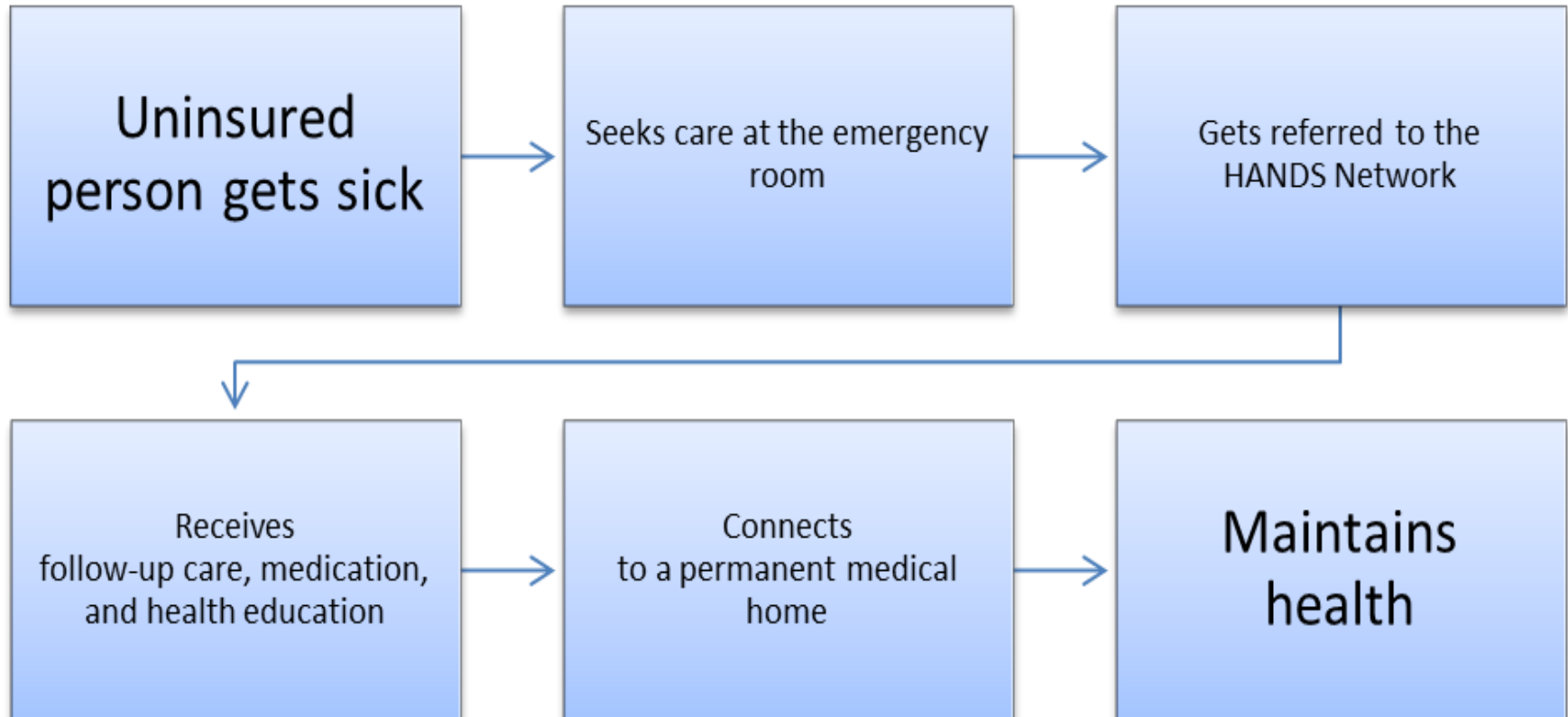
# More Network Partners

- National Medical Society of the Treasure Coast
- **New Horizons of the Treasure Coast**
- Philippine American Medical Society
- St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners
- **St. Lucie County Health Department**
- **St. Lucie Medical Center**
- St. Lucie/Okeechobee County Medical Society
- The Salvation Army
- United Way of St Lucie County



## Breaking the Cycle

**The HANDS Network Project breaks the cycle of illness by intervening with primary health care, medication assistance, specialty care, and health education.**



