



## Historical Overview

Founded in 1971, Community Health of South Florida, Inc. (CHI) was established to provide health care to the uninsured and under-served residents of a growing South Miami Dade County. In the late 1960s many residents had limited or no access to a hospital. Outpatient treatment of routine medical problems, along with primary health care and preventive care, was considered a luxury. Trauma and other urgent cases were transported to the distant Jackson Memorial Hospital. Community Leaders in South Miami Dade had both the intuition and vision to pursue a medical facility within their neighborhood. Among those leaders was Doris Ison, for whom CHI's principal facility is named.

From a humble beginning in two trailers near US 1 and SW 216<sup>th</sup> Street, CHI began with a commitment to community-oriented primary care for all residents of South Miami Dade. That same commitment is evident today. We have seen South Miami Dade grow and change, as we too have grown.

Today, CHI is one of the nations largest and Florida's only, accredited Teaching Health Center providing Comprehensive Medical and Mental Health Services. CHI employs over 800 individuals in ten health centers, schools and outreach programs. The Doris Ison Health Center is the principal facility that now spans 26 acres near the original site.

For our future, Community Health of South Florida, Inc. will continue to meet the challenges presented by the changing economic and cultural conditions throughout South Florida. Our biggest challenge remains to deliver effective health care, while pursuing cost-effective methods that work for all of the residents of our community.

CHI has firmly established the Health Center as an outstanding example of value driven quality health care. Our growth and success is a true example of People helping People and a community that lives well and works well together. We look forward to a future where we can continue to dedicate our efforts to those who seek our help, our patients, and the community of South Florida.



CHI is a not-for-profit corporation partially sponsored/funded by the Florida Department of Children & Families, District 11; the Florida Department of Health; HRSA, Bureau of Primary Health Care; Public Health Trust of Miami-Dade County; The Children's Trust; South Florida Behavioral Health Network; and the Health Foundation of South Florida

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*"Patient Care Comes First"*

## **Our Mission**

To deliver safe, accessible, compassionate and culturally competent quality health care services to the people of South Florida while training the next generation of health care professionals.

## **Our Vision**

To become the health care provider of choice for the people in South Florida and a teaching center of excellence for health care professionals.

## **Our Values**

### **I-CARE**

#### **I – Integrity**

I am passionate about being honest, sincere and presenting myself with the highest moral principles.

#### **C – Compassionate**

I will strive to show concern and kindness towards others, especially while caring for our patients.

#### **A – Accountable**

I am responsible for my actions and will deliver on all commitments within my control.

#### **R – Respect**

I will always be respectful of others and strive to be mindful of different opinions, cultures and beliefs.

#### **E – Employees**

I am part of a patient centered health care team and our employees are our greatest asset. Together, we deliver excellent service to our customers.



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South Florida  
Behavioral  
Health Network, Inc.



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