



Press Release

May 19, 2009

4C's Begins Saturday Walk-in Clinic

Galveston County and Cities – Beginning June 6th the Galveston County Health District's 4C's clinic in Texas City will operate a new Saturday walk-in clinic, officials announced today.

"A \$453,329 federal stimulus grant will allow us to expand the primary care infrastructure for county residents, and hopefully alleviate area ER's used for non-emergency acute care" says Dr. Mark Guidry, GCHD CEO and Galveston County Health Authority. "This is a great benefit to our community, particularly after Hurricane Ike when the county has experienced a decrease in the availability of health services." Stimulus funds will allow the Health District to operate the Saturday clinic for two years.

When the District learned that some of the stimulus dollars were earmarked for Federally Qualified Community Health Centers like the 4C's, staff quickly applied to receive them. Since demand for primary health care, especially for the uninsured, has increased in the past several years, the addition of a Saturday clinic will help meet the increased demand. This new service will provide acute care medical and dental services.

Any Galveston county resident may be seen. 4C's, a federally qualified health center, does not turn away patients because of inability to pay; however, one's ability to pay is determined using a sliding fee scale based on financial status. Guidry notes, "The 4C's clinics are a great source of quality primary care with a dedicated staff that looks out for the needs of our patients."

The Saturday clinic will accept walk-ins only from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Texas City clinic located at 2000 Texas Avenue in the Community Family Center. The clinic will be open most Saturdays, except for those that fall on a holiday weekend. For a list of dates the clinic will operate and additional information, see www.gchd.org/4cs/Saturdays.htm.

*(**News Media:** For more information contact Kurt Koopmann, GCHD Public Information Officer, (409) 938-2211)*