Even though in-person visits were understandably down, the JPA Team quickly introduced a robust televisit program and testing program. Both of these programs helped guide its patients through some of the darkest days of the pandemic while enabling them to still receive the healthcare they needed.

As quickly as the vaccines became available, Dr. Vega and the JPA Team realigned themselves to make sure that vaccinations were made accessible. JPA Team members still continue to reach out “on the streets” to communicate one-on-one with community residents, answer questions, allay fears and encourage them to get vaccinated.

Because the Far Rockaway area is home to a large pocket of vaccine-hesitant, JPA has opened its two Rockaway sites on Saturdays and Sundays as dedicated vaccination sites open to anyone who wants the shot.

“We have all had an extremely challenging year dealing with Covid-19, but thanks to our entire JPA team, we made sure that the communities we serve continued to receive the health care they deserve,” said Dr. Vega. “Without all of us acting as a Team, we would not have been able to accomplish our mission. Our entire team is very appreciative of this recognition.”

Congratulations to our JPA Healthcare Heroes!

Dr. Miriam Vega, Chief Executive Officer and the Healthcare Team at the Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center (JPA) have been designated as Schneps Media 2021 Healthcare Heroes for the second year in a row. Spotlighting excellence and applauding innovation, Schneps Events honored Healthcare Heroes who consistently deliver and support quality care.

Under the direction of Dr. Miriam Vega, JPA has established itself as a healthcare leader assisting the communities it serves through some of the most difficult days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Smile With Amazon Smile

JPA is very pleased to be a part of AmazonSmile - a simple way for you to support a favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. Of course, we hope that you will make the Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center your favorite charitable organization! When you shop AmazonSmile, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience. When you choose the Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center as your charitable organization, 0.5% of your eligible purchases will be donated to us.

When first visiting smile.amazon.com, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization from over one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization.

This is a way that our community can help JPA simply by purchasing items you would regularly purchase from Amazon. Thank you for your support!
Physician Awards 2021

Dr. Veronica Wiltshire presented the 2021 Outstanding Physician Awards this month to 10 very deserving providers at JPA. Congratulations to all of them for their dedication and perseverance throughout the pandemic and for their compassion and commitment to our JPA patients.

A special thank you to Mr. Pranav Shah of Health Care Pharmacy for his generous contribution of the beautiful awards presented to each physician.

JPA Pinnacle Award
Dr. Lakhbir Dhillon
- For highest achievement in quality metrics

JPA Physician of the Year
Dr. Mergie Desir
- For outstanding patient care, great attitude towards staff, excellent patient satisfaction, meeting all productivity goals and quality metrics

JPA Rockstar Rookie Award
Dr. Kathleen Siapno
- For having a great start at JPA with excellence in meeting productivity targets, quality metrics and patient satisfaction

"Covid 19 Pandemic" Physician leader Award
Dr. Ari Benjamin
- For his leadership, courage, dedication and excellent service to patients during Covid 19 tent testing and for his leadership in JPA's Covid 19 vaccine rollout and telemedicine startup

The Dr. Charlie Chen Memorial Award
Dr. Mallikharjanudu Kalepu
- For his exemplary service, compassionate care, selflessness, humility, kindness and positive attitude towards staff, patients and colleagues throughout his years at JPA

"Golden Stethoscope Award"
Dr. Jules Mayard
- For exhibiting an exceptional level of professionalism, integrity, dedication and teamwork in caring for patients as well as interacting with clinical staff and colleagues

JPA "Above and Beyond" Physician Award
Dr. Ifeanyi Oguagha
- For his willingness to go the extra mile to accommodate and care for patients and demonstrating a great attitude to staff and colleagues

JPA Dentist of the year Award
Dr. Pilar Gamboa
- For her exemplary service in dentistry, outstanding dedication, outstanding work ethic and positive attitude towards patients and staff

Excellent in Clinical Teaching Award
Dr. Sergylene Cadet - Valeus
- For her valuable work precepting and teaching residents.

JPA "Key Contributor Physician" Award
Dr. Roberta Hellman
- For her recognizable contributions to the mental health services for the JPA patients and staff for all these years

PROJECT RITE, an arm of JPA’s Department of Wellness and Social Services, hosted a Hawaiian-themed get together on June 28th to celebrate PRIDE month. It was a very warm day, but the Hawaiian costumes were right in keeping with the hot weather and cool breezes on the Rooftop deck at JPA’s 6200 Beach Channel Drive site in Arverne. An afternoon of camaraderie and festivities was enjoyed by the group.
Welcome To Our Addabbo Care Team!

Yolanda Richards
Director of Human Resources

JPA is pleased to welcome Ms. Yolanda Richards as its new Director of Human Resources.

Ms. Richards has worked in the human resources field for more than twenty years, most of which have been spent in the nonprofit sector. In her last role, she was the Director of Diversity Recruitment at CCS Fundraising. Prior to joining CCS, Yolanda spent seven years leading talent acquisition at UNICEF USA.

She holds a Master of Science degree in Organizational Leadership from Regis University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Morgan State University.

