

USF College of Nursing Mobile Health Unit (MHU)

Addressing Access to Health Services

Many people in the United States are unable to receive needed health care because it is not accessible or available nearby. Mobile health clinics can improve health care delivery by reaching people where they live and where they work. These clinics can also play a key role in preparing future health care providers by creating and expanding experiential learning opportunities. These opportunities include providing high-quality culturally sensitive care in community-based settings, identifying and understanding Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) in local communities, and facilitating a collaborative team approach to care.

The College of Nursing Mobile Health Unit

Through a four-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (award number UK1HP46068), the USF College of Nursing is launching the Mobile Health Unit (MHU). Complete with two exam rooms, a bathroom, a freezer, and a pop-up awning, the MHU will be staffed with two advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), a patient care coordinator, faculty preceptor, and will serve as a clinical training site for undergraduate nursing students. Starting in year two, rotation opportunities will be available to interprofessional teams of students in USF Health. The project will be guided by a Community Advisory Board that will meet twice a year.



Pictured (above): the purchased Mobile Health Unit before an official wrap has been designed and installed



Pictured (above): inside the USF College of Nursing Mobile Health Unit

▶ When will the MHU begin serving patients?

Mid to late 2023

▶ Where will the MHU go?

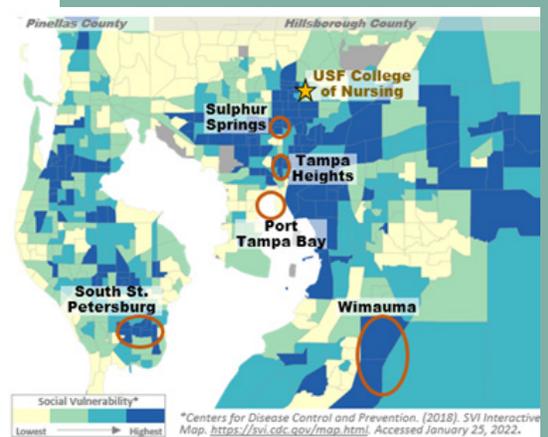
At first the MHU will serve five key areas of need in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties where we have community partners that can provide a service site - Port Tampa Bay, Sulphur Springs, Tampa Heights, Wimauma, and South St. Petersburg.

▶ What services will be available?

Care will include typical primary care (well visits and physicals), common acute and chronic health issues, point of care tests (blood glucose, pregnancy, rapid strep, etc.) and immunizations.

▶ Are there opportunities to get involved?

Yes, absolutely! Email MHUnursing@usf.edu for more information on interprofessional rotations, sponsoring a route, van locations, or any other questions.



Initial Priority Areas for the USF College of Nursing Mobile Health Unit

USF College of Nursing Mobile Health Unit (MHU)

Current MHU Site Partners

Principal Investigator Usha Menon, RN, PhD, FAAN, senior associate vice president of USF Health and dean of the College of Nursing, and her team have been working closely with many of the key partners and communities that will be engaged with the MHU. These collaborative partnerships strengthen our ability to provide consistent care with expanded services to meet the needs of underserved community residents and to develop strategies to sustain the MHU beyond the life of the grant.

Port Tampa

Many maritime workers do not have insurance and are reluctant to seek medical care for fear of losing their jobs, and temporary or hourly port workers often lack health insurance. Our key partner, the Tampa Port Ministries, offers a variety of services through the **Seafarers Center** which will be enhanced by the MHU.

Tampa Heights

The **Salvation Army Red Shield Center** is a social services and residential facility for individuals and families in need. The holistic services offered at the center will be broadened by the MHU which will provide critical primary care and follow-up with the goal of decreasing emergency department visits and re-hospitalizations.

Sulphur Springs

The **Tampa Police Department** and their Resources in **Community Hope (R.I.C.H.) House**, a haven for at-risk children, provide a location for pediatric nursing students to interact directly with children in the community. The MHU will bring much-needed access to primary care in this area.

South St. Petersburg

The **James B. Sanderlin Neighborhood Family Center** is a non-profit agency that has been serving South St. Petersburg for 30 years. The Center hosts an array of services for children and families, however, no medical service providers are available. The MHU will provide the necessary primary and follow-up care to South St. Petersburg families.

Wimauma

Wimauma is an unincorporated census-designated place in Hillsborough County and is an important agricultural center. Our key partner, **Wholesome Community Ministries**, is closely connected to the migrant farm workers in the Wimauma community. The MHU would deliver primary and follow-up care to a vulnerable community with very limited access to healthcare.



WHERE NURSING TRAILBLAZERS BELONG.

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