



# Tri-County Community Action Agency

## Tri-County Health Center Medical Director Named One of PBN's 40 Under Forty!

"Here I am, a family physician, a medical director, a professor, and an advocate but firstly, a person trying to make a difference in the world, trying to be an agent of change."

Wilfredo Giordano-Perez, MD was celebrated by the Providence Business News as one of Rhode Island's top 40 professionals under the age of forty. The 40 Under Forty award recognizes young professionals who are proficient in their field, and who have demonstrated a commitment to serving their community.

From an early age, Dr. Perez immersed himself in community service, and as a high school student started an organization called Operation: Happy Birthday (OHB). The mission behind OHB would be to celebrate the lives of children growing up homeless, a struggle that Dr. Perez personally experienced in his youth. While attending Brown University, Dr. Perez expanded OHB to that campus as well. OHB is still running today, 17 years later, and has thrown birthday parties for thousands of children in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Dr. Perez continued his work with underserved communities while attending Brown University and before starting medical school spent one year in Haiti, living at an orphanage and leading an initiative to implement a public health campaign to treat latent tuberculosis.



After joining Tri-County Health Center in 2016, Dr. Perez quickly recognized the need for quality LGBTQ+ healthcare in our community. He spent evening and weekend hours drafting policies and workflows and by 2018 had grown Tri-County's LGBTQ+ Health Program to become a community leader in LGBTQ+ Health and Medication-Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorders, earning recognition as an LGBTQ+ Safe Zone by BCBS of RI.

Dr. Perez accepted the role of Medical Director at Tri-County in 2019, and led the charge against the COVID-19 pandemic. He was appointed by Governor Gina Raimondo to serve on

the RI COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Sub-committee, and implemented one of RI's first community health center vaccine clinics, vaccinating both patients and community members.

Dr. Perez continues to dedicate his professional and personal life to serving the needs of his community, and the needs of underserved populations. He is an inspiration to us all, and we are so excited to see what he does next!

Congratulations, Dr. Giordano-Perez!

