OUR MISSION

The mission of Near North Health Service Corporation is to provide access to high quality health care and improve the health and well-being of the diverse communities we serve. We are a culturally sensitive and culturally competent patient-centered community health center that empowers individuals through education, disease prevention and health promotion, regardless of one’s ability to pay. We seek to employ innovative, evidence-based practices and leverage technology to achieve and sustain positive health outcomes for our patients.

OUR VALUES

Compassion — we demonstrate that we care.
Excellence — we seek distinctive quality.
Integrity — we are accountable.
Diversity — we appreciate, respect and are prepared to serve all.
Empowerment — we educate and build skills for self-sufficiency.
Advocacy — we promote safe and healthy communities.

OUR VISION

To be nationally recognized and locally known as the patient-centered medical home of choice that lives by its values and is trusted and respected by an informed and engaged patient population.
Near North Strong: We Are All In.

To All the Friends and Supporters of Near North,

That is quite a bold statement to make! This is not a slogan for the weak at heart.

In order to keep forging ahead, overcoming obstacles in our path and perhaps even going down paths others have chosen to avoid, Near North has had to make decisions and back them with the full force of its staff. **We are all in!**

It would have been easy 54 years ago to ignore the fact that healthcare was scarce and greatly needed by minorities living on the Near North and Near West Sides of Chicago. We knew it would take some determination and hard work to reach these populations where they were and provide them the healthcare they needed. And so we worked with community activists and healthcare personnel to open up our first site. **We are all in!**

When COVID-19 crashed in on 2020, we did not run from the fight. We buckled down and went head-first into the fray. Near North was determined to do its best against this healthcare enemy and that work continues today. **We are all in!**

And we keep growing, not only in the number of locations we have, but also in the number of programs we offer to meet the ever-expanding needs of our patients, friends and families. That unity of purpose is the strength that guides us and every one of our decisions.

**We are Near North STRONG! We Are All In!**

Berneice Mills-Thomas  
Chief Executive Officer

Clarence Burch  
Chairman, Board of Directors
Reducing chronic disease in vulnerable populations

Minorities suffer chronic disease 15 times higher than Whites, specifically, hypertension, asthma, overweight/obesity, coronary artery disease, depression, HIV/AIDS, and diabetes. These health conditions are exasperated by social determinants of health (SDOH) in the community, such as poverty, gang and personal violence, poor nutrition, lack of healthcare professionals and services, lack of education and employment, and cultural beliefs toward treatment of such conditions as mental illness.

The Near North Care Management Team works with patients, providers and the community to address the SDOH that affect patients who have been diagnosed with two or more chronic diseases. The goal of the program is for the Care Management Team to establish strong relationships with patients to assist them with coordinating services that will address their social, medical and behavioral health needs.

For example, Near North is treating more than 5,000 patients for a chronic disease and/or co-occurring morbidities. The Care Management Team is focusing its efforts on the treatment of persons with diabetes, providing education, nutrition information, medication, and supplies for persons who either now have or who are at high risk of developing diabetes.

Workshop leaders who have been licensed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Diabetes Association provide a program managing several chronic diseases with a diabetes self-management cross-training. This is also beneficial for managing patients with multiple comorbidities.

This program is vital to our patients who primarily are African-American and Latinx, or other vulnerable populations suffering from diabetes who have poor nutritional choices because they live where there is a deficiency in fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthful whole foods. This has become a big problem because food deserts are teeming with local quickie marts, gas stations and other small stores that provide a wealth of processed, sugar- and fat-laden foods that are known contributors to our nation’s diabetes epidemic.

The success of the program will be measured by the number of participants who complete the diabetes self-management program, receive all recommended care, and have a decrease in their HgbA1C.
Near North joined the Medical Home Network (MHN) program in July of 2019, which helps individuals who find it hard to access healthcare because they are low-income or live in areas that lack healthcare professionals and services.

MHN is a not-for-profit collaborative that enrolls Medicaid-eligible individuals in a medical home. A patient-centered medical home is best described as a model or philosophy of primary care that is patient-centered, comprehensive, team-based, coordinated, accessible, and focused on quality and safety. MHN has approximately 7,200 members who are Illinois Medicaid participants with County Care insurance.

The MHN model of care moves care management to the primary care practice and empowers care managers to work closely with patients to prevent re-admissions and improve outcomes. Dedicated care teams coordinate their efforts across settings to ensure that healthcare delivery is appropriate and timely.

