

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

## TAIBU COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE IS IDENTIFIED AS A FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICE PROVIDER

SCARBOROUGH, ON. October 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 – The Central East Local Health Integration Network (Central East LHIN) has identified TAIBU Community Health Centre as a French Languages Services Provider. In a letter dated August 22, 2017, The Central East LHIN stated that the identification highlights the continued dedication and commitment to support local Francophone populations in Scarborough that resulted in enhanced community engagement, outreach and improved access to quality FLS services. Honorable Mitzie Hunter, MPP Scarborough Guildwood and Minister of Education together with Monsieur Francois Boileau, French Language Services Commissioner, Mr Louis O'Brien Chair of the Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and other distinguished guests were present to congratulate TAIBU and to acknowledge that the identification is another significant milestone for the Central East LHIN, Entité 4 and the Francophone communities in Scarborough.

"The Central East LHIN is committed to reducing French language barriers and supporting our diverse Francophone population to live healthier at home. Through our successful partnership with Entité 4 the Central East LHIN is pleased to provide support to our Health Service Providers to improve their capacity to develop and offer services in French. The Central East LHIN is pleased to identify TAIBU Community Health Centre as a French Languages Service Provider and wishes to thank them for their efforts towards improving access for Francophones to the right care, at the right time and at the right place." – Deborah Hammons, CEO, Central East LHIN

Identification is defined as the selection of service providers, by the Local Health Integration Networks, for the purpose of planning and delivering quality services in French. The objective is for the Francophone population to have access to a continuum of health services in French, necessary to respond to the needs of the community.

"TAIBU continues to register significant milestones in meeting the needs of marginalized and racialized communities. Over the past three years, under the guidance and leadership of the Coalition for Healthy Francophone Families in Scarborough, we have been engaging the Francophone communities and delivered much needed primary healthcare and health promotion programs and services. The identification of TAIBU as a French Language Service provider not only recognizes the accomplishment to date but will enhance our effort and capacity to continue to actively offer more services to the Francophone communities" — Liben Gebremikael, Executive Director, TAIBU CHC







This initiative at TAIBU is made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Central East LHIN, Entité 4, the Coalition for Healthy Francophone Communities in Scarborough (CHFCS) and TAIBU CHC.

"On behalf of Entité 4, I wish to congratulate TAIBU Community Health Centre for its identification by the Central East LHIN. We are proud to work with an organization so committed to French Language Health Services. We hope that TAIBU's identification will encourage them to develop more programs and services for Scarborough's Francophone community." – Estelle Duchon, Executive Director, Entité 4.

The next step will be designation; a voluntary request to be made by an organization, once it has demonstrated that services are available in French according to provincial standards. It is the legal recognition by the Government of Ontario.

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TAIBU Community Health Centre provides primary health care and related services for Black populations across the Greater Toronto Area as its priority population and residents of our local community of Malvern. Recognizing that systemic oppression has fostered conditions of ill-health with Black communities, we strive to deliver these services through intersectional, equity based and culturally affirming practices which promote holistic wellness, health education, and prevention.

**Entité 4**'s mandate is to make recommendations to the Central, Central East and North Simcoe Muskoka LHINs to improve access to quality health services in French for the francophone community in these areas.

The main objective of the Coalition for Healthy Francophone Communities in Scarborough is to emphasize health promotion, namely by educating the francophone population of Scarborough about chronic diseases, mental health and a healthy lifestyle, in order to prevent disease related to health conditions and choices.

## For more information:

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