

# Community Connections



Community Health Centers provide care for the entire family.

**With a national focus on the reformation of our health care delivery system, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's (BIDMC) relationships with its seven affiliated community health centers (CHC) takes on even greater significance. For more than 40 years, BIDMC has supported and nurtured community-based care, helping to found one of**



Bowdoin Street Healthy Champion participant at weekly farmer's market.

the nation's first CHCs in 1969. As Accountable Care Organizations take hold, we are now well positioned by this vertically-integrated system of care provided through the BIDMC/CHC partnership.

#### **Patient-Centered Medical Home**

The Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) is the model adopted in Massachusetts for the transformation of our health care delivery system. Governor Patrick set a goal for all primary care practices to become PCMHs by the year 2015. BIDMC and our health centers are leaders in this exciting movement.

In 2009, The Commonwealth Fund selected Massachusetts as one of five sites nationally for its new PCMH Initiative. BIDMC is a partner and funder of this innovative pilot with two of its CHC-sites participating in this first cohort. Dr. JudyAnn Bigby, MA Secretary of Health and Human Services, subsequently convened a PCMH Council of key constituents, including three BIDMC representatives, to effect spread of the pilot programs to additional primary care practices. This year, Phase II has begun with 35 additional sites, including two more BIDMC-CHCs now engaged in transforming their practices into Patient-Centered Medical Homes. Key to the sustainability of our efforts is the commitment of many MA insurance carriers to payment reform that matches the changes in practice. Together, BIDMC and the community health centers offer “the right care at the right time by the right provider in the right setting.”



Alex Gonzalez, MD, sees a patient at Fenway Health (Photo: Marilyn Humphries)

## AFFILIATED CHC LOCATIONS

1. Bowdoin Street Health Center
2. The Dimock Center
3. Fenway Health
4. Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center (Allston/Brighton and Waltham)
5. Outer Cape Health Services (Provincetown and Wellfleet)
6. Sidney Borum Jr. Health Center
7. South Cove Community Health Center (Boston and Quincy)