“We are collaborating with others because the County Care population consists of many members that are often transient or unaware of the appropriate way to use the healthcare system. Many of our patients have used multiple PCPs (primary care providers) and/or hospital systems. Collaborating with other organizations throughout Cook County allows us the opportunity to send/receive information regarding patients and to contact and educate them on the appropriate use of the system.”

— KIMBERLY PARHAM  Near North’s MHN program manager

By connecting providers and delivering real-time information, MHN enables coordinated care management, improves transitions of care, and promotes timely follow-up. But the most important change is that patients receive better care where and when they need it.
Reducing new HIV infections in the United States

Near North is part of a national effort to reduce the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 90 percent by 2030. Near North will increase the number of patients receiving pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medication, which has been shown to reduce the risk of getting HIV from sex or intravenous drugs when taken daily. Near North began piloting a weekly PrEP Clinic at Komed Holman Health Center on June 1, 2020, and conducting bi-monthly pop-up PrEP clinics.

The program goal is to ensure greater access to PrEP and HIV prevention tools within African-American, Latinx and transgender populations that have greater levels of benefit from access to PrEP. The PrEP Navigator and Care Manager are working with the Center for Respect and Justice, Brothers Health Collective, the Pediatric AIDS Chicago Prevention Initiative, and Project Vida to compile a listing of places where individuals most at risk for HIV infection congregate. The program will focus on Chicago’s South and West Side communities that have higher rates of HIV infection.

As part of the effort, our Early Intervention Services (EIS) program is distributing HIV educational materials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and condoms throughout all eight Near North health center sites.

In addition to a PrEP Navigator and Care Manager, the staff also includes a PrEP Nurse Practitioner to run the PrEP Clinic, provide general and preventive care, conduct check-ups, treat illness, order lab tests, and prescribe medications for PrEP and PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis—taking medicine to prevent HIV after a possible exposure); and an HIV Testing Specialist to conduct HIV/Ab/Ag Rapid Test to screen for HIV infection.

Near North has had an EIS (HIV/ AIDS) program for 20 years.

### 2020 Health Statistics

- **662** Prenatal Patients Treated
- **248** Persons with Substance Related Disorders
- **789** Patients Treated for Depression Mood Disorder
- **733** Persons with Mental Disorders
- **162** Babies Delivered
- **4,447** Patients Treated for Hypertension
- **2,597** Patients Treated for Diabetes
- **6,261** Dental Patients Treated
**Definition of pandemic:** an outbreak of a disease that occurs over a wide geographic area and affects an exceptionally high proportion of the population: a pandemic outbreak of a disease.

The original case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) emerged on Nov. 17, 2019, according to official Chinese government sources, but was not recognized at that time. Chinese state broadcaster CCTV reported in a broadcast airing on Jan. 12, 2020, that a “new viral outbreak was first detected in the city of Wuhan, China, on Dec. 12, 2019.”


Near North’s Chief Executive Officer Berneice Mills-Thomas and Chief Medical Officer Stephanie Cox-Batson watched the progression of the disease and established a COVID-19 task force, which meets weekly. In response, Near North is taking actions to deep-clean the health centers, install sneeze guards, mandate wearing of face masks, maintain social distancing of 6 feet between persons, enforce additional hand washing measures, and other activities in line with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

Near North was, and continues to be, at the forefront of the battle against COVID-19 in the provision of on-site clinical and telehealth services. We are offering daily drive-through/walk-up testing for COVID-19 at Komed Holman Health Center, 4259 S. Berkeley.

In addition, we are working with other community-based organizations to offer COVID-19 testing at sites throughout the city.
Near North Continues Community-Based Partnership with A.T. Still University of Health Sciences

This school year, Near North welcomes 10 new medical students as part of a community-based partnership with A.T. Still University of Health Sciences (ATSU). ATSU is a non-profit, private, graduate school for health sciences and the world’s first osteopathic medical school, located in Mesa, AZ.

In 2014, Near North partnered with ATSU to expose ATSU students to a variety of communities with different needs and teach them the best way to treat those needs as a future clinician. The partnership brings together two health care providers who share a holistic approach to health care and an awareness of the importance of providing access to health care services in under-served communities. The partnership also addresses the nation’s shortage in primary care specialties by aiming to increase a student’s interest in this specialty.

ATSU and Near North have developed a community health center training program that gives students the opportunity to learn while on-the-job at a community health center (CHC) and strengthen their experiences with online materials provided by the university.

The Near North Health Service Corporation/A.T. Still University collaboration has resulted in 5 graduating classes of osteopathic students learning about community health care on the Near North campus.

