

May 8th: Happy Mother's Day

From our President and CEO



Dear Colleagues and Friends,
I think of my mom every year on Mother's Day, but I also think about her every day when I see participants learning English at Briya and exercising, quilting or just enjoying each other's company at our Senior Center.

I wish that such opportunities had been available to my mother and that is what fueled my dream to build a place like Mary's Center. Even though my mother is not here today, I am sure she would be proud of what we have built together. This Mother's Day, May 8th, I honor her and also your mothers for the many sacrifices they made for us and for inspiring us to become who we are today and to do what we do.

It's Nurses Week from May 6th to 12th. We're grateful to our outstanding nursing team for all their hard work. In fact, I must thank and congratulate all our nurses, nurse practitioners, midwives, physician assistants and doctors on their record productivity. They had 10,867 encounters in March, a really impressive number! A big thank you to the MAs who supported the providers in achieving this success.

We're also marking National Mental Health Month and I'd like to recognize our Mental Health team, under the

leadership of Mildred Williams, for the sterling work they are doing to increase access to mental health services in our community and to provide counselling to those in need of psychological or psychiatric support. I am particularly proud of our School Based Mental Health (SBMH) program, which helps students in 12 DC schools to overcome trauma, anxiety and depression, and feel good emotionally and do well academically. I invite you to read more about their impactful work in the Mary's Center [blog by Marisa Parrella](#), SBMH Manager.

We do so much here at Mary's Center and we work hard every day to raise the funds to make it possible. We're looking forward to two enjoyable fundraising events this month, the [Taste of Adams Morgan](#) on today, May 3rd, from 5pm-9pm and our [Golf Classic](#) on Tuesday May 17th. I'd love to see you and your family and friends enjoying the culinary delights Adams Morgan has to offer, or volunteering to help with various tasks during the Taste of Adams Morgan or on the golf course if your supervisors can spare you for a day! Please buy your Taste of Adams Morgan [tickets](#) and contact Angeline Jefferson, Development Coordinator on ext. 7049 if you'd like to volunteer.

I wish you all a happy and healthy month and a beautiful Mother's Day!

Warmly,

Maria S. Gomez, President and CEO

Upcoming Events

Join in the fun at our 2 big fundraising events in the month of May!



**Tuesday May 3rd
5pm-9pm.**

We are excited to have **22 local restaurants** supporting our 4th Taste of Adams Morgan. We look forward to seeing you enjoying their signature dishes. [Click here](#) to learn more and get your tickets TODAY! Tell your family and friends!



Volunteer to help out on the green on **Tuesday May 17th** (if your supervisor can spare you)!



Call Angeline Jefferson, Development Coordinator, on X 7049 to sign up. You'll enjoy it!

Hip Hip Hooray for our Medical team!

Congratulations to our Medical team, led by Dr. Tol Elliott, on their impressive productivity for the month of March. They had almost 11,000 encounters, the highest number of medical encounters in Mary's Center history! Thank you for your dedication to our participants!



Featuring Our Staff: The Talented Dr. White Dentist, Writer, TV Producer ... Wow!



We don't know where she finds the time to do it all, but she does! Dentist Dr. Brigitte White has added yet another accomplishment to her resume: coloring book author. Her recently published "BrightWhites Coloring and Activity Book" is a fun way to promote dental health. Dr. White says: "Too many children suffer from dental disease and our mission is to educate, inspire and motivate growing families to maintain good oral health from pregnancy and beyond."

Thanks, Dr. White, for your commitment to our community. The book is now available on Amazon. [Click here](#) to read Dr. White's blog on dental health for pregnant moms, babies and young children.

Welcome Caren Andrango to New Role



As you may know, our dear Lizzy McDonald went back to her home state of Michigan for further studies. We welcome Caren Andrango, who was a Staff Accountant in our Finance Department, to the role of Special Projects Coordinator. Caren brings a deep knowledge of Mary's Center to her new job, in addition to a remarkable skill set, a degree from the University of Maryland-

College Park, and a Certificate of Public Accounting. Please contact Caren on x 7086 for all requests related to our COO, David Tatro.



Staff working closely with Lizzy gave her a warm farewell to thank her for her tireless work during her time as Special Projects Coordinator in the office of David Tatro.

