**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Premier Community HealthCare Launches Telehealth Service**

**Dade City, Fla., Thursday, April 9, 2020** – In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Premier Community HealthCare (Premier) today announced the launch of its telehealth service for established, adult patients seeking care.

“We sped up our plan to launch telehealth to supplement face-to-face visits, which are discouraged during the current stay-at-home order,” said Premier Community HealthCare CEO Joey Resnick. Telehealth allows a secure provider-to-patient virtual visit, enabling Premier to continue delivering on its mission to reduce barriers to accessible healthcare services. The software is user-friendly, accessible, and seamlessly integrates with Premier’s electronic health record system.

Additional telehealth services for pediatrics, behavioral health, women’s health, and dental services are also in the process of being developed by Premier.

Outside of telehealth service, all Premier offices except for its Brooksville Dental Center remain open for emergency services five days a week. Currently, Premier’s waiting room capacity is limited to five patients, with the option for patients to wait in their car. Patients are screened telephonically prior to appointments, and Premier has set up outdoor triage stations at all locations to minimize exposure to health care workers and the general patient population.

“Community health centers are a critical resource for millions of Americans, particularly those who are low-income and without health insurance,” said Delisa Heron, Premier Community HealthCare’s chief medical officer. “The demand for our services is increasing as unemployment is on the rise. Our clinics are forced to evolve in ways much faster than we are financially ready for, but this is what community health is about. We will keep moving forward and adapt in innovative ways to care for our community.”

For more information about Premier and its services, visit [www.premierhc.org](http://www.premierhc.org).

*Premier Community HealthCare Group is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that operates Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC’s) dedicated to providing accessible healthcare for all. Officially known as Premier Community HealthCare Group, Inc. (Premier), the organization is a non-profit community health center dedicated to providing high quality, affordable, accessible medical care to the medically underserved. With ten conveniently located offices throughout Pasco and Hernando Counties and a new mobile dental clinic to serve patients, Premier provides a full range of comprehensive primary care medical services that include family medicine, pediatrics, dental, behavioral health, obstetrics and gynecology. Premier has been committed to improving access to care for everyone with its long-standing presence in the community since 1979.*

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