

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Florida Public Health Institute and HealthMETRICS Partners, Inc. Form Innovative Partnership**

*Florida Public Health Institute and HealthMETRICS Join Forces to Enhance the Quality, Efficiency and Effectiveness of Public Healthcare Services across Florida*

Lake Worth, Florida (March 3, 2010)– The Florida Public Health Institute (FPHI), under the Executive leadership of Dr. Earl Fox, formerly of HRSA in Washington, D.C., has entered into a partnership with HealthMETRICS Partners from Massachusetts to provide Public Health managers with the information they need to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the medical services they offer.

Highlands County Health Department under the direction of Robert Palussek is the first county to participate in this new initiative. According to Mr. Palussek “This partnership will allow us to focus upon performance optimization within our direct services. I am convinced it will give us a better understanding of our clinical operations, which will help us to make better decisions, and enable us to provide excellent care to more patients with our limited funding.”

Per Fox, the FPHI has teamed up with HealthMETRICS Partners from Massachusetts to provide their services to Public Health managers “because of their excellent track record in improving costs and healthcare outcomes.” He further added that “the role of FPHI will be to develop education and training programs to support these projects, identify local experts and use the data to identify ways to improve state regulations and policies that govern the delivery of medical services”

Mr. Michael Napier, the Administrator of Seminole County Health Department and President elect of the Florida Association of County Health Officers stated that: “As steward of the Public Health System that utilizes taxpayer’s dollars we have an obligation to adopt best practices to achieve outcome optimization in the care we provide. Like every business public or private we are always looking for ways to lower costs and simultaneously improve the quality of service. Our goal of improving our community’s health will be a step closer in Florida with the FPHI/HealthMETRICS partnership.”

Per Charles Moore, HealthMETRICS’ President, “HealthMETRICS helps healthcare organizations to deliver optimal care by evaluating the process used to deliver service and linking process to real outcomes. Managers learn about their relative performance and the specific process changes to maximize their performance.” Moore added that he “is excited about teaming with Dr. Fox and FPHI as the combination of viewpoints, experience and expertise will have a measurable impact across Florida and has the potential to be a national model for improving Public Health services.”

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**About HealthMETRICS Partners, Inc.**

HealthMETRICS Partners, Inc. gives healthcare providers an immediate and effective way to deliver higher quality services at lower cost by improving their processes for delivering care. The Massachusetts-based company has worked with providers in 38 states. Best practices are identified by measuring quality and cost outcomes for various healthcare services. HealthMETRICS can improve the delivery of services in any environment, including but not limited to women’s health, pediatrics, mental health, internal medicine, and medical and surgical specialties.

HealthMETRICS, which has been in business for 14 years, is based in Lexington, MA. For more information, please visit [www.HealthMETRICSpartners.com](http://www.HealthMETRICSpartners.com).

**About Florida Public Health Institute**

The Florida Public Health Institute’s objective is to apply a multi-sector systems approach as a neutral convener for public-private partnership development of health-related matters for the citizens of Palm Beach County, the state of Florida and the national community. Its mission is to “...advance the knowledge and practice of public health to promote, protect and improve the health of all.” To learn more, please visit [www.flphi.com](http://www.flphi.com).