



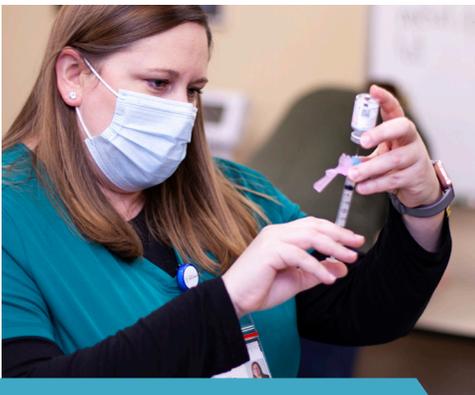
# CenterPiece

MARCH 2021 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## CFH SERVICES



# The Center takes on the pandemic



**The COVID-19 vaccine is now available at the Center for Family Health.** The Center is following Michigan and federal standards for distribution of the vaccine. Call 748-5500 for an appointment.

### Here are a few more tidbits:

- Do you or someone you know have a question about COVID-19 or the vaccine and cannot use the Internet? **Call the Center for Family Health COVID-19 Hotline at 517-748-5363.** Let's keep Michigan safe together.

- The impact of the pandemic is not over, especially in terms of loss of jobs that provide health insurance. We know that many are newly unemployed or finding employment in lower-paying positions that do not offer adequate health insurance coverage. Thankfully, **the Health Care Marketplace has reopened through May 15, and the Center can help individuals and families enroll in affordable health-care coverage – for free! Call 517-748-5500 to set up an appointment.** We are so grateful that we get the opportunity to help individuals and families to find good affordable health care.

- **The Center is open for business:** The Downtown Facility, Northwest Community Health Center and Dental Clinic are open. Medical appointments are available in Family Medicine, Pediatrics and Women's Health in-person and virtually through Telehealth. Call today for an appointment. The Walk-In Clinic is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The Dental Clinic is open for emergency and urgent needs of adults and children. Children also can be seen for routine dental care.

While our school health centers in the Jackson Public School District are closed, you can still schedule an appointment with those providers by calling 517-748-5500.

- The Center continues to provide **free COVID tests** with a turn-around time of two to three days. As of early February, the Center had completed 14,533 COVID tests since April 2020. Positivity rates range from a low of 2.5 percent in mid-October to a high of 22 percent in early December. By February, the rate was about 12 percent. ■

FOR MORE INFO:  
[CenterforFamilyHealth.org](http://CenterforFamilyHealth.org)

Opening the door to  
**HEALTH CARE** for all

The Center for Family Health is an independent, federally qualified health center that never turns patients away because of inability to pay. It provides comprehensive, quality medical care, dental services and behavioral-health assistance to more than 30,000 patients at its main location in Jackson, a dental center, and four school health centers.

# Dispelling Myths

## MEET TONY HUNTER, PHARMACIST

### Myth:

**The 340B discount program raises drug prices.**

**Fact:** The 340B discount represents just 1.3 percent of total U.S. drug sales. According to the most recent data, discounts to all 340B providers totaled \$6.1 billion in a \$457 billion market. The 340B discount does not drive prices up.

### Myth:

**Getting the COVID-19 vaccine means I can stop wearing my mask and taking coronavirus precautions.**

**Fact:** Individuals who get the COVID-19 vaccination still need to practice infection-prevention precautions. Keep your mask on and continue staying at least 6 feet from people outside your household, until further notice. Vaccines do not stop the coronavirus from entering your body; they only prevent you from developing moderate to severe COVID-19. It's not yet clear if people vaccinated for COVID-19 can still carry and transmit the virus, even when they don't get sick.

### Myth:

**Researchers rushed the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, so its effectiveness and safety cannot be trusted.**

**Fact:** Studies found that the two initial vaccines (developed by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) are both about 95 percent effective and reported no serious or life-threatening side effects. There are many reasons why the COVID-19 vaccines could be developed so quickly.

**Send us your questions about the COVID-19 vaccine at [info@cfhinc.org](mailto:info@cfhinc.org).**

We will be responding to several questions each month to help bust the myths and get to the facts. ■



- In June, Tony will celebrate 10 years with the Center.
- Tony received a degree in social science from Michigan State University and a pharmacy degree from Ferris State. His dual background fuels his commitment to the Center and its patients.
- “I think wherever I would have lived, it would be important for me to be play a role in making sure people have health care. That’s just something I believe in.”

- Tony’s father was a pharmacist, and Tony worked in his father’s pharmacy and several other locations before realizing he could fill a community need and have a more desirable work-life balance at the Center.
- “Most of our patients are satisfied with their service. And for anybody who goes to the pharmacy on a regular basis, we do a good job. ... We’re about health care for all. The pharmacy provides a service that people in the community really need.”
- Tony lives in Jackson with his wife. He has a young adult daughter. When he’s not working, he enjoys a number of outdoor activities, including hiking and skiing. He also enjoys woodworking and reading.

**“Tony is a cornerstone in the pharmacy. His passion, commitment and knowledge serve the patients and the mission of the Center well.”**

**Julie Pariseau, Pharmacy Manager**



### Get ready to celebrate!

Here are a few Center for Family Health 30th Anniversary Celebration activities coming this month:

- **Health disparity forum** (online and hosted by CFH)
- **Virtual Book Reading to Children** (selections of books for providers to read in the evening on Facebook live)

*Look for details on our website and on Facebook.* ■

### Thank your federal lawmakers today!

Community Health Centers received federal funding support for the next three years. We want to say thank you to our elected officials for supporting this work. A special thank you is extended to U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow for her work leading the charge.

**Please call your elected officials to say thanks for their continued support:** U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (202-224-4822), U.S. Sen. Gary Peters (202-224-6221), and U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (202-225-6276). Ask them to work with us to support Community Health Centers in vaccinating our nation’s population with the COVID-19 vaccines. ■