

March 16, 2022

For Immediate Release



## **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN DUVAL COUNTY MAINTAINS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION STATUS THROUGH THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION BOARD**

***Maintaining Accreditation through PHAB Ensures Florida Department of Health in Duval County's Capacity to Continue to Evolve, Improve and Advance***

**Contact:**

Samantha Epstein

[Samantha.Epstein@flhealth.gov](mailto:Samantha.Epstein@flhealth.gov)

(904) 253-2276

**Jacksonville, Florida** — The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) reaccredited the Florida Department of Health, which includes the Duval County Health Department, as an integrated health department for another five years. This seal of accreditation signifies that the unified Florida Department of Health, which includes the State Health Office and the 67 county health departments, meets or exceeds national standards for public health performance management and continuous quality improvement. The Department demonstrated a focus on accountability and performance to improve the health of communities throughout the state.

"We are pleased to once again receive recognition from PHAB for achieving national standards that foster effectiveness and promote continuous quality improvement," said Ernesto Rubio, Interim Health Officer, Florida Department of Health in Duval County. "When we improve our services and performance, we become more effective at improving the health of the population we serve here in Duval County."

PHAB praised the Florida Department of Health for operating as a collaborative and effective integrated system noting that the inter-county collaboration is evident through shared programs and positions across the state. PHAB applauded staff across the integrated system for being highly dedicated, passionate, and proud of their work around improving the health of the communities they serve. PHAB also commended the Department for maintaining a continued commitment to accreditation.

PHAB, the nongovernmental, nonprofit organization that administers the national accrediting program, works to improve and protect the public's health by advancing and transforming the quality and performance of governmental public health departments in the United States.

## **About the Florida Department of Health**

The Florida Department of Health is a nationally accredited as part of an Integrated Local Public Health Department System by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and Twitter at [@HealthyFla](#). For more information, please visit [www.FloridaHealth.gov](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov).