



BANYAN ANNOUNCEMENT

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Zulema Santacruz, Director of Marketing & Communications

(305) 398-6143

zsantacruz@banyanhealth.org

BANYAN HEALTH SYSTEMS EXPANDS SERVICES TO FIGHT OPIOID ABUSE AND NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME IN MIAMI-DADE AND BROWARD COUNTIES

Program will Increase Access to Integrated Care for Women and their Children, Pregnant Women and Women of Childbearing Age

March 15th, 2021: Miami, FL - Banyan Health Systems will improve care for women of childbearing age (WOCBA), pregnant and postpartum women with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and their children by providing integrated primary care, behavioral health and substance use treatment services. The coronavirus pandemic substantially increased the need for comprehensive behavioral health services and Banyan's women's health program will include care coordinated access to medication assisted treatment (M.A.T.), with a focus on reducing Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and 24/7 crisis intervention services for women with severe mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorders.

The program is funded by a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) Expansion Grant awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to Banyan Health Systems. SAMHSA CCBHC grants were awarded to increase access to and to improve the quality of community mental and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services through the expansion of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC). CCBHC's provide person and family-centered, integrated services to vulnerable populations through access to critical mental health and addiction safety net resources. Banyan will work with community partners to coordinate comprehensive services, increase outreach, and expand their women's health program through enhanced psychoeducation, prevention, and treatment.

"Since the start of the pandemic we have seen increases in substance use, opioid and other drug related hospitalizations in our community. Our mission is to minimize the impact of substance abuse in women, their children and our community. The SAMHSA grant will help Banyan further support pregnant women, postpartum women and women of childbearing age to end the cycle of addiction, decrease out of home DCF placements and reduce the rates of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome with prevention, early interventions and treatment, said Dr. Samantha Morris, Director of Healthcare Integration Services for Banyan Health Systems.

Banyan has been leading the fight to end the opioid epidemic through research, prevention, education and treatment efforts for over fifty years. Their dedicated maternal health program specializes in innovative, evidence-based treatment options. This award will ensure that women of childbearing age, pregnant women and post-partum women and their children, receive the critical resources they need for a successful recovery and will provide children with a healthy start in life.

"Substance abuse affects entire families, not just individuals. When a newborn is born with the pain and complications of withdrawal, entire families witness the impact of substance use. Every family deserves a healthy future, and Banyan Health Systems is in the position to provide the most complex care to

those struggling with addiction,” added Vince Carrodegua, President and CEO, Banyan Health Systems.

Since its inception in 1970, Banyan Health Systems, then known as Spectrum Programs, has been innovating and transforming healthcare in South Florida. A merger with Miami Behavioral Health Center established the very first collaboration of a substance abuse rehabilitation center with a mental health facility in the state of Florida. On a mission to treat the whole person in order to deliver the best possible health outcomes, primary care was added, and Banyan was established as one of Florida’s leading integrated community health systems with locations throughout Miami-Dade and Broward County, including a crisis stabilization and detox unit, residential treatment centers, outpatient behavioral health facilities, pharmacy, federally qualified community health centers (FQHC’s), an intensive telehealth division and a mobile health program.

Banyan also relies on their foundation and research center, Banyan Community Health Foundation and Banyan Research and Innovation Center to advocate for integrated, equitable health services, the elimination of behavioral health stigmas as well as to inspire and mentor behavioral health professionals in South Florida.

For more information about Banyan Health Systems please visit www.banyanhealth.org.

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