FRANKLIN PRIMARY HEALTH CENTER INC

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COMMUNITY HEALTH CONNECTIONS

Dustin Broughton & Jennifer Schuller - Newsletter Editors

Franklin Primary Health Center, Inc.
Official Newsletter

Dear Friends and Family of Franklin,

As we move into the final months of the year, there is much to be proud of at Franklin Primary Health Center. Throughout this edition of our newsletter, you will see a common theme: growth, progress, and an unwavering commitment to the communities we serve.

Over the past several months, we have welcomed new physicians and team members, reached an important milestone in physician education, secured significant investments to expand healthcare access, strengthened partnerships, and continued taking our services beyond the walls of our health centers and directly into our communities.

These accomplishments are exciting, but what matters most is what they represent. Franklin is building for the future while remaining true to the mission that has guided us for more than five decades — ensuring that quality, compassionate healthcare is accessible to the people who need it.

As we grow, we are also being intentional about strengthening our workforce, developing the next generation of healthcare professionals, embracing new approaches to care, and building partnerships that allow us to make an even greater impact.

None of this happens without our people. I want to thank our Board of Directors, providers, employees, community partners, and supporters for the role each of you plays in Franklin's continued success. Every accomplishment highlighted in this newsletter is a reflection of your dedication and belief in our mission.

There is much to celebrate, and there is even more ahead. I am excited about where Franklin is going and grateful to have each of you as part of the journey. Together, we are growing stronger, serving more people, and building a healthier future for the communities we are privileged to serve.

With heartfelt thanks,

Charles White

Charles White, CEO
Franklin Primary Health Center, Inc.



CHARLES WHITE
Chief Executive Officer

This issue:

PG 1 Message From the CEO

PG 2 Community Health Center Leaders Visit Franklin

PG 3 Franklin Welcomes Four New Physicians

PG 4 Franklin Awarded Nearly $3.1 Million to Expand Rural Healthcare / 29th Annual Franklin Buskey Golf Tournament

PG 5 Memories From This Year's Golf Tournament

PG 6 Napoleon Bracy, Jr. Named 2026 Classic Man of the Year / Meet Our New Family Medicine Residents

PG 7 Community Health Fair & Back-to-School Bash

PG 8 National Health Center Week & APHCA Recognition

PG 9 Community Leadership & Cancer Screening

PG 10 Franklin Welcomes New Marketing Director / Franklin Partners with Williamson High School

PG 11 Expanding Our Rural Behavioral Health Workforce

PG 12 Services and Leadership

NATIONAL AND STATE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER LEADERS VISIT FRANKLIN

Franklin Primary Health Center was honored to welcome leaders from the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) and the Alabama Primary Health Care Association (APHCA) for a special visit to the Franklin Medical Mall.

While traveling to Gulf Shores for APHCA's 41st Annual Conference & Expo, Dr. Kyu Rhee, President and CEO of NACHC, and Libby Thurman, Vice President of Primary Care Associations and Health Center Controlled Networks, visited Franklin. They were joined by Mary Hayes Finch President and CEO of APHCA and Sharon Parker, Vice President of Population Health Management and Chief Quality Officer.

Franklin CEO Mr. Charles White, members of the executive leadership team, and members of the Board of Directors welcomed the group for lunch, a roundtable discussion, and a tour of the Franklin Medical Mall.

The visit provided an opportunity to highlight Franklin's work, discuss the healthcare needs of the communities we serve, and share our continued efforts to expand access to quality, compassionate healthcare.

Franklin appreciates our NACHC and APHCA colleagues for taking the time to visit and for their continued leadership and support of community health centers and the patients and communities they serve.



NACHC President and CEO Dr. Kyu Rhee, Franklin CEO Charles White, and Mary Hayes Finch President and CEO of APHCA during their visit to Franklin.

CUNNINGHAM-ABRAMS SELECTED FOR LEADERSHIP MOBILE CLASS OF 2027



TAMEKIA CUNNINGHAM-ABRAMS, DNP
Chief Nurse Practitioner

Franklin Primary Health Center congratulates Tamekia Cunningham-Abrams, DNP, CRNP, FNP-C, Chief Nurse Practitioner, on her selection to the Leadership Mobile Class of 2027, presented by Mobile United.

Leadership Mobile is a highly regarded community leadership program that brings together professionals from across the Mobile area to strengthen their understanding of the community, build meaningful relationships and develop solutions to issues affecting the region.