Lizzy, we'll miss you and we wish you all the best!

Inspirational Mother's Day videos

Where would we be without our mothers, without their love and their sacrifices for us?

Throughout the month of May, we're honoring all the mothers in the world by posting stories by staff and patients about how their mothers inspired them. We're kicking off with a beautiful tribute from our Chief Nursing Officer, Dara Koppelman, to her mother and grandmother, both nurses. You don't want to miss it! Click on the photo to watch.

[Click to watch](#)



May 6 - 12 is Nurses Week.

Congratulations to our 23 nurses for their committed work to provide the most caring service to our staff and participants.

Progress on New Site in Fort Totten



Before



Today

The construction is progressing well and it's helping to boost the economy, with local residents among those being hired for the project. As of April 18th, 11 new hires were local residents, with two new hires coming from the Mayor's Office on Returning Citizen Affairs. Subcontractors are also assigning their skilled DC resident employees to the project, including journeymen and apprentices. Just another way we're making a difference in our community!



October 2016

Keep this information handy in case you are asked about the new site:

This Fall Mary's Center will be expanding to the Fort Totten neighborhood, joined by our partners Briya and Bridges Public Charter Schools. The new site is located on 100 Gallatin Street, NE, at the intersection of Gallatin Street and Fort Totten Drive, a five-minute walk from the Fort Totten metro station.

This expansion will allow us to provide medical, social and education services to more DC residents, and to double our dental capacity, especially for pediatric dentistry.

Our partnership with Briya helps families to move up the economic ladder through education for both parents and their children. Working with Bridges will enable Mary's Center to serve more children with special needs, who make up 1/3 of the Bridges student population.

We estimate that when the new site is fully operational, we will be serving approximately 15,000 additional patients.

Mary's Center featured at Minority Health Month event



Our Chief Program Officer, Joan Yengo, spoke at the National Minority Health Month Celebration kick-off hosted by the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities on April 8th. Her presentation was about Mary's Center's unique model of care and the program that we are funded for called EMBRACE, Educating Minorities of Benefits Received After Consumer Enrollment.

CEO shares expertise with health leaders



Our President and CEO, Maria Gomez, participated in a panel on "Transforming Clinical Practice to Care for the Underserved: Safety Net Health Centers and Patient-Centered Medical Homes" hosted by CareFirst on April 11th at the Newseum in DC. Maria shared Mary's Center's successes as a PCMH and lessons learned.

Bright future ahead for 2016 CDA grads!



We're so proud of the 43 Briya students who graduated from the Child Development Associate (CDA) program on April 14th. The qualification will help them pursue career options such as early childhood teacher, home visitor, or operator of a licensed home daycare facility. Over 700 people have graduated from the program since it started in 2003.

Staff Anniversaries

18 years

Joan Yengo

10 years

Amima Mejia

Mireille Wotcho

8 years

Marie Fetter

5 years

Negede Mengesha

Tania Hindert

Marlene Gamboa

Sonia Grijalva

Jessica Rosenberg

Iris Torres

4 years

Dara Koppelman

Maria Ramos Argueta

3 years

Emily Dreckshage

Selene Tituana

Swathi Burgula

2 years

Paola Castro

Juana Moran

Eloisa Moreno

Claudia Barahona

Zulma Marroquin

Edith Alvarez

Ayla Badell

1 year

Mary Zick

Caitlin Zogby

Katherine Williams

Yanet Flores

Carlos Marroquin

LaQuanda Alston

*Thank you for all
your years of
service.*

Medical Assistants (MAs) of the Month & Nursing Excellence Award



Well done to these outstanding members of our medical staff (left to right):

- Eulalia Gonzalez: MA and former Briya student- Ontario
- Christina Kachulis: Nursing Excellence Award - Ontario
- Yohanna Taye: MA and former Briya student - Georgia
- Eunice Sarai Salmeron: MA - Adelphi

