

Partners for Partners for Health Health

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Fall 2009



World-Renowned Al Jarreau to Benefit The HealthCare Connection's Diabetes Initiative

It will be a night to remember – and not to miss! On October 17th, The HealthCare Connection is bringing seven-time Grammy winner **Al Jarreau to the Aronoff Center to benefit our Diabetes Initiative 2009.** Al Jarreau is known around the world for his unique vocal style and has been performing world-wide for more than three decades. He is one of the rare artists to win a Grammy in three different genres: jazz, pop, and R&B. He is certain to “wow” the crowd on October 17th, and there is still time for you to be a part of our audience!

For our guests with limited, special VIP tickets, the



Concert Co-Chairs
Carole Rigaud and Merri
Gaither Smith



Concert Steering Committee at the tasting for the VIP Reception

prepared by Gourmet Enterprises in conjunction with The International Culinary School at The Art Institute of Ohio-Cincinnati. Our VIP's will be able to lounge in the lobby listening to live jazz performed by local music

evening will begin with a VIP Reception – **Hot Jazz & Cool Nights** – in the Loge and Balcony levels of the Aronoff lobby, hosted by **Faith Daniels of MOJO 100.3.** Guests will be greeted by an array of servers distributing “jazzy bites”

groups. The **CCM Jazztet**, the **Princeton High School**

Jazz Ensemble, and the **Wannabees** will get the evening started with great music and live entertainment for the VIP Reception. This is certainly a must-not-miss event, and a special treat is in store for the first 100 VIP Cool Jazz Hosts at the \$500 and \$1000 level - they'll receive tickets for the concert **and** tickets to a special **Jazz Jam at the Blue Wisp** to conclude a wonderful evening!

And if you thought the evening couldn't get any better – proceeds from this wonderful night go to support a truly worthy cause. **Diabetes** affects nearly 23.6 million Americans, or **8 percent of the United States population.** By 2010, diabetes will affect an estimated 28 million Americans. Hispanics and African Americans are almost two times more likely to develop diabetes than other ethnic groups, and these populations comprise 66 percent of our patient population. Thus, enhancing our services to our diabetic patients is crucial to meet the needs of the communities we serve. By participating in this benefit performance of Al Jarreau, you can enjoy a truly remarkable evening **while making an even more remarkable difference in the lives of the patients we serve.**



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Get your tickets today!

Call the Aronoff at 513-621-ARTS
Visit www.cincinnatiarts.org
or go to the Aronoff box office

Tickets are: \$40, \$50, \$65, and \$175 VIP

Call 513-483-3082 for more information

Presented by



New and Notable



A "Business of Character"

Too often, a business's success is measured solely by its productivity or its profit. In 2008, The HealthCare Connection entered into a partnership with the **Character Council of Greater Cincinnati**

& Northern Kentucky

to emphasize our desire to measure our success according to our character and the quality of our employees and services. Through this union, THCC will go through the "Business of Character" process, designed to help THCC internalize 49 positive character qualities and exemplify high business standards with its employees, clients, constituents and the community.

A culture of character promotes business ethics, excellence, teamwork, and productivity, essential ingredients for providing comprehensive health care to our clients. CEO Dolores J. Lindsay views the Business of Character process as a natural fit for THCC, "So many of the 49 character qualities relate directly to our core values: Service, Respect, Integrity, Accountability, Innovation, Diversity, and Excellence. We feel that this focus will help bring our core values to life by calling attention

to one key character quality each month. By making character a central focus of our organization, we will more fully realize our mission of providing quality, culturally sensitive and accessible health

care services to the medically underserved, uninsured and underinsured."

Earlier this year, the HealthCare Connection's character committee launched a recognition process to honor employees for their excellence, ethics and good character. Character Award winners include:

Character Award winners include:

- **Michelle Stigall** for Virtue
- **Rachel Wright** for Honor
- **Thelma White** for Justice
- **PJ Whitworth** for Gentleness
- **Sandra Lynn** for Faith

Congratulations to our winners!



Character Council Committee



Michelle Stigall and Rachel Wright accept their Character Council Awards with Mary Andres Russell and Dolores J. Lindsay



Dedicate your Saturday to Diabetes!

On Saturday, October 17th, not only can you benefit the diabetic patients of The HealthCare Connection by attending our benefit performance with Al Jarreau, but you can also support diabetes research and service delivery by participating in the American Diabetes Association's signature fundraising walk – Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes.

If you participate in this walk and raise \$50, you can receive \$5 off your Al Jarreau concert ticket!

Saturday, October 17, 2009

Lunken Airport Playfield

4744 Playfield Lane,
Cincinnati, OH 45226

Registration Begins: 9:00AM

Walk Begins: 10:00AM

For more information or to register, please contact:

Leanne Blair
Step Out Walk Manager
513.759.9330 ext. 6667
lblair@diabetes.org

Visit their Web Site:
www.diabetes.org/stepout

“WE THRIVE” Together!