Dr. Cunningham-Abrams has served Franklin Primary Health Center for more than 15 years. As Chief Nurse Practitioner, she provides clinical leadership and oversight to nurse practitioners throughout the organization while supporting the delivery of high-quality, accessible and patient-centered care.

She also serves as the Provider Facilitator for Franklin's School-Based Health Clinics, helping coordinate clinical care and expand access to healthcare services for students and families throughout the communities Franklin serves.

Her selection to Leadership Mobile reflects her continued commitment to healthcare leadership, service and community engagement. Franklin proudly congratulates Dr. Cunningham-Abrams on this achievement and looks forward to the knowledge and experiences she will bring back to the organization.

FRANKLIN WELCOMES FOUR NEW PHYSICIANS

Franklin Primary Health Center is pleased to welcome four new physicians to its medical team: Vicki L. Baldwin, MD; Jay R. Colbert, Jr., DO; Lindsey A. Stewart, MD, FAPA; and Eric F. Weber, MD. Their addition reflects Franklin's continued commitment to expanding access to quality healthcare and meeting the evolving needs of the communities we serve. With expertise in adult primary care, medical leadership, psychiatry, and pediatrics, these physicians strengthen Franklin's ability to provide comprehensive, compassionate care to patients and families throughout our community.

Vicki L. Baldwin, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine physician with more than 25 years of experience in adult primary care, preventive medicine, and chronic disease management. She provides comprehensive primary care services for adults at the Charles White Family Health Center in Mobile. Dr. Baldwin brings extensive clinical and healthcare leadership experience, strengthening Franklin's ability to provide personalized care, manage chronic health conditions, and promote long-term wellness.

Jay R. Colbert, Jr., DO, has joined Franklin as Deputy Chief Medical Officer and a primary care physician. He provides comprehensive primary care services for individuals and families and is currently accepting patients at the Franklin Medical Mall in Mobile. In addition to caring for patients, Dr. Colbert brings valuable medical leadership to Franklin, supporting the organization's commitment to delivering accessible, high-quality healthcare.

Lindsey A. Stewart, MD, FAPA, has joined Franklin as a psychiatrist, providing behavioral health services to students through Franklin's School-Based Health Centers. Her addition expands access to pediatric psychiatric care, allowing students to receive important behavioral health services in a convenient, familiar school-based setting. Dr. Stewart strengthens Franklin's ongoing efforts to support the mental and emotional well-being of children and adolescents in our community.

Eric F. Weber, MD, is a board-certified pediatrician who is bilingual in English and Spanish. He provides comprehensive pediatric care and is currently accepting patients at the Franklin Medical Mall in Mobile. Dr. Weber's addition expands access to pediatric services and strengthens Franklin's ability to provide personalized, family-centered care to children from diverse backgrounds.

The addition of these four physicians represents another important step in Franklin's continued growth and commitment to serving our communities. By expanding our medical team and strengthening key service areas, Franklin is helping ensure that more individuals and families have access to the quality healthcare they need, close to home. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Baldwin, Dr. Colbert, Dr. Stewart, and Dr. Weber to the Franklin family!

ERIC F. WEBER, MD
Pediatrician
Franklin Medical Mall

JAY R. COLBERT, DO
Family Medicine
Franklin Medical Mall

LINDSEY A. STEWART, MD
Psychiatrist
Franklin Medical Mall

VICKI L. BALDWIN, MD
Internal Medicine
Charles White Medical Center



FRANKLIN AWARDED MORE THAN $3 MILLION TO EXPAND RURAL HEALTHCARE

Franklin Primary Health Center has been awarded four grants totaling nearly $3.1 million through the Alabama Rural Health Transformation Program (ARHTP), supporting expanded healthcare access, behavioral health services, cancer screening, and workforce development in rural communities.

A $1.1 million award will expand Franklin's accredited Family Medicine Residency Program through the development of a rural training track, helping prepare more primary care physicians to serve rural communities. An additional $881,190 will expand clinic-based behavioral health services across Franklin's rural primary care network in Baldwin, Choctaw, Conecuh, Escambia, and Monroe counties. Franklin also received $574,091 for the Rural Behavioral Health Telehealth and Teleconsult Initiative, supporting telepsychiatry, teletherapy, behavioral health consultations, technology, staff training, and community outreach.

Most recently, Franklin was awarded $534,937 for its Rural Mobile Cancer Screening Expansion initiative, which will help increase access to cancer screening services for residents in rural communities.

