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Agency for Health Care Administration Honors Black History Month - Launches campaign celebrating African American contributions to public health-

Tallahassee, Fla. – In celebration of Black History Month, the Agency for Health Care Administration is honoring African Americans who have made a positive impact on public health in Florida and across the nation.

Black History Month, also known as African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by Black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role African Americans have played in U.S. history. This year's theme is "**A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture.**"

"Florida's health care system draws its strength from the thousands of African American nurses, doctors, administrators, specialists and technicians who work tirelessly to improve the health and well-being of so many in their communities," said Agency Secretary Elizabeth Dudek. "I am thrilled to honor the contributions of prominent African American public health figures like Dr. Charles Drew and Nurse Mary Eliza Mahoney. Black History Month is a time to reflect on the achievements of the past and show appreciation for the great strides being made today. To all of our African American healthcare providers and support staff – Thank you for all that you do!"

This week, the Agency will be sharing the stories of five African American medical pioneers on its social media profiles. To follow along, please visit www.facebook.com/AHCAFlorida.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov. Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](https://www.facebook.com/AHCAFlorida), [Twitter \(@AHCA_FL\)](https://twitter.com/AHCA_FL) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](https://www.youtube.com/AHCAFlorida).

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