

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nancy Nolt
407.260.9155 ext. 13
nancy.nolt@thesharingcenter.org



Two Health Services Specialists Join The Sharing Center Staff

Two photos enclosed:

Evelyn Vazquez, Health Navigator
Daisy Rivera, MedNet Navigator

Longwood, FL – August 20, 2008 – The Sharing Center is pleased to announce the addition of two new positions to its staff to address needs of medically uninsured and underinsured people.

Evelyn Vazquez is a Health Navigator, assisting patients with on-going health problems to find a medical “home” where they will receive regular help from a family physician or specialist for the duration of their illness. Daisy Rivera is a MedNet Navigator, helping patients to secure aid with the cost of life-saving prescription medicines that they cannot otherwise afford.

Both these positions were funded by grants from Health Council of East Central Florida.

About 200 families turn to The Sharing Center every week for help with basic needs, reports Angie Romagosa, President/CEO. Romagosa said The Sharing Center, which is the largest food pantry in Seminole County,

The Sharing Center has experienced a 26% increase in the number of families needing help this summer over the same period last year. This is about 200 more families each month, straining the food pantry to provide. The food pantry has packed over 2600 more bags of food. sees hundreds of “the working poor” who need help not only with food and clothing but with essential costs of living, such as utilities, rent/mortgage payments, automobile repairs and fuel, bus tokens, medical prescriptions and individual needs specific to one person or family.

Addressing growing needs in Seminole County, The Sharing Center has expanded its food pantry and casework areas and is purchasing Fairmont Plaza, its home of 13 years, with a goal of creating not only a permanent home for itself but a non-profit hub where people in need can easily visit several agencies for assistance and guidance in one stop.

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The Sharing Center is located in Fairmont Plaza, 600 N. Hwy. 17-92, Longwood, approx. 1 mile north of Hwy. 434. Phone 407-260-9155 ext. 13. *Easing the stress of families in financial crisis and helping to prevent homelessness*