"These awards represent confidence in the work we do every day and in the community health center model Franklin has built over decades," said Charles White, CEO of Franklin Primary Health Center. "They will allow us to expand services, reach more patients and prepare the next generation of physicians to serve rural communities."

Together, these investments will help reduce geographic and workforce barriers to care while strengthening Franklin's ability to provide accessible, sustainable healthcare throughout rural Southwest Alabama.

29TH ANNUAL FRANKLIN BUSKEY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Franklin Primary Health Center recently hosted its 29th Annual Franklin Buskey Golf Tournament, bringing together supporters, community partners, sponsors, and friends for a day of golf with an important purpose—helping Franklin expand access to healthcare throughout Southwest Alabama.

Funds raised through this year's tournament will help support special projects and initiatives that further Franklin's mission of improving access to quality, compassionate healthcare for the communities we serve.

The continued success of the Buskey Golf Tournament reflects the strong support Franklin receives from individuals and organizations throughout the community. Their involvement helps strengthen Franklin's ability to respond to emerging needs, invest in meaningful projects, and continue enhancing the care and services available to our patients.

More than just a day on the golf course, the tournament was an opportunity for the community to come together in support of Franklin's mission and help make healthcare more accessible to the people we serve.

Franklin extends a heartfelt thank-you to our sponsors, golfers, volunteers, employees, community partners, and everyone who supported this year's tournament. Your generosity and participation help make Franklin's work possible and will have an impact far beyond the golf course.

Thank you for helping Franklin continue to meet people where they are with quality, compassionate care.



TEEING UP FOR COMMUNITY IMPACT




















FRANKLIN'S NAPOLEON BRACY, JR. NAMED 2026 CLASSIC MAN OF THE YEAR



NAPOLEON BRACY, JR. Director of Fundraising

Franklin Primary Health Center is proud to recognize Napoleon Bracy, Jr., on being named the 2026 Classic Man of the Year by Classic Men of Mobile. Napoleon was honored during the organization's 10th Annual Classic Man Event on September 19 in Mobile.

The recognition celebrates leadership, service, distinction, and a commitment to making a positive impact in the community. As a valued member of the Franklin Primary Health Center team, Napoleon exemplifies a spirit of service and dedication to others that aligns with Franklin's commitment to the communities we serve.

MEET OUR NEW FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENTS

This summer marked an exciting milestone for Franklin Primary Health Center. For the first time in our 51-year history, Franklin welcomed physicians into our own Family Medicine Residency Program, expanding our role in training the next generation of doctors.

We are proud to welcome Dr. Muhammad Fiyaz Alam, Dr. Ganesh Kumar, Dr. Shadab Aslam, and Dr. Sheena Kumari as our inaugural class of Family Medicine residents. The four physicians began seeing patients in July while receiving hands-on training and experience caring for the patients and families Franklin serves.

The residency program represents an important investment in the future of healthcare. By training physicians within a community health center setting, Franklin is helping prepare doctors to understand the unique healthcare needs of the communities we serve while strengthening the pipeline of well-trained primary care physicians for our region.

The program also allows Franklin's experienced physicians and healthcare professionals to play an important role in mentoring and educating the next generation of family medicine physicians. We are excited to have Dr. Alam, Dr. Kumar, Dr. Aslam, and Dr. Kumari as part of the Franklin family and look forward to watching them grow throughout their residency training.



DR. GANESH KUMAR
Family Medicine Resident



DR. SHEENA KUMARI
Family Medicine Resident



DR. MUHAMMAD FIYAZ ALAM
Family Medicine Resident



DR. SHADAB ASLAM
Family Medicine Resident

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR & BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Franklin Primary Health Center welcomed more than 1,000 community members to our annual Community Health Fair & Back-to-School Bash for a day focused on health, resources, education, and family fun.

As part of the event, Franklin distributed more than 800 backpacks filled with school supplies, helping local children start the new school year prepared and ready to learn. Families also had the opportunity to connect with valuable health information, community resources, vendors, and organizations serving our area.
The tremendous turnout was made possible by the dedication of our employees, volunteers, sponsors, vendors, and community partners who worked together to make the event a success.

At Franklin, our commitment to the people we serve extends well beyond the walls of our health centers. Events like the Back-to-School Bash are an important part of our mission to support the health and well-being of the entire community. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this year's event such a success!













