

# CHIP Clips

Your source of updates, news, and interesting facts relating to the [Palm Beach County Community Health Improvement Plan \(CHIP\)](#)  
Issue Seven: January 2016



## Top 3 Health Priorities for the Palm Beach County CHIP

- Healthiest Weight
- Shortage of Primary and Oral Healthcare Providers for the Uninsured and Underinsured
- Mental and Behavioral Health

## Did you know?

- In May of 1882, Palm Beach County's first doctor, Richard Buckle Potter, M.D. arrived in the Lake Worth community, now known as Palm Beach.
- In 1919, according to Medical Society records, Dr. Van Landingham was one of the nineteen founding members of the Palm Beach County Medical Society and later served as the organization's President.

SOURCE: PBCMS [website](#)

## The Hidden Hungry: Seniors, Hunger, and Food Deserts (Sun-Sentinel article: 12/17/15)

A powerful [article](#) in the Sun-Sentinel shined a spotlight on seniors, an often overlooked group when it comes to poverty and hunger. The article explains that hundreds of thousands of retirees are living in what the federal government calls “food deserts,” or places where people have trouble getting affordable, fresh, nutritious food. These aren’t just urban neighborhoods where residents have been living on limited incomes for generations. What’s surprising is that today some of South Florida’s iconic retirement communities like Century Village — built around golf courses with clubhouses and pools — are in food deserts. About one out of every seven Floridians age 60 and older — or about 615,000 people, based on 2013 statistics — faces the threat of hunger, according to a report released in April by the National Foundation to End Senior Hunger.



FAU instructor Anthony Olivieri said South Florida ZIP codes with the highest diabetes rates usually overlap with food deserts, so making sure people eat healthy would go a long way toward cutting rates of chronic illness and lowering health care costs. In October, Palm Beach County commissioners, together with the United Way of Palm Beach County, released the county’s first “Hunger Relief Plan.” The report included specific food insecurity risks and needs of older adults.

To view the report, click [here](#)

## Partner Spotlight: Palm Beach County Medical Society (PBCMS)

PBCMS is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to uniting physicians to serve the common interest of the profession, developing and maintaining the highest professional and ethical standards of the medical profession, advocating the interests of physicians and their patients, and collaborating with others to improve the community’s health. Their many wonderful contributions to the community include Project Access, a coordinated system of volunteer physician care, hospital care, diagnostic services, and medication assistance for the low-income uninsured residents of Palm Beach County.

For more information on PBCMS, please click [here](#)

## Did you know?

If residents of all counties in Florida had the same opportunities for health, there could be:

- 478,000 fewer adults who are obese
- 1 million fewer people who are uninsured
- 196,000 fewer children in poverty
- 147,000 fewer people who are unemployed

SOURCE: [Florida State Health Gaps Report](#)

## Robert Wood Johnson and University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute release 2015 Florida State Health Gaps Report

Every year, nearly 8,000 deaths in Florida could be avoided if all residents in the state had a fair chance to be healthy. Why is there so much difference in the health of residents in one county compared to other counties in the same state? In this report, the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program explores how wide gaps are throughout Florida and what is driving those differences. This information can help Florida state leaders as they identify ways for everyone to have a fair chance to lead the healthiest life possible.

The findings in this fascinating report relate directly to our Palm Beach County CHIP and the social determinants of health discussed at our meetings.

For the full report, click [here](#)

A [January 20 article](#) in Health News Florida warned county leaders to brace for "stresses" on local health care safety net systems. Funding for charity care—called Low Income Pool or LIP funding—is a match between state and federal money. Under the Affordable Care Act, federal funding for LIP is going away as states are urged to expand Medicaid in its place. Florida isn't expanding Medicaid. With that in mind, the reports out this week by Florida Legal Services—a non-profit that advocates for people in poverty—estimate that over the next five years, cuts to LIP funds will mean a loss of 15,000 jobs and more than \$8 billion of personal income for Floridians.



## CHIP UPDATE

Thank you for your participation in the CHIP Annual Review in November! The [CHIP](#) has been revised with your recommendations.

In 2016, a new Local Public Health System Assessment will be conducted, and a new Community Health Assessment (CHA) will be produced.

Stay tuned for more information soon!

Issues of CHIP Clips are posted at the [Health Department](#) website

Your data is vital to CHIP implementation. Please send Adam your most current updates. You can reach him at 561-671-4057 or [Adam.Reback@flhealth.gov](mailto:Adam.Reback@flhealth.gov).

Also, please send Adam your ideas and comments for the newsletter; he's waiting to hear from you!

