With the recent opening of FamilyHealth at City College, students, staff and residents surrounding the downtown campus now have access to quality healthcare just minutes from where they live, work or attend school. FamilyHealth at City College complements the services offered at the college’s Student Health Services and Mental Health Counseling Center, with a referral relationship between the sites ensuring that patients have access to care that is appropriate for their needs. The clinic will also serve as a training environment for the college’s nursing program, letting qualified students gain clinical experience while earning credit towards their degree.

Fran Butler-Cohen, CEO of Family Health Centers of San Diego, touted the alliance as a winning solution for both organizations. “Not only can we help ensure that the City College nursing students obtain the academic and clinical skills necessary to succeed in today’s competitive job market, but we can expand our vast array of nationally accredited health care services to the City College community.”

Dr. Anthony Beebe, President of San Diego City College, also echoed praise for the partnership, “This community partnership is a model collaboration as our City College Nursing Program students are able to gain valuable clinical experiences without walking distance from their classrooms and instructional labs.”

For more information about FamilyHealth at City College, please visit http://www.fhcsd.org/locations/city-college.cfm.
CEO'S CORNER: an update from Fran

Knowledge is Power!
Patient Portals Continue to Evolve Health Care Standards

A basic requirement of the evolving healthcare regulations is the establishment of Patient Portals. Portals give secure online access to patients to help with the management of their personal healthcare needs and progress. When armed with the knowledge a portal can provide, the patient becomes a well-educated partner in their healthcare journey. Patients can use portal information to not only track lab results, but trend those results over time and develop interventions to change care outcomes. Proof that knowledge can make powerful changes in a person’s quality of life.

The notion that all medical decisions, communications and actions must take place within the confines of an actual doctor visit is rapidly disappearing. Portals give patients the knowledge they need to manage their care in between visits to their healthcare provider. The ability to access test results, care in between visits to their healthcare provider, the knowledge they need to manage their health within the confines of an actual doctor visit is rapidly disappearing. Portals give patients the knowledge they need to manage their care in between visits to their healthcare provider. The ability to access test results, care in between visits to their healthcare provider, the knowledge they need to manage their health.

Even though we are in the early stages of enrollment, here are some interesting statistics. Over 8,000 patients viewed their lab results, almost 7,000 viewed their medications and another 6,800 viewed their vitals (height, weight, etc.). Over 6,000 verified their allergies, almost 6,000 checked their child’s immunization status and 73% of our Portal users are female. Our top Portal requests are provider messaging, appointment requests, medication refill changes and status requests for specialty referrals. With our Call Center receiving 4,000–6,000 calls a day, the Portal provides a convenient alternative for patients needing referrals. With our Call Center receiving 4,000–6,000 calls a day, the Portal provides a convenient alternative for patients needing referrals.

As we move toward new methods of care delivery, it has become abundantly clear, the more knowledge patients have, the more they are included as partners, the greater our opportunities are to improve their health outcomes. The Portal brings us one step closer to realizing improved health outcomes in the populations served by Family Health Centers of San Diego.

Vive Tu Vida! Get Up! Get Moving!

The ground was moving and shaking in Chicano Park on Saturday, August 16, 2014. But this wasn’t an earthquake – just hundreds of excited, happy people participating in a variety of fitness activities as part of the Vive Tu Vida! Get Up! Get Moving! health expo. Sponsored by Family Health Centers of San Diego and the National Alliance for Hispanic Health, the event featured Zumba classes, aerobics, bounce houses, tennis clinics provided by the U.S. Tennis Association as well as other. Thank you to all the participants who attended and moved their bodies to get their blood pumping. And thanks to the National Alliance for Hispanic Health for helping to make the event a success!

A Diamond Studded Day – 1,300 People Welcome New Health Center to Community

The new Diamond Neighborhoods Family Health Center was welcomed to the community August 9 by an estimated 1,300 people at the center’s official ribbon cutting ceremony, health and education fair. The fair, co-sponsored by Assemblywoman Shirley Weber, was a tremendous success. It included more than 40 health and education vendor booths, a variety of free health screenings and a back-to-school backpack giveaway. Participants that visited all the health and education booths were entered into a raffle to win one of three bicycles, grocery store gift cards and a variety of games and toys. Guests were also treated to free healthy snacks – enjoying 80 pounds of fresh oranges, 60 pounds of fresh strawberries, 13 pounds of raisins and more.

In addition to Assemblymember Shirley Weber, special guests included State Senator Ben Hueso, City Councilmember Myrtle Cole, School Board Member Marne Foster and Community Planning Group Chair Ken Malbrough. Meb Keflezighi, international sports star, local neighborhood hero and winner of the 2014 Boston Marathon, headlined the event. “Marathon” Meb inspired the crowd with his incredible story about moving to the United States as an Eritrean refugee to ultimately becoming the first American to win the marathon in more than 30 years. This event was also made possible by sponsors Medical Center Pharmacy, Chase, Enterprise Community Partners, Hughes Marino, Pazzaz, and Suffolk Construction. We thank them for their generous donations! For more information about our Diamond Neighborhoods clinic, visit http://www.fhcsd.org/locations/diamond.cfm.