NEW HODE NEWS

New Hope

New Hope Clinic Inc.

Newsletter Volume 2, Issue I

March 2010

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Mailing address: P.O. Box 10601, Southport, NC 28461
Phone: (910) 457-6044 Fax: (910) 457-5220 Email: nhclinic@bellsouth.net www.newhopeclinicfree.org
EIN: 31-1614379

Mission: To provide basic medical and dental care, diagnostic services and prescription drugs at no cost to low income, uninsured residents of Brunswick County. Our staff of dedicated volunteer professionals is committed to enhancing the quality of life, while preserving the privacy and dignity of every patient.

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Services Provided:

- <u>Eligibility</u>: Mondays I-3pm, Ist four Thursdays I:30-5:30pm
- Physician/FNP:
 Ist four Thursdays
 Call I-3pm for appointment later that afternoon
- <u>Family Nurse Practitioner:</u>
 Mon, Tues, Wed 9am-4pm
 (Appt or Walk-In)
- Spanish Clinic: 1st Tuesday 1-3:30pm (FNP with Interpreter)
- <u>Pharmacy</u>: Ist four Thursdays 4:30-7:30pm
- Mental Health Crisis Clinic: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
- By Appointment:
 Chiropractor
 Dental Extractions
 Dermatology
 Diabetic Clinic
 EKG Clinic
 Orthopaedic
 Podiatry
 Pharmacy Assistance Program

Open to all Brunswick Co. Residents

- Diabetes Education Class:
 Ist Tuesday 7-9pm
 Concord United Methodist Church
 Supply, NC
- Spanish Diabetes Education: 3rd Monday 6-7pm New Hope Clinic

"Hope is Here..."

On the Move

After ten years of working out of the cramped quarters of Unit 202 in the Sentry Storage Business Park, New Hope Clinic's volunteers, staff and patients are anxiously awaiting the move to the Clinic's new home in Boiling Spring Lakes.

This move couldn't come a day too soon! 46 Brunswick County residents registered for New Hope Clinic's medical services in January 2010 and 48 new patients signed up in February. Many of these new patients have delayed seeking care and are in desperate need of help by the time they find the clinic. We expect the demand for our services to continue increasing since there is still little work available and unemployment benefits are beginning to run out for countless individuals. From 2007 to 2009 the percentage of our patients with any employment has dropped from 41% to 34%.

The new facility will be triple the size of the existing offices allowing the clinic to increase its patient capacity, improve privacy, and maximize the use of volunteer resources. Construction is well underway and still on schedule for an early summer move. The exterior brick work and metal roof are completed. On the interior, sheetrock work is completed and painting is underway.



Exterior of New Hope Clinic under construction in Boiling Spring Lakes - March 1, 2010.

There is still much to do in these last months before the move. We still need help:

- Acquiring furniture, equipment and funding for the new facility;
- Planning a grand opening event;
- Notifying patients, community agencies and vendors of the new address;
- Moving!

Many thanks to the individuals and organizations who have sponsored a room or area of the new clinic. Several named gift opportunities are still available. Such named gifts are very practical and a meaningful way of honoring a business or individual while benefiting the work of New Hope Clinic. A plaque will identify the name of the honoree providing enduring recognition. Contact the clinic at 910-457-6044 to claim the room of your choice today.

Be sure to check the website regularly for building updates and more statistics.

New Hope Clinic, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the NC Charitable Solicitation Licensing section at 1-888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State.

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The following is a partial list of items we need to outfit the new clinic & for ongoing clinic operations:

1/2 cc Insulin Syringes Copier Paper Paper lunch bags Dell Photo 960 ink cartridges Toilet paper C-fold paper towels Latex-free exam gloves Refrigerator Fax Machine

- Copier (multi-page feed) Printers/all-in-one devices Office desks (72"x30" or smaller) Small kitchen table and chairs
- Corner/end tables (waiting room) Utility/storage cabinets/carts
- Storage/organizing bins File cabinets
- Wheeled office chairs Chair mats
- Guest chairs (waiting room) Battery powered wall clocks Wastebaskets/recycle bins Desk accessories: Staplers, organizers, letter trays, pencil cups, tape dispensers, step organizers, handheld calculators, etc.

Financial Donations: We currently need monetary donations so we can continue to provide high quality medical care.

Please consider donations of appreciated stock.

Gifts of time and talent are the life blood of the clinic.

Consider volunteering!

Volunteer Spotlight

By Carolyn Bowers

When Pat Hagerty retired from her job as a special education teacher in Pennsylvania and she and her husband moved to St. James, she decided to find a volunteer job where she could continue to help people. Fortunately she chose New Hope Clinic. That was 10 years ago, and she has been doing a variety of clerical and administrative jobs for the clinic ever since. A conservative estimate would put that at about 5,000 volunteer hours.

