
New York, NY, April 22, 2020

Morris Heights Health Center to Receive \$150K from Siemens Foundation to Support COVID-19 Response

- **The Community Health Center is One of 12 Receiving Financial Support from the Non-Profit Organization**

The [Siemens Foundation](#) today announced it is providing \$150,000 to the Morris Heights Health Center to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. The community health center is one of 12 receiving financial support from the non-profit organization established by Siemens USA. Aligning with its dedication to social equity, the Siemens Foundation, including funding provided to it by Siemens Healthineers, is committing a total of \$1.5 million to support these critical healthcare providers so they can continue serving their communities when they are needed most.

"We are delighted to have a partnership with the Siemens Foundation that will allow us to support our Bronx communities during the devastation caused by COVID-19," says Mari Millet, President & CEO. "Our essential staff are working hard to continue to fight this pandemic, and this support will allow us to continue to care for every patient that needs it."

The effects of COVID-19 have been particularly devastating in the Bronx with a case and death rates twice that of Manhattan. Morris Heights Health Center responded quickly and in unprecedented scope. Dubbed the Temporary Emergent COVID Unit (TECU), MHHC is providing triage, treatment, and testing at multiple locations consistent with NYSDOH guidelines. They have doubled the size of their Call Center, their virtual front desk, and staffed it with providers and social workers to provide screening, triage and information including how best to access community and social services. They are also providing dental, mental and substance abuse services remotely and safely as well as emergency oral health services when appropriate.

The Morris Heights Health Center was selected using equity criteria developed by the Siemens Foundation in consultation with the National Association of Community Health Centers, the Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers, and Siemens. The center is free to use the funding as it deems necessary in response to the crisis.

“I want to express my gratitude to the Siemens Foundation for granting critical financial support to the Morris Heights Health Center in my district as they continue to be at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19 in The Bronx,” **said State Senator Gustavo Rivera, Chair of the Senate Health Committee.** “As our borough continues to bear the brunt of this public health crisis, this partnership will allow MHC to move forward in offering essential health services to some of the Bronx’s most vulnerable residents and help save many lives.”

“During this time, community groups like Morris Heights Health Center have been working non-stop to ensure the safety of my neighbors. However, supplies are limited and there is only so much that MHC can do with limited government support,” **said Assemblymember Victor M. Pichardo.** “Therefore, I am extremely grateful to the Siemens Foundation for their vital donation of \$150,000. Our communities are in desperate need and every little bit counts.”

“As the COVID-19 crisis disproportionately threatens lower-income and medically underserved communities, it’s important for us to support the institutions that sustain our social compact,” **said David Etzwiler, CEO of the Siemens Foundation.**

“Community health centers and their staff are on the front lines providing primary care every day and they now play an especially critical role in our medical services infrastructure when emergency services and hospital settings are overwhelmed. Vital services like these are paramount to supporting equity across America.”

The \$1.5 million total commitment is funded, in part, by the Siemens Healthineers Fund of the Siemens Foundation, supported by Siemens Healthineers business in the United States.

“It is a critical time to ensure all patients and families are able to access the care they need,” said Dave Pacitti, Siemens Foundation Board of Directors member;

President of Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc.; and Head of the Americas for Siemens Healthineers. “The nation’s community health centers are a vital safety net for millions of patients, and these investments will help them to continue providing affordable care that strengthens the entire U.S. healthcare system in combatting the pandemic.”

For more information on the Siemens Foundation, follow @SFoundation on Twitter or visit siemens-foundation.org.

Contact for journalists

Charlie DiPasquale

Phone: +1 (240) 525-5279; E-mail: Charlie.DiPasquale@siemens.com

About Morris Heights Health Center

Established in 1981, Morris Heights Health Center (MHHC) is one of NYC’s largest Federally Qualified Health Centers serving more than 56,000 patients annually from sites located in high-need neighborhoods throughout the Bronx, New York. Licensed under New York State Article 28 and Article 31, MHHC operates 30 sites in all, including eight fixed clinical sites licensed by the state as Diagnostic and Treatment Centers, a Women’s Health Pavilion, 20 school-based health center (SBHC) sites, a mental health counseling center, and a social service/navigation center. MHHC provides comprehensive primary care, behavioral health, dental care and women’s health services. MHHC accepts all patients regardless of their ability to pay. Online tax-deductible donations to the MHHC “COVID-19 Relief Fund” are gratefully received at <http://www.mhhcfoundation.org> or by mail at MHHC Foundation, 85 W. Burnside Ave, Bronx, NY 10453.

About the Siemens Foundation

The Siemens Foundation has invested more than \$122 million in the United States to advance workforce development and education initiatives in science, technology, engineering and math. Our mission is inspired by the culture of innovation, research and continuous learning that is the hallmark of Siemens’ companies. Together, the programs at the Siemens Foundation are narrowing the opportunity gap for young people in the U.S. in STEM careers and igniting and sustaining today’s STEM workforce and tomorrow’s scientists and engineers.