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 1	Alison Coleman (HFA Program Supervisor)
May 1	Vanessa Diaz (Front Desk Receptionist)
May 1	Dara Koppelman (Chief Nursing Officer)
May 2	Julian Fevrier (Maintenance Mechanic)
May 2	Enrique Renteria (Environmental Services Worker)
May 5	Elizabeth Bonilla (Medical Assistant II)
May 5	Richard Gesker (Chief Dental Officer)
May 5	Yolanda Mendoza (Early Childhood Assistant)
May 5	Marisa Parrella (School-Based Mental Health Manager)
May 5	Kathy Whelpley (Board Member)
May 8	Dana Mueller (Director of Adult and Family Medicine)
May 9	Tsehay Gebretsadik (Medical Records Assistant)
May 10	Alicia Delgado (Mental Health Program Assistant)
May 10	Glenda Corado (Medical Assistant II)
May 11	Emelia Orhin (Controller)
May 12	Carol Garcia (Medical Assistant)
May 12	Georgette Saad (Mental Health Therapist)
May 12	Errin Green (Board Member)
May 13	Cheryl Focht (Pediatrician)
May 13	Reena Gadhia (MA Manager & Program Developer)
May 15	Rosa E. Goyes (Health Promotion Manager)
May 15	Sulma Villalta (Front Desk Receptionist)
May 16	Juan Miranda (Director of Operations)
May 16	Sharon Perez (Mental Health Family Support Worker)
May 17	Carlos Carcamo (Medical Assistant II)
May 17	Yasmin Ventura (Post Release Services Case Manager)
May 18	Maria Iglesias-Gaspar (Mental Health Therapist)
May 18	Fernanda Ruiz (Healthy Start Director)
May 19	Ana Rosas (Program Assistant)
May 20	Jessica Schroeder (Pediatrician/Adm. Medical Dir.)
May 21	Maribel Juarez-Escamilla (Early Childhood Teacher)
May 22	Silvia F. Llanos (Medical Assistant II)
May 22	Fabiana Machado-Capobianco (Medical Assistant)
May 24	Ramesh Herath (MIS Director)
May 25	Elizabeth Ramirez (Front Desk Receptionist)
May 26	Patricia Alexander (Family Literacy Pre-K Teacher)
May 26	Blanca Mejia (Environmental Services Worker)
May 27	Carla Cornejo (Dental Hygienist)
May 27	Maria Castro-Trujillo (Child Dev. Specialist QI Coach)
May 27	Tamrat Workineh (In Person Assister)
May 29	Gloria Segovia-Nawn (Front Desk Receptionist)
May 30	Michelle Brown (Dental Hygienist)
May 30	Zulma Marroquin (Front Desk Receptionist)
May 30	Aunyea Carr (Fitness Director)
May 31	Lyda Vanegas (Dir. Advocacy and Communications)

Welcome New Team Members



(left to right)

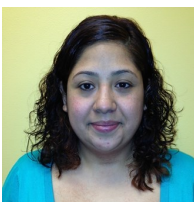
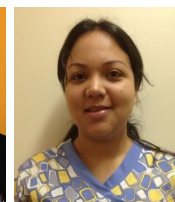
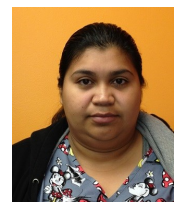
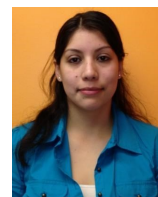
- Tyna Queen-Persad - Physician Assistant
- Carmen Martinez - Front Desk Receptionist
- Diana Rapalo - Health Homes Nurse Case Manager
- Fabiana Machado - Medical Assistant
- Faiza Hamza - Breastfeeding Counselor
- Barbara Barrientos - Front Desk Receptionist
- Melissa Mahfouz - Digital Literacy Instructor
- Aunyea Carr - Fitness Director
- Darleen Castillo - Nutritionist

We're delighted to have you on board to advance the
Mission of Mary's Center:

Our mission is to build better futures through the delivery of health care, education, and social services. We embrace culturally diverse communities to provide them with the highest quality of care, regardless of ability to pay.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following colleagues who were promoted in the past month (*clockwise from top left*):



- Yanira Mendoza - Medical Assistant II
- Caren Andrango - Special Projects Coordinator
- Katie Williams - Nurse Manager
- Cindy Reyes - Medical Assistant II
- Yolis Cedeno - Medical Assistant II
- Marta Claros - Medical Assistant II