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Ryan White CARE Program, Healthy Start and Sarasota Healthcare Access offices move to North Port on July 1

Health officials announced today that the Ryan White CARE (Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency) Program that provides case management services to those living with HIV and AIDS will close its office at 7810 S. Tamiami Trail in south Venice on Wednesday, June 29, in preparation for a move to North Port. The Ryan White CARE Program office will then offer services at the North Port Family Services Center, 6919 Outreach Way, second floor, room 216 (across the street from the North Port Health Center, also on Outreach Way) on Friday, July 1.

Other health department services that will relocate from Venice to North Port on July 1 include the Healthy Start Program and Sarasota Healthcare Access case management services, which are provided by appointment.

"The majority of the residents affected by these changes are now getting their primary care and women's health services at the North Port Health Center. Having case management services nearby will provide an added convenience for these patients while helping us to improve cost efficiencies," said Barbara Laidlaw, interim director of the Sarasota County Health Department. "We are striving to make this transition a smooth one for everyone affected by these changes."

Those with questions about the Ryan White CARE Program are asked to call case manager Evelyn Pinto at 941-861-3385.