



**Neponset Health Center**  
**Harbor Health Services Inc.**

**For Immediate Release**

December 4, 2006

Media Contact: Eleni Kontogli, 617-282-3200

**NEPONSET HEALTH CENTER OPENS A NEW FAMILY PRACTICE  
GIVING PATIENTS CHOICES THROUGH SHARED CLINICAL RESOURCES**

Neponset Health Center is pleased to announce the opening of its new Family Practice, located at the main Neponset Health Center facility at 398 Neponset Avenue in Dorchester. The practice currently accepts new patients of all ages and it is open seven days a week with extended evening hours.

Paulette Shaw Querner, Executive Director at Neponset Health Center stated that “In today’s complex health care system there is an increased need for access to integrative care and personal patient-provider relationship. By adding family practice, we have extended access to services that meet the needs of patients, families and the community as a whole. Services offered by our newly established Family Practice department are in addition to our Adult Medicine, Pediatric and Adolescent Health, Behavioral Health and Specialty Care departments. This is another way for us (at the health center) to give our patients options and better care through shared clinical resources and expertise.”

Valerie Heemstra, D.O., M.Sc., Jean M. Pastorello, RN, MSN, FNP-C and Lauren A. Schroder, NP joined the new Family Practice while the health center is in the process of hiring additional providers to meet patient demand. All providers are board certified physicians and nurse practitioners with specialty and long standing experience in Family Medicine. Services offered include adult & pediatric well and sick visits, routine & medically complex care, gynecology, newborn care, multidisciplinary chronic disease care for depression, diabetes and asthma, patient health education and family planning.

To see a family practitioner or for more information call (617) 282-3200.