



WHITTIER STREET
HEALTH CENTER

Comprehensive. Compassionate. Community.

**A Memo from
Frederica M. Williams
President and CEO
April 28, 2017**



On April 12, 2017, Whittier Street Health Center honored Tom May, Chairman of Eversource Energy at its annual Toast fundraising event. Eversource Energy, New England's largest energy provider, serves more than 3.6 million electric and natural gas customers in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 525 cities and towns.

During his 40 year career, Tom held various executive positions, including Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer. He also held the position of Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer at NSTAR when the company merged with Northeast Utilities in April 2012. Tom led the company's growth from serving 600,000 customers in 1994 to its current customer base of 3.6 million customers.

The Toast celebrated Tom's embodiment of power, purpose, partnership and progress, as well as his commitment to Whittier. Our MC, Karen Holmes Ward, led the ceremony, as we enjoyed music by Branches Steel Orchestra, received words of inspiration from Rev. Liz Walker and Chair Joe Nolan, heard tributes of Tom's impact in the city of Boston by our Toasters, and celebrated patient testimonials in our 2017 Institutional Video. Toasters this year included Anne Finucane (Bank of America), Bill Van Fassen (Blue Cross Blue Shield MA), Frank Doyle (Connell Limited Partnership) and Jim Judge (Eversource Energy). All painted a vivid picture of the ways in which Tom has given back to the community over the years. With the generous support of our donors and volunteers, we raised over \$700,000, exceeding all prior roasts in amount raised.









For more pictures of the Roast view this slide show. [2017 Toast to Tom May Final Slideshow](#)

New Neighborhood Trauma Teams Announced

Mayor Martin Walsh announced the creation of five new Neighborhood Trauma Teams (NTT) throughout Boston. Whittier is honored to be leading the NTT focused on Roxbury. These neighborhood-based trauma teams will address trauma that results from an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that is

experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or threatening, and that can have lasting adverse effects on the individual's functioning and physical, social, emotional well-being. Whittier's Behavioral Health and Wellness teams will utilize its public health approach to trauma to address the negative impact of trauma on the health and well being of the residents of Roxbury.

New Pharmacy and New Clinic

We are pleased to announce the official opening of our new neighborhood pharmacy and clinic at Quincy Commons, 279 Blue Hill Ave, in Dorchester. This new facility will expand our reach and make it even more possible to provide quality health care to vulnerable communities. Services will include primary care, mental health services, nutrition, urgent care, some medical specialty services, a full-service pharmacy, medication management and lab. Please join us for our Grand Opening Ceremony/Open House on June 2, 2017, from noon to 2pm at the Quincy Commons site.

A Deadly Problem: Addressing the high rates of opioid use and abuse:

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Massachusetts is currently experiencing an epidemic of opioid-related overdose and death. These overdoses are driven by the underlying chronic disease of opioid addiction or opioid use disorders. People with opioid addiction are at high risk of overdose and death.

Opioid-related deaths in the state were more than four times higher in 2015 than in 2000. This recent rate of increase is several times faster than anything seen here before. In 2013-2014 alone, opioid-related deaths occurred in two-thirds of the cities and towns in Massachusetts.

In the communities served by Whittier there is a huge need for resources, education, access to care and the de-criminalization of residents with the disease. Please click on the link below for an interview on this issue by one of our Substance Abuse Counselors being interviewed by Channel 5's CityLine Host, Karen Holmes-Ward. As this crisis grows, Whittier has reaffirmed its commitment to treating those affected and doing its part in decreasing the incidents of death from opioid abuse one community at a time.

<http://www.wcvb.com/article/cityline-the-war-on-drugs-vs-the-opioid-epidemic/9242916>

A picture is worth a thousand words - from the voices of our patients:

At Whittier Street Health Center, our dedicated staff, volunteers and supporters are focused on addressing the high rates of mortality and morbidity rates in the

communities served. Please click on this link [Institutional Video 2017 featuring our patients and staff and the work done at Whittier and in the community.](#)

Upcoming Events:

Grand Opening Ceremony/Open House: new clinic and pharmacy, 278 Blue Hill Ave, June 2nd, 2017, Noon to 2pm.

**17th Annual Men's Health Summit Whittier Street Health Center
Theme: "Healthier Men: Stronger Families: Stronger Communities"
Saturday, June 24, 2017, 11am to 1pm.**

Thank you for your continued support for Whittier Street Health Center's mission. Please visit our website (www.wshc.org) and our [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) pages for more information regarding our impact in the community and upcoming events.



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Wishing you good health!

Frederica M. Williams
President and CEO

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