Nemours

Nemours and Shepherd's Hope Team Up for Additional Back to School Physicals for Uninsured and Under-insured Children

Services include heart screenings now required for student-athletes, available by appointment through August 30

Editor's note: Downloadable video interviews are available

July 30, 2021 (Orlando, FL) – Shepherd's Hope has added more dates for it FREE back-to-school and sports physicals for local uninsured and under-insured children at four Shepherd's Hope Health Centers, now through August 30. The free back-to-school physicals include general health assessments and sports physicals with a specialist, as well as dental, vision, and hearing screenings at select locations. New for this year will be ECG screenings for student athletes, which is now required in Orange, Osceola, and Volusia counties. Funding to support this initiative is being provided by a grant from the Harper Family Charitable Foundation which provides for the health, education, maintenance and well-being of disabled children and adults of all ages in the Central Florida area. For the ninth year, Nemours Children's Health System clinician volunteers are helping provide these medical services.

> *"With school districts requiring heart screenings for high school athletes starting this fall, Nemours Children's Health System is glad to help provide these screenings as well as school physicals for our community's neediest children, in partnership with Shepherd's Hope," said Dr. Gul Dadlani, Chief of Cardiology at Nemours Children's Hospital."*

"Before the pandemic, nearly 30,000 children were without health insurance in Central Florida. We know with over 300,000 people on unemployment in May that there is an escalated need for free back- to-school physicals this year." said Pam Gould, Shepherd's Hope President and CEO. "Families are struggling with being displaced from their jobs and their healthcare coverage."

"With school districts requiring heart screenings for high school athletes starting this fall, Nemours Children's Health System is glad to help provide these screenings as well as school physicals for our community's neediest children, in partnership with Shepherd's Hope," said Dr. Gul Dadlani, Chief of Cardiology at Nemours Children's Hospital. "Our goal is to create the healthiest generations of children, and this is a step in that direction."

To qualify, children up to age 18 must be uninsured or under-insured. Appointments are necessary. Following the completion of their physical exam, they will receive the required Florida Department of Health form (DOH 3040) which meets the state requirement for enrollment in public or private school. For eligibility assessment and appointments, call 407-876-6699 ext. 246. Se Habla Español. For further information, visit www.ShepherdsHope.org.

Physicals will be conducted at these Shepherd's Hope Health Centers:

- **Winter Garden:** 8/4, 8/10 & 8/18, West Orange Health Center, 455 Ninth St., Winter Garden
- **Longwood Health Center:** Morning appointments available on 8/02, 8/09, 8/16, 8/23, and 8/30. Afternoon appointments available on 8/11/ and 8/26, at 600 N. US Highway 17-92
- **Diebel, Jr. Memorial Health Center**: 8/17 at 9837 E. Colonial Drive
- **Downtown Health Center**: 8/3 and 8/4 at 101 S. Westmoreland Drive

For more information, please visit:https://www.shepherdshope.org/schoolphysicals/

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About Shepherd's Hope

Shepherd's Hope provides free acute and specialty care medical services, education and wellness programs to uninsured and underinsured men, women and children in Central Florida. The non-profit organization has provided over 330,000 free patient visits and services since 1997. In 2019, Shepherd's Hope provided more than 19,000 free patient visits and medical services. This care is possible thanks to partnerships with 3,000 licensed medical and general volunteers, three community hospital systems, 100 diagnostic/secondary providers and numerous multi-faith partners. Patients are served at its five Central Florida health centers in Longwood, East Orlando, Downtown Orlando, Ocoee and Winter Garden, and 95 percent of donations directly support patient services. Please visit www.shepherdshope.org for more information.

About Nemours Children’s Health System

Nemours is an internationally recognized children's health system that owns and operates the two free-standing children’s hospitals: the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del., and Nemours Children's Hospital in Orlando, Fla., along with outpatient facilities in five states, delivering pediatric primary, specialty and urgent care. Nemours also powers the world’s most-visited website for information on the health of children and teens, KidsHealth.org, and offers on-demand, online video patient visits through Nemours CareConnect. Nemours ReadingBrightstart.org is a program dedicated to preventing reading failure in young children, grounded in Nemours’ understanding that child health and learning are inextricably linked, and that reading level is a strong predictor of adult health.

Established as The Nemours Foundation through the legacy and philanthropy of Alfred I. duPont, Nemours provides pediatric clinical care, research, education, advocacy and prevention programs to families in the communities it serves.

For further information: for Nemours: Margot Winick, Margot.Winick@Nemours.org (407) 785-5766 for Shepherd's Hope: Martha Mannarino, Martha.Mannarino@shepherdshope.org (321) 279-5843

Additional assets available online: Video (1)

https://nemours.mediaroom.com/news-releases?item=122894