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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2026
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Carlos Rosario School and La Clínica del Pueblo Open On-Site Mini Health Clinic

New pilot brings primary and preventive care to the Harvard Street Campus after students shared they were choosing between rent, food, and medication



WASHINGTON, DC (October 21, 2026) – Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School and La Clínica del Pueblo cut the ribbon on Tuesday on a new on-site mini-clinic at the school's Harvard Street Campus. The clinic brings primary and preventive care directly

into the building where thousands of adult learners already come to study, build careers, and connect with their community.

The mini-clinic will operate once a week, offering both scheduled appointments and same-day visits. The pilot is designed to remove the barriers that keep many working adults from getting care, including time, transportation, cost, and unfamiliarity with the health system. While the physical site of the mini clinic is on Harvard Street campus, students from the Sonia Gutierrez campus will also be able to take advantage of the telehealth services.

The idea took shape in conversations with the school's student government. As local and federal health coverage changed, students began describing the choices they were being forced to make.

"When we met with the student government, what we heard about was the cuts to the DC Healthcare Alliance and to Medicaid," said Allison R. Kokkoros, CEO of Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School. "Students told us they could not pay for their medication; they were choosing to put food on the table and pay their rent instead. As one student shared, others started sharing what they were dealing with. It became crystal clear that we had to do more."

"Extending health education and health services to the Carlos Rosario School familia is not new," Kokkoros added. "It's part of our model. It's part of our mission. This is education, plus, at Carlos Rosario."

For La Clínica del Pueblo, a Federally Qualified Health Center that has served the Greater Washington, DC region for more than 40 years, the partnership extends a long-standing commitment to meeting people where they are.

"To build community health care, you have to be embedded in that community," said Carlos Plazas, CEO of La Clínica del Pueblo. "Either the agency is within the community or you have to become a part of it. What makes this partnership special? Trust."

For the school's student services team, the clinic answers a need they have watched for years.

"I noticed this need almost a decade ago," said Olianka Wingate, Dean of Student Services at Carlos Rosario School. "In the past, we had to take three or four students to the emergency room. The need was always there. I knew we needed a clinic."

Eduardo Perdomo, Director of the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs, joined school and clinic leaders at the ceremony. "I'm happy to see this partnership move us from access to accessibility," Perdomo said.

The ribbon-cutting brought together Carlos Rosario School leadership, Board Vice-Chair Vilma Rosario, student government leaders, and La Clínica del Pueblo's leadership team. Guests toured the new clinic space following the ceremony.

Carlos Rosario School serves more than 2,000 adult learners across its two campuses, a multigenerational, multilingual community balancing education with work and family responsibilities. Additional details about clinic services will be shared as the pilot develops.



Photos
High-resolution photos from the ribbon-cutting are available on request. To request photos or to arrange an interview with school or clinic leadership, contact Donald Ndebeka at dndebeka@carlosrosario.org or (215) 896-5888.

About Carlos Rosario School
The Carlos Rosario School has more than 50 years of experience in providing quality education to the diverse adult learner population of the District of Columbia through English as a second language, workforce development, and support services. More than 80,000 men and women have graduated from the School over these years and today are our region's teachers, health professionals, leaders, and small business owners.
The School's award-winning three-pronged model includes foundational courses in English language, GED, digital technology and online communication tools, and citizenship for the naturalization test. The School also offers career certification training in high-growth and high-demand fields including nursing, technology, culinary arts, bilingual education, and construction pre-apprenticeship, as well as comprehensive supportive services provided in an environment of love and respect.

About La Clínica del Pueblo
For more than 40 years, La Clínica del Pueblo has provided high-quality, culturally and linguistically appropriate health services to people across the Greater Washington, DC

region. We were founded by community advocates working closely with Latino and immigrant families who lacked access to safe, affordable, and culturally grounded care. Those roots continue to guide our mission today. From the very beginning, La Clínica has welcomed people of all backgrounds. As a Federally Qualified Health Center, we serve anyone who needs us, regardless of their circumstances.

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