STUDENTS ATTENDING THIS YEAR:

Caroline DiNicola, Norwood, Massachusetts
Grace Narlock, Corte Madera, California
Grace Chen, Huntington Beach, California
Ryan Abbott, Romeo, Michigan
Donald Saylor, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
Trina Bhattarai, San Ramon, California
Clara Choi, Beltsville, Maryland
Dan Muller, Stamford, Connecticut
Michael Dinh, Rosemead, California
Tanya Omar, Eden Prairie, Minnesota
Thank you to our generous supporters

Donations $250,000 and above
Human Resources and Services Administration
Northwestern Medicine
Illinois Department of Human Services
A.T. Still University

Donations $100,000-$249,999
Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital
CIGNA Foundation
Abbvie, Inc.

Donations $50,000-$99,999
First Amendment Foundation
Mercy Housing Lakefront

Donations $25,000-$49,999
Illinois Public Health Institute
Lloyd A. Fry Foundation
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago
University of Chicago Medical Center

Donations $10,000-$24,999
Alliance Chicago
Northern Trust Charitable Trust
Bank of America
American Pharmaceutical Drugs, Inc.
Helen Brach Foundation

Donations $5,000-$9,999
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Anonymous (2)
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AF Group
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Fifth Generation Tito’s Vodka
Comprehensive Health Management
Anonymous
Matanky Realty Group
(Chipago & Kedzie, LLC)
Gary Beringer
Dart Foundation
DentaQuest
Berneice Mills-Thomas

Donations $500-$999
Joyce Tucker
Nor-Flo Holdings
Pfizer
Hat Raffle

Donations up to $499
Johnny and Mary Richardson
Mary and Sidney Brow
Judge Clarence Burch
Adele Lawal
Alina Macovei
Armertia Neal
Attorney Casandra Melton
Attorney Willie Newton Jr.
Breastfeeding Fundraiser
Casino Taste of Near North
Chill and Chat 2019
Citi Group
Crystal Flowers- Carson
Cush and Angeline Mvududu
Judge David Delgado
Evelyn Reid
Near North Finance Department
Fisher and Lamonica
J. Flynn
James and Gwendolyn Kinard
James Gay Law
Kathleen and Michael Jackson
Linda Murray
Makeda London
Montclare Senior Residences
Nicole Burton
Pittman Plumbing and Sewerage
Quest Diagnostics
Robert and Jayne Wilcox
Robin and John McGinnis
Ruby Ferguson
Shirley Newsome
Silas and Patricia Woods
Stephanie Cox-Batson
Taxman Polluck Murray & Bekkerman
TCA Health
The Malnati Group
Tiffany Brown
Valerie Brown
Wahabi Tijani
William Moorehead
Zelis
Zelles

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Judy Juenger
Chicago Wolves
Brown Sugar Bakery
Seoul Tacos
Shawn Michelle’s Homemade Ice Cream
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Morning Glory Catering
A Little Frosting Bakery
Chef Valentino
Dr. Algean Garner
Misericordia Hearts and Flour Bakery
Second City
Goodman Theatre
Joffrey Ballet
Erika Kubik, CheeseSexDeath
Wines for Humanity
Plum Market
Joe’s Stone Crab
Royal Laundry
New Cleaners
Panera Bread
Pearl’s Place
Pearl’s Place
Chicago Distilling
China Wing Doll
Ms. Eggroll
Share Our Spare
Fort Smith Boutique
Near North enjoys a diverse funding base, including federal, state and local grants, contracts, program fees, and contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations, and community-based organizations.

Visit [www.nearnorthhealth.org](http://www.nearnorthhealth.org) for more information.
We’ve Got Your Back!

NEAR NORTH HEALTH CENTERS & WIC Sites

Winfield Moody Health Center
1276 N. Clybourn Avenue | 312.337.1073

Komed Holman Health Center
4259 S. Berkeley Avenue | 773.268.7600

Louise Landau Health Center
800 N. Kedzie Avenue | 773.826.3450

North Kostner Health Center
1520 N. Kostner Avenue | 312.216.8020

Sunnyside Health Center
4501-7 N. Sheridan Road | 773.878.8098

Cottage View Health Center
4829 S. Cottage Grove Avenue | 773.548.1170

Denny Community Health Center
30 W. Chicago Avenue | 312.741.8554

Reavis School-Based Health Center
834 E. 50th Street | 773.358.6767

SUPPLEMENTARY WIC SITES

Chicago Nutrition & Education Center
1734 W. Chicago Avenue | 773.227.8022

Norwegian American Hospital
1044 N. Francisco Avenue | 773.486.0126