

New Orleans Musicians' Assistance Foundation is named Recipient of the DHH Primary Care Access and Stabilization Grant

On September 21, 2007, the New Orleans Musicians' Assistance Foundation (NOMAF) was named one of twenty-five organizations in the metropolitan New Orleans area that will receive federal grant funding to provide individuals to obtain medical and mental health care over a three year period.

The Louisiana Public Health Institute was charged with providing technical assistance and financial management of the \$16.7 million funding to improve health care access and quality in Orleans, Jefferson, Saint Bernard and Plaquemines parishes.

The NOMAF, representing the New Orleans Musicians Clinic (NOMC) and St. Anna's Medical Mission (SAMM), received funding to continue its mission to provide medical and mental health care. The federal grant will assist NOMAF to partner with volunteers and network providers to continue to provide medical, dental, optometry, medical transportation, pharmacy, and social services to musicians and their immediate family. Bethany and Johann Bultman, directors of NOMAF, agreed in their announcement to its patients that the grant is very timely for health care delivery in New Orleans.

According to Meryl Leiva, COO of NOMAF, the DHH grant was timely in continuing the holistic care mission begun in 1997 in partnership with the LSU Healthcare Network, Daughters of Charity Services of New Orleans and the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and Foundation. Leiva says that the timeliness of the new grant is perfect as other grants received after Hurricane Katrina has been fully disbursed.

Bultman issued ***GOOD HEALTH COUPONS*** in December 2007 to music and arts-affiliated non-profit organizations and individuals. The coupon may be used in lieu of the \$25 co-pay which is borne by patients during their medical health visit. Bethany Bultman also announced that in recognition to the clinic's 10th Anniversary, the co-pay was reduced to \$10 to individuals without a coupon during the year 2008.

For more information on the New Orleans Musicians' Clinic, visit our website at www.neworleansmusiciansclinic.org or call (504) 415-3514. For additional information on the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Primary Care Grant and agencies that received funding, please visit the LPHI website at www.lphi.org.

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