Health Center Expands to Offer Dental Services to Franklinton Residents

Lower Lights Christian Health Center (LLCHC) expanded their broad spectrum of health and wellness services to low-income residents with the addition of three dental operatories funded through the Community Health Loan (CHL) Fund.

This Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), located in a low-income neighborhood near downtown Columbus called Franklinton, is focused on whole-person wellness. It offers medical, behavioral health, spiritual care, vision, pharmacy and nutrition services to everyone in Central Ohio, regardless of their ability to pay.

The health facility, founded in 2002, has grown to become the medical home to about 8,000 patients primarily located in an urban neighborhood where 45 percent of families with children live below the poverty level. Lower Lights provides about $350,000 in unreimbursed medical care annually to uninsured and underinsured patients, which is about 75 percent of their patient population.

The CHL Fund loan, provided by Finance Fund Capital Corporation (FCAP), enables LLCHC to offer a full spectrum of preventive dental services, including cleaning, X-rays, fillings and extractions. A limited spectrum of restorative and emergency services will be available as well to all ages, infants through senior citizens.

The facility will hire three people, and serve an estimated 2,400 patient encounters during the first 12 months of operation.