Pat laughs when she recalls those early days. "The clinic was held in a school classroom and only open one night a month. We used the desks for examining tables," she said. Now she heads up an eligibility team of 12 volunteers who screen every new patient to determine that they meet the eligibility guidelines for low income, no insurance, and residency in Brunswick County. She said, "The team is wonderful. I couldn't do it without them. I'd have to live over there."

In 2006, while Pat was working on her



other job of collecting patient visit statistics, she was introduced to Southport resident Carmela Groce, a new volunteer. The two immediately hit it off, and have maintained their respective volunteer positions and friendship ever since. Like Pat, Carmela has done several jobs over the years. In addition to tabulating patient statistics with Pat, she is a receptionist, prepares the bills for the hospital, and maintains the patients' folders.

If you visit the clinic and you hear two women laughing between keystrokes, that would be Pat and Carmela. Their contribution is invaluable, and their laughter, contagious. Our thanks to you both!

We're on the Web!

www.newhopeclinicfree.org



Thanks to a very talented volunteer, New Hope Clinic is on the web! Visit the website for patient resources, volunteer opportunities, a calendar of clinics, photos, updates on the building process, newsletters and lots more information about the clinic. Patients can even begin the eligibility process for the clinic by filling in an application online. Please contact us at nhclinic@bellsouth.net if you have any suggestions or would like to help with the website.

IS THE CLINIC PURSUING FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDING?

We are monitoring possible opportunities, but have not yet identified support for which we may apply directly, due to federal requirements within the legislation.

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THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Although we try to genuinely thank our volunteers throughout the year, no one can express true appreciation for the more than 12,000 volunteer hours provided to the clinic last year, better than a patient:

"I am a diabetic who uses the New Hope Clinic. My experience with the clinic has been nothing but positive. The volunteers are the most remarkable people. I've never been to a doctor's office that compares to the way these people treat you, always with patience and a smile and to help you the best they can. There are not enough words to describe how wonderful these people The doctor that treats me here has done more in the short period I've been here than all the years I've been treated for diabetes. And the doctor has the same mannerisms as the other volunteers at the clinic - very informative and has patience with answering all my questions. If there are problems that can't be handled here, they will make sure you will be taken care of. you are in need of medication after the doctors have seen you they will be available later that day, which is very important to me living on Social Security. The clinic offers free classes to learn more about being a diabetic once a month. It is also done by professionals that volunteer their time to teach with an open class to ask questions and make sure we all understand. I have been going every month and every time I go I learn something new that helps me to better understand how I need to get my diabetes under control and to understand the process of why I became a diabetic. The clinic offers other services and a nurse practitioner on duty who treats illness in the same way. I am on Social Security with no insurance and deeply appreciate the service and the kindness that the New Hope Clinic offers me. thing that you need to bring to the clinic is the same kindness and patience that they offer you, which is a small price compared to what is offered to you. I do believe that I would not be able to treat my Type I Diabetes in the manner that it should be without the help of the New Hope Clinic."

MEDICATIONS DISPENSED

Medications are a crucial part of providing patients the tools to heal acute illnesses and manage chronic conditions.

In 2009, the Clinic provided 10,862 medications....at no charge to patients. Many of these medications come from donated samples and pharmaceutical companies' patient assistance programs. Even with this assistance, the Clinic spent over \$50,000 to purchase needed medications last year.

We have also been asking patients with income to pay for some medications which can be purchased for less than \$5 at community pharmacies. Even with donated medications and those purchased by patients, pharmacy costs for 2010 continue to increase. Based on having seen the highest number of patient visits *ever* in a two month period this January and February, we anticipate providing nearly 15,000 medications at no charge to patients this year.



Do you know what your automatic payroll contribution to the United Way of the Cape Fear Area does?

Through grants and donor designations, more than 90 health and human service agencies in the tri-county area, including New Hope Clinic, received funds during the 2009-2010 funding cycle. For more information about the United Way of the Cape Fear Area, please visit www.cfauw.org.



Have you ever wondered how to find help or a community service for yourself or someone in need? There are about 30,000 nonprofits in North Carolina. Finding the one you need can be difficult.

The first stop to finding help is knowing who to call. 9-1-1 if for emergencies, 4-1-1 is for directory assistance and 2-1-1 is for finding community health and human services resources.

Call 2-1-1 or go to www.nc211.org any time 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to link to vital services in your community. This service is free and multilingual.

Connecting People to Help.

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Help us cut costs.

Please sign up to receive the quarterly newsletter by email.

Call the clinic at 910-457-6044 or send an email to nhclinic@bellsouth.net to add your name to the email list.

