



## Media Release

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The Brevard County Board of County Commissioners awarded Heidar Heshmati, M.D., Director of Brevard County Health Department with a Resolution in recognition for the Brevard County Health Department being a recipient of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) for its outstanding role and innovative programs for 2011. The countywide Comprehensive Sexual Assault Examination Response Clinic and the Primary Access to Health (PATH) Clinic were recognized for outstanding contributions in local public health practice.

The Sexual Assault Examination Response Program was implemented in partnership with the State's Attorney Office, the Sexual Assault Victim Services (SAVS), the Salvation Army Domestic Violence Shelter and the Brevard County Health Department. This program responds to sexual violence victims quickly and compassionately 24 hours a day with comprehensive, individualized, victim centered care in a safe location. This program helps reduce a tremendous burden on the emergency medical system in both capacity and cost.

The Primary Access to Health Clinic (PATH) provides a medical home for the low income/underprivileged adult residents of Brevard County. Services are provided by the Brevard County Health Department with support from the Board of Brevard County Commissioners, local hospitals and volunteer private providers. All services are provided at no cost to the clients who meet the eligibility criteria, below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level and without healthcare coverage.

Brevard County Health Department employee, Dania Hugley Armstrong, LPN was awarded a Resolution by the Board of County Commissioners as Brevard County's recipient from the Department of Health Office of Minority Health in proclaiming April 2011 as National Minority Health Month. Ms. Armstrong received the award for her outstanding service to Brevard County for her roles in organizing, coordinating and support of Health Expos, Health Fairs and Health Awareness activities to help promote the wellness of minority population within Brevard County.

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