Her passion for philanthropy was cultivated during her childhood in Queens, NY. Her mother was a social worker for the City of New York, providing support to underserved families throughout the five boroughs and she encouraged her daughter to follow in her footsteps. In addition to being influenced by her mother’s professional and community activism, Ms. Richards grew up in a diverse environment that exposed her to people from a broad range of backgrounds. This upbringing fueled her passion for people and inspired her decades-long career in the nonprofit sector, as well as her dedication to volunteer work in the U.S. and across the globe. Most notably, she served as a board member of Dream Sponsors Inc., an organization that “provides basic needs, educational opportunities and mentoring to orphans and vulnerable youth” in Kenya and other countries in East Africa.

Ms. Richards is a member of the Society for Human Resources Management, Women of Color in Fundraising and Philanthropy, and Women In Development; she also has appeared in Vanity Fair, Essence and Health magazines.

Beyond her career achievements, Ms. Richards is dedicated to volunteering both at home and abroad. She has a passion for traveling around the world and has visited numerous countries. And, she enjoys spending time with Bosco, her Labradoodle puppy.

Sandy Tunisha
Credentials

Ms. Sandy Tunisha is joining JPA as its new Credentialing Manager. She holds a BA from Adelphi University and comes to us from Jamaica Hospital Medical Center where she worked as a credentialing coordinator and Cactus Trainer within the Executive Administration. She is a Queens native, very passionate about serving the community and is happy to be a part of JPA and the great quality of care it provides.

Welcome To The JPA Family!

Farewell
Dr. Veronica Wiltshire

It was a poignant moment for Dr. Veronica Wiltshire, JPA’s Chief Medical Officer as well as for JPA staff as they bid her farewell in June. Before becoming JPA’s Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Wiltshire was a beloved pediatrician at JPA for many years and staff, parents and pediatric patients alike will greatly miss her.

Although it is always sad to be losing someone who was such an integral part of the JPA family, we all hope that her next endeavor will bring her much success and happiness. Her love of pediatric medicine, her dedication and hard work, her capabilities as an administrator and her genuine love for children will not be forgotten.

Farewell, Dr. Wiltshire!
WEEKEND VACCINATION PROGRAM AT ADDABBO

The Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center began its weekend vaccination program May in an effort to bring COVID-19 vaccinations to the Rockaway community.

Saturdays and Sundays, from 9 am to 7 pm are devoted to administering shots at 6200 Beach Channel Drive in Arverne and 1288 Central Avenue in Far Rockaway.

People can still make appointments to receive the vaccination by going to https://vax4nyc.nyc.gov or by calling 877-VAX-4NYC. Walk-ins will also be accepted.

Recipe Book: Chickpea Salad

The Chickpea Salad is a nutritious meal that will fill you up without feeling dragged down and sluggish. Nothing like feeling satiated with fresh, good-for-you ingredients.

**Ingredients:**
- 2 (15 oz) cans of Chickpeas
- 1 small Red Onion
- 1 small Red Bell Pepper
- 1 clove of Garlic
- 1/2 tsp of Crushed Red Pepper Flakes
- 2 Tbsp Rosemary
- 2 Tbsp Red Wine Vinegar
- 3 Tbsp Extra-Virgin Olive Oil
- Salt and Pepper
- Optional: Tri-color Pasta Salad (8 oz)

**Steps:**
1. Rinse and drain the Chickpeas.
2. Finely chop the Rosemary, the Red Onion and the Red Bell Pepper.
3. Mince the Garlic well.
4. Add the Red Pepper Flakes, the Red Wine Vinegar and Olive Oil.
5. Add Salt and Pepper to taste.
6. Tri-color Pasta Salad can added to enhance the flavor of the salad but is optional.
7. Give the ingredients a nice mix in a bowl.
8. Refrigerate the salad to let the mix settle for a few minutes.
9. Enjoy your salad!

About Us

Established in 1987, the Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center, Inc. (JPA) is a non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center with five (5) operational facilities located on the Rockaway Peninsula, Southeast Queens, and Red Hook, Brooklyn. JPA has been designated a Level III (the highest level) Patient Centered Medical Home.

Our caring professional staff of Board Certified Physicians, Nurses and certified support staff offer a wide range of services including routine in-person appointments, televideo and telephonic consultations and “walk-in” service for sick visits.

We have a long history of delivering exemplary medical services. We look forward to continue providing our patients with the same standard of excellence.

*FTCA Deemed Organization. The Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center is granted medical malpractice protection through the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA). The Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center receives HHS funding and has Federal Public Health Service (PHS) deemed status with respect to certain health or health-related claims, including medical malpractice claims, for itself and its covered individuals. This institution is an equal opportunity employer.*

**Our Locations:**
- 6200 Beach Channel Dr.
  Arverne, NY 11692
- 1288 Central Ave.
  Far Rockaway, NY 11691
- 114-39 Sutphin Blvd.
  Jamaica, NY 11434
- 118-11 Guy R Brewer Blvd.
  Jamaica, NY 11434
- 120 Richard Street
  Brooklyn, NY 11231

*Please follow all CDC Guidelines regarding wearing of masks, social distancing and frequent handwashing. For the safety of everyone, please be advised that all patients, visitors and staff are REQUIRED to wear a mask or face covering when inside our facilities whether vaccinated or not. Visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html for more information.*

**Call Us At:**
718-945-7150

**Follow us on:**

**Check Us Out At:**
www.addabbo.org