# NAVIGATION SYSTEM

- Health Navigators are situated at:
  - Hospitals
  - Health Department
  - Mustard Seed Ministries
  - HANDS Clinic
- Navigators screen patients and link to services
- Hospital Navigator screens uninsured persons using emergency department and in-patient services
- HANDS Clinic Navigators are the clearinghouse
- **1,092** referrals to Network services **since April**





## HANDS Clinic –

### *A Volunteers in Medicine Clinic*



- “Hub of the wheel” for Network
- 4,000 primary care visits by 1,331 patients
- Extended evening and weekend hours
- Prescription assistance program
- Volunteer recruitment
- Diagnostic services from hospitals
- Link patients to volunteer & contracted specialists
- **Leveraged over \$3.4 million in donated and volunteer resources as of 9/30/11**



## Who does the HANDS Clinic serve?

- Adults age 18-64
- Household incomes below 200% poverty
- Uninsured/Underinsured (DOH guidelines)
- Average age 49.5
- Male 40% - Female 60%
- White – 55%
- Black – 21%
- Hispanic – 21%
- Other – 3%



# Link to Medical Home

- HANDS Clinic adding 50+ patients a month
- Other “safety net” primary care providers in the Network:
  - Florida Community Health Centers, Inc.
  - St. Lucie County Health Department
- Link HANDS patients to other providers
- Identify patients eligible for other health benefits such as Medicaid



## Health Department Services

- Provides a wide array of services to Medicaid and uninsured patients including:
  - Primary Care – pediatric & adult
  - Sexually Transmitted Infection
  - Tuberculosis
  - OB/GYN
  - Family Planning
  - HIV/AIDS Medical Home
  - Pediatric & Ryan White Dental
- HANDS patients are referred to these services
- Expanded adult primary care services in Port St. Lucie from 3 to 5 days per week and added one physician.
- Adult visits have increased by 19.3% in 2011



# Enhanced Services:

**Specialty Care** – creating a network of volunteer and contracted providers (24 to date and growing):

Internal Med	1	Cardiology	2
Mental Health Services	1	Dermatology	1
Nephrology	1	ENT	1
Neurology	2	Gastroenterology	1
Otolaryngology /Surgeon	2	Gen/Vas/Thoracic Surgery	2
Pathology	1	General Surgery	1
Podiatrist	1	Gynecology	3
Pulmonary	1	Hematology/Oncology	1
Radiology	1		
Urologist	1		



## Enhanced Services:

- Prescription Drug Assistance (MedData)
- \$135,801 donated pharmaceuticals in 2011
- Nutrition Counseling
- Ophthalmology
- Adult free dental clinic under construction
- Even Surgery



# Enhanced Services:

## Donated Surgical Services To Date:

- Hip replacement – 1
- Knee replacement – 1
- Hernia – 12
- D&C – 3
- Hysterectomy – 2
- Amputation – 1
- Abdominal Myomectomy – 1
- Uterine suppression Sling – 1
- Pessary – 1
- Goiter Removal – 1
- Removal of Squamous Cancerous cells of the Face – 1
- Removal of Squamous Cancerous cells of the Tongue - 1  
(Both patients with the cancer are also receiving radiation)



# Chronic Disease Management

- Stanford Medical School Chronic Disease Self Management Program
  - 25 Master Facilitators trained by Stanford
  - 181 patients enrolled in six-week workshops (target higher risk patients)
- Introduction to Diabetes Classes
  - 567 patients complete classes
  - Patients are provided with meters and strips
- 87 patients enrolled in Martin Memorial smoking cessation classes





# Plans for Year Two

**Adult Volunteer Dental Clinic:** Operational early next year.

**Data and Evaluation:** Collect data to evaluate program outcomes such as reduced ER utilization.

**Outreach:** HANDS is working with faith-based organizations and others to reach under-served populations for chronic disease self management and diabetes education.

**Communication Network:** HANDS is linking with a county-wide, web-based database to better coordinate patient navigation and referrals with other agencies.

**Development:** HANDS is actively seeking and receiving grants funds to insure sustainability beyond the LIP grant period

[www.handsofslc.org](http://www.handsofslc.org)



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# Thank-you