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EXTENDED HOURS FOR NEW CLINIC AT BAY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Bay County - Due to its success and increased demand for services, the After Hours Care Clinic at the Bay County Health Department is extending hours of operation to 1:00pm to 9:00pm beginning Monday, October 17, 2011. The Bay County Health Department opened the After Hours Care Clinic on April 18, 2011, to reduce the use of hospital emergency rooms for non-emergency reasons such as earaches, sore throat, infections and chronic condition management such as diabetes. Assistance with prescriptions is also available. Fees for services provided are based on a sliding scale and Medicaid and insurance are accepted. Appointments are available from 1:00pm-4:00pm and walk-ins are welcome from 4:00pm-9:00pm. The Clinic is located at 597 West 11th Street, Panama City.

The Bay County Health Department collaborated with Bay Medical Center, Gulf Coast Medical Center, Community Health Center and the St. Andrews Medical Clinic on this project and was awarded \$1,100,000 from the Low Income Pool Enhanced Access to Primary Care grant to develop and operate the clinic. "The anticipated outcomes of this grant funded project are to improve health care access, increase cost savings and decrease inappropriate use of hospital emergency rooms" stated Sandon S. Speedling, Clinic Services Director, with the Bay County Health Department.

For more information, contact the Bay County Health Department at 850-872-4455 or visit the website at www.baycountyhealth.org.

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