

## **MORTON OFFERS SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DIABETES**

**TULSA, OK, March 15, 2019** – Morton Comprehensive Health Services launched the first in a series of diabetes education classes as part of a patient-centered focus to control and manage diabetes.

“Morton is excited to offer a comprehensive approach to diabetes treatment for uninsured patients due to the generosity of the George Kaiser Family Foundation,” said Susan Savage, CEO of Morton. “Type II diabetes is one of the top five conditions among Morton’s patients. Failure to manage the disease can result in debilitating conditions ranging from the loss of eyesight to heart disease.”

This multi-agency program is targeted to uninsured patients to improve their overall health with no out of pocket costs to the patient. The program includes diabetic office visits, all medications and supplies, diabetes education, a food diary, eye exams, and free transportation, if needed.

In partnership with the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma, patients receive a bag of groceries and fresh produce from the Food Bank with healthy recipes and healthy cooking classes taught by Chef Jeremy Johnson.

Our goal is through innovation and collaboration to assist our neighbors to live healthy and productive lives by providing access to healthy food choices, helpful services and information for the diabetic patients,” said Eileen Bradshaw, executive director of the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma.

In addition, the W. L. Hutcherson Branch YMCA will provide physical fitness instruction for diabetic patients with an exercise prescription from a Morton provider. Diabetic patients who qualify for the program will work with Morton’s case managers and medical providers to understand the opportunities diabetic patients have to manage their diabetes for healthier lives.

To enroll in the diabetes program or for additional information, contact (918) 295-2724.

### **About Morton**

Morton Comprehensive Health Services, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, is one of Oklahoma’s largest community health centers in the state. For nearly 100 years, Morton has delivered comprehensive health care services including medical, dental, optometry, behavioral health and much more to individuals regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, national origin or one’s ability to pay for services. Morton operates five (5) locations and a satellite office in northeastern Oklahoma – Main center, 1334 N. Lansing Ave.; East Tulsa Family Health Center, 11511 E. 21<sup>st</sup> St.; West Tulsa Family Health Center, 6116 W. 11<sup>th</sup> St.; Midtown Homeless Family Health Center, 102 N. Denver Ave., Suite B; Nowata Family Health Center, 207 S. Locust St.; and a satellite office at Family and Children’s Services, 2325 S. Harvard Ave. in Tulsa. Morton is accredited by The Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), is a Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) and is a Tulsa Area United Way Partner Agency. For more information, visit <http://www.mortonhealth.org> or call (918) 587-2171.

(cont.)

**Page 2, Morton offers support to individuals with diabetes**

**About Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma**

The mission of the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma is to feed the hungry of eastern Oklahoma through a network of Partner Agencies and to engage communities in ending hunger. Its vision is food security, with dignity, for all of eastern Oklahoma. The Food Bank is the largest private hunger-relief organization in eastern Oklahoma.

**About W. L. Hutcherson Branch YMCA**

The W.L. Hutcherson Family YMCA serving Tulsa for nearly 100 years features a fitness center with cardio equipment, weight machines and free weights, group exercise classes, a basketball gym, indoor pool with play structure and water walking channel, Play & Learn for your kids to play in while you work out, and a nationally accredited Childhood Development Center.

**About George Kaiser Family Foundation**

The Foundation's mission of providing every child with an equal opportunity is reflected throughout their work in the community. The foundation's three focus areas – Parent Engagement and Early Education (Birth Through Eight Strategy for Tulsa (BEST), Health and Family Well-Being and Vibrant and Inclusive Tulsa – gives it the opportunity to address community issues at a deeper level.

###