CELEBRATING NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

Franklin Primary Health Center was honored to receive recognition from the Mobile County Commission in celebration of National Health Center Week. The recognition highlighted the important role community health centers play in expanding access to affordable, high-quality healthcare and improving community health.

For Franklin, the recognition reflects the work taking place across our organization every day. Our providers, clinical teams, support staff, leadership and community partners all help ensure individuals and families have access to compassionate, comprehensive care.

National Health Center Week also provided an opportunity to celebrate Franklin's longstanding commitment to the communities we serve and the dedicated employees who make that work possible.

We thank the Mobile County Commission for recognizing the contributions of community health centers and extend a special thank-you to the entire Franklin team for your continued commitment to our patients and our mission.



Napoleon Bracy, Jr., accepts Franklin's National Health Center Week recognition from the Mobile County Commission.

PAMELA BATTISTE HONORED AS APHCA BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR



Pamela Battiste receives APHCA's Board Member of the Year Award alongside Franklin CEO Charles White.

Franklin Primary Health Center is proud to recognize Pamela Battiste, a member of Franklin's Board of Directors, as the recipient of the Alabama Primary Health Care Association's (APHCA) Board Member of the Year Award.

Since joining Franklin's Board in August 2025, Mrs. Battiste has demonstrated exceptional leadership through community engagement, advocacy and philanthropic outreach. Her relationship-building efforts have helped secure more than $80,000 in charitable contributions to support Franklin's mission and expand access to healthcare throughout the communities it serves.

"Mrs. Battiste exemplifies the kind of leadership and commitment that strengthens Franklin and the entire community we serve," said Charles White, CEO of Franklin Primary Health Center. "Her dedication, advocacy and ability to build meaningful community partnerships have made a tremendous impact on our organization."

Mrs. Battiste also serves as Office Manager for the Mobile County Legislative Delegation and brings extensive professional and community experience to her role on Franklin's Board. Franklin congratulates Mrs. Battiste on this distinguished recognition and thanks her for her continued commitment to advancing accessible, high-quality healthcare throughout Southwest Alabama.

CEO CHARLES WHITE HONORED WITH MOBILE COMMUNITY HEALTH LEADERSHIP AWARD



Franklin Primary Health Center CEO Charles White is pictured with Mobile community leader Cassaundra Burks after receiving the 2026 Mobile Community Health Leadership Award.

Franklin Primary Health Center is proud to congratulate CEO Charles White on receiving the 2026 Mobile Community Health Leadership Award from the Mobile Medical Museum.

The award recognizes individuals whose leadership, service and commitment have made a meaningful impact on healthcare in the Mobile community. Mr. White's recognition reflects his continued dedication to expanding access to quality healthcare and strengthening the health and well-being of the communities Franklin serves.

Under Mr. White's leadership, Franklin has continued to grow its services, strengthen community partnerships and expand access to comprehensive care for individuals and families throughout Mobile and surrounding communities. This recognition celebrates both his leadership and his longstanding commitment to Franklin's mission of providing accessible, compassionate healthcare to those who need it most.

Mr. White's recognition also highlights the important role community health centers play in addressing healthcare needs, reducing barriers to care and building healthier communities. Franklin is proud to celebrate this well-deserved honor and the continued impact of his leadership throughout the region.

FREE BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER SCREENINGS

Franklin Primary Health Center has partnered with the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (ABCCEDP) to provide free breast and cervical cancer screenings to eligible women.

The program is available to Alabama residents who are ages 40–64, uninsured, and have a household income at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level. Women ages 21–39 who have had a tubal ligation or partial hysterectomy with the cervix remaining may also qualify for free cervical cancer screening.

Free services may include pelvic exams, Pap smears, clinical breast exams, mammograms, and, when needed, diagnostic services such as ultrasounds, colposcopies, and biopsies.
Early detection can make an important difference. Franklin is proud to partner with ABCCEDP to help remove financial barriers and make these important preventive health services more accessible to women in our community.

Call 251-432-4117 to find out if you are eligible for free screening services.



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

FRANKLIN WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF MARKETING TO LEADERSHIP TEAM

Franklin Primary Health Center recently welcomed Jennifer Schuller as Director of Marketing, joining the organization's leadership team. Schuller has more than two decades of experience in healthcare marketing and communications, with a background spanning strategic marketing, public relations, brand management, media relations, digital communications, and community engagement.

