

August 20, 2019

TAXWATCH PRODUCTIVITY AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

DOH-Collier awarded for two Productivity Awards



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Naples, Fla. — The Florida Department of Health in Collier County (DOH-Collier) received two Productivity Awards by Florida TaxWatch for 2019. The Awards program publicly recognizes and rewards state employees and work units whose work significantly and measurably increases productivity and promotes innovation to improve the delivery of state services and save money for Florida taxpayers and businesses. Collier County winners include a team from the Immokalee office for their Pediatric HPV completion rates, and the School Health Screening team.

Faced with a need to provide health services for the underserved community of Immokalee, the Immokalee Pediatric HPV team created a goal to increase the number of children in Immokalee who would complete the HPV series. The goal of the project was to increase completion rates to 59%, which the team exceeded by reaching a completion rate of 62%. By completing the series, which costs approximately \$300 compared to \$100,000 or more in healthcare cost for cervical cancer, the team saved the taxpayers money on top of improving the health and outcomes of our clients. The plaque award winners are Tonia Figueroa, Sanjuana Vidaurri, Margarita Cisneros, Toni Dao-Tien, Yohadima Zaldivar Diaz.

Screenings in schools, for some children, is the earliest opportunity for them to receive services to mitigate visual deficiencies and/or limit their progression. Due to these factors, special focus was given to improving the vision screening service delivery system by improving the speed with which the services were delivered. Therefore, children identified by screenings could have a chance to get an examination and correction earlier in the school year. In School Year 2018-2019, DOH-Collier and its partners achieved its goal of providing vision screenings to over 14,000 students during the first 6 weeks of the school year, quicker than the reported data from comparable programs throughout the state. The plaque award winners are Adam Fundora, Estela Cullen, Yuliet Ramos, and Lindsay Weiss.

For a full list of TaxWatch Productivity Award winners, visit:

<https://floridataxwatch.org/programs/productivity-awards/2019-winners>

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