

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 29, 2024

## **Media Contacts:**

Courtney Galle
Marketing and Communications Manager
936-283-7098 cellphone
cgalle@lonestarfamily.org

## Lone Star Family Health Center Secures Grants to Expand Services

**CONROE, TEXAS** — Lone Star Family Health Center (LSFHC) is proud to announce the receipt of significant grants aimed at expanding cancer screening services and improving access to behavioral health care. These grants allow LSFHC to reach the mission of bringing affordable care to the uninsured and underserved in our community.

The first grant totaling \$500,000 from the Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Acceleration Cancer Screening Program allows the health center to enhance screening and referral rates for breast cancer, colorectal cancer and cervical cancer in an underserved patient population over the next two years. This is in collaboration with MD Anderson Cancer Center, nationally recognized, award-winning and NCI-designated cancer center.

"These screenings are vital to the early identification of cancer and other health concerns, giving patients the best chance for success," said Karen Harwell, CEO of Lone Star Family Health Center. "Partnering with MD Anderson enables us to save more lives through early cancer detection and offer more comprehensive cancer care for the underserved in our community."

The second grant awarded was \$1,100,000 from HRSA to expand behavioral health services. This includes increasing the availability of counseling, psychiatric

services and substance abuse treatment. Additionally, it allows LSFHC to host lunch-and-learns on a variety of mental topics in partnership with community nonprofits.

"The need in our community for more access to affordable care cannot be overstated," said Karen Harwell. "With these funds, we plan to add resources allowing us to better integrate behavioral health services into our primary care setting."

The health center is expected to begin the projects in 2025, with the goal of reaching more patients and improving overall community health outcomes. Patients are encouraged to stay informed about upcoming announcements in the near future.

For more information, contact Courtney Galle, marketing and communications manager, at <a href="mailto:cgalle@lonestarfamily.org">cgalle@lonestarfamily.org</a> or 936-283-7098. Information on Lone Star Family Health Center can be found at <a href="www.lonestarfamily.org">www.lonestarfamily.org</a> or on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube.

# # #

Founded in 2002, Lone Star Family Health Center is a full-service, state-of-the-art Federally Qualified Health Center and nonprofit 501(c)3. The health center's mission is to provide compassionate, affordable healthcare and prepare tomorrow's family medicine professionals. Primary care services are offered across five clinic locations in Conroe, Willis, Spring, Grangerland and Huntsville. Other services include women's health, dental and behavioral health.