In her new role, Schuller will lead Franklin's marketing and communications efforts, including brand strategy, media relations, digital and social media, advertising, community outreach, recruitment marketing, and strategic communications. She will work closely with Franklin's executive leadership team to increase awareness of the organization's providers, services, programs, and impact throughout the communities Franklin serves.

Prior to joining Franklin, Schuller served as Director of Marketing & Communications for Alabama Medical Group, where she led marketing and communications initiatives for the healthcare organization. Her career in healthcare marketing also includes experience with Infirmary Health, where her work included strategic communications, program launches, and public and media relations.

Schuller earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications/Public Relations with a minor in English from the University of South Alabama, where she also completed graduate studies.

The addition of an experienced healthcare marketing professional to Franklin's leadership team supports the organization's continued growth and commitment to strengthening communication and engagement with patients, employees, providers, community partners, and the communities Franklin serves. Please join us in welcoming Jennifer to the Franklin family!



JENNIFER SCHULLER
Director of Marketing

FRANKLIN PARTNERS WITH WILLIAMSON HIGH SCHOOL BRINGING HEALTHCARE CLOSER TO STUDENTS FAMILIES



Pictured from left to right: Sonja Thomas, Medical Assistant/Lab Technician; Mallory Sullivan, School-Based Clinic Program Manager; Tammy George, Principal; Tamekia Cunningham, Chief Nurse Practitioner; and Ashley Jones Richardson, Medical Office Assistant.

Franklin Primary Health Center is proud to partner with Williamson High School and Middle Grades Preparatory Academy to provide students with convenient access to healthcare through an on-site School-Based Health Center. The center gives students access to primary and preventive care, treatment for common illnesses and minor injuries, behavioral health services, dental and vision care, health screenings, wellness education and support for chronic conditions—all in a familiar school setting.

For families, this partnership can mean fewer transportation challenges, less time away from work and easier access to care when a child needs it. For students, it can mean receiving timely treatment without missing an entire day of school. And for the community, it means helping remove barriers that can prevent children and adolescents from receiving consistent, preventive healthcare. By identifying health concerns earlier and making services more accessible, school-based healthcare can help reduce avoidable absences, support students managing ongoing health conditions and connect families with additional healthcare resources when needed.

Through its partnership with Williamson, Franklin is helping bring healthcare closer to where families live, learn and grow—creating healthier students, stronger families and a healthier community.

EXPANDING OUR WORKFORCE TO MEET RURAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

As Franklin Primary Health Center expands behavioral health services throughout rural Southwest Alabama, we are also growing our workforce to ensure patients have access to the professionals, resources, and support they need closer to home.



Franklin is actively recruiting professionals to serve communities across Baldwin, Escambia, Conecuh, Monroe, and Choctaw counties. These positions are an important part of our broader effort to address behavioral health workforce shortages, reduce barriers to care, and strengthen the continuum of services available to rural patients.
Current opportunities include:

- **Psychiatrist** — Providing psychiatric evaluations, diagnosis and treatment, medication management, and ongoing patient care while collaborating with Franklin's interdisciplinary healthcare team.
- **Licensed Behavioral Health Therapist** — Providing clinical behavioral health services throughout Franklin's rural network. Candidates must hold a current Alabama LPC, LCSW, or LMFT license and have a master's degree in a related behavioral health field.
- **Substance Abuse Clinical Director** — Providing clinical and administrative leadership for Franklin's Level 1 Outpatient Substance Abuse Program, including oversight of clinical services, staff, treatment activities, quality, and compliance.
- **Community Health Workers** — Helping connect individuals and families in rural communities with healthcare services, resources, and support while strengthening the connection between Franklin and the communities we serve.

These positions complement Franklin's growing investment in behavioral health, telepsychiatry, teletherapy, substance use services, care coordination, and community-based support. Building the right team is essential to ensuring that expanded services translate into meaningful access to care for rural patients and families.

We are growing our team—and our ability to make a difference in the communities we serve.



- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- OB/GYN
- Pediatrics
- Rheumatology
- Dentistry
- Optometry
- Psychiatry
- Inpatient Care
- Pharmacy
- Mammography
- Laboratory
- X-ray
- Telehealth
- Behavioral Health Therapy
- Social Services
- Substance Abuse Counseling and Prevention
- Family Planning
- School Based Health Care
- Nutrition
- Immunizations
- HIV Early Intervention & Education
- Prescription Drug Assistance
- Transportation Assistance
- Health Insurance Enrollment
- Translation Services

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