The HealthCare Connection was recognized on Tuesday, September 15, along with others from **Lockland, Woodlawn and Lincoln Heights, for participation in the “WE THRIVE” initiative.** Speakers that evening included Tim Ingram, Hamilton County Health Commissioner, and O’dell Owens, Hamilton County Coroner.

The event, held at Lincoln Heights Missionary Baptist Church, marked the first year of a five year grant from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) awarded to Hamilton County Public Health. **The CDC grant targets community changes that can positively impact the rates of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and obesity.** Efforts are focusing on physical activity, nutrition, and tobacco use and exposure, particularly through policy, organizational and environmental changes. A longer term benefit is expected when **community representatives work together** to define changes to systems to promote health.

As one of few health sites in the area, The HealthCare Connection provided input toward an assessment of community health resources and strategies in place as well as areas for improvement. THCC also provided space for community consortium meetings, as well as a representative on the Leadership Team.

Over the next four years, WE THRIVE will assist the three communities with implementing strategies set by each area’s representatives. For example, a policy change around local advertising for tobacco might be worked on in one community while a second tries to get a walking path – or all three might work together on better access to fresh fruits and vegetables for residents.

If you live in Lockland, Woodlawn or Lincoln Heights, and wish to get involved in helping shape your community’s healthier environment, contact **Karen Dalton** (513-483-3070 or karena@healthcare-connection.org) for more information.



Local Efforts to Enhance Care and Access for Increasing Numbers of Uninsured

The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati developed **Access Health 100** in response to the need for **stabilizing the safety net**, or the medical and dental providers who devote all or a sufficient portion of their resources to serve the uninsured. Access Health 100 continues to work with community based medical and dental practices, social service agencies and hospitals to build a better connected system of care for the uninsured and underserved. Medical and dental practices, like **The HealthCare Connection**, are working with selected hospitals to connect individuals, who are using hospital emergency rooms for regular care, with a more affordable medical/dental home. With the recent rise in unemployment, which means loss of health benefits, **workers who were formerly insured are facing for the first time no access to care.** Judith Warren, Executive Director for Health Care Access Now, says, “The community health centers have stepped up across the region to extend the safety net to those who need to stay connected with primary care because of chronic health conditions or prescriptions.” **Access Health 100 is working with providers, insurers and hospitals** to craft solutions that will provide some **financial stability for the community providers** who are seeing a growing need for their services. Warren says, “The burden should not just rest on the shoulder of community health centers. Access Health 100 is all about building collaborative solutions, sharing resources, and working more efficiently.”



National Health Center Week Focuses on Access to Care



State Representative Connie Pillich and City Manager of Mt. Healthy Bill Kocher attended the Mt. Healthy open house during National Health Center Week.

This year’s theme for **National Health Center Week 2009** was “Celebrating America’s Health Centers: **Where ACCESS and QUALITY CARE Begin,**” and it highlighted the attempts of health centers, like The HealthCare Connection, to provide affordable, quality, cost-effective health care to all people, regardless of ability to pay. This year for National Health Center Week, we held an open house for local officials, religious leaders, and other community members to get a “sneak-peek” at our plans to renovate our Mt. Healthy Family Practice Center. These plans will greatly aid our staff’s ability to increase capacity and continue to provide the quality of care that our patients need and deserve.



The HealthCare Connection
1401 Steffen Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

...because everyone deserves quality health care.

O'Shea Gamble joins HealthCare Connection

O'Shea Gamble, former HealthCare Connection Board Member, has joined us on staff as our new Director of Operations. We are happy to have him and know that he brings new insight and innovation to the table! Prior to his employment at The HealthCare Connection, he served as the Manager of Operations for Women's Health Services at University Hospital and previously as a consultant in the Organizational Effectiveness division at the Health Alliance's Business Center in Cincinnati. Prior to moving to Cincinnati, he served as the program manager for the American College of Healthcare Executives in Chicago, IL, and as a project manager for the Society of Actuaries in Schaumburg, IL.



O'Shea Gamble, new
Director of Operations

He is a certified six sigma black belt and earned a Master of Public Health degree with concentrations in Epidemiology & Public Health Administration from East Tennessee State University.

O'Shea will be tasked with creating and implementing methods to improve practice operations and ensuring organizational efficiency. In addition, he will serve as The HealthCare Connection's Project Officer to manage federal grant dollars designed to enhance health center operations.



Dolores J. Lindsay
Chief Executive Officer

Megan Wright
Development Office
Editor

Partners for Health is
published quarterly.

The mission of The HealthCare Connection is to provide quality, culturally sensitive, and accessible primary health care services focusing on the medically underserved, underinsured, and uninsured residing in northern Hamilton County and surrounding areas.

www.healthcare-connection.org

Lincoln Heights Health Center
1401 Steffen Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215
513.554.4100

Mt. Healthy Family Practice
8146 Hamilton Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231
513.522.7500

Forest Park Health Center
924 Waycross Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45240
513.589.3014