



GFC Healthline

"And all those who touched Him were healed." Mk 6:53

December 2009 - January 2010

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Miracles do happen. It was a Saturday morning on the GFC mobile unit. Along with the usual clients that often come to the Roberts Park Church location, a new middle age man registered. He said that he was recently released from the state penitentiary where he had been treated for severe hypertension. He was released with some medicine, but it did not last long. Off his medications now for a week, his blood pressure was dangerously high. The GFC mobile unit pharmacy had all but one of his medications. The GFC doctor said that a patient's daughter recently gave him a box of unused sample medicines he had hastily put in his car trunk. Sure enough, it contained 3 months of the needed medication.

GFC Seeing New Patient Population During Recession

In 1995 when I started my work at Gennesaret Free Clinics, our patient population was largely the homeless as the most of our clinics were located in homeless shelters. Over time, the volunteers and staff of GFC are seeing people who would be categorized as the working poor – people who work in low paying jobs without health benefits.

As a result of the economic downturn patient visits at the GFC Wellness Clinic are up by 600 compared to the same time period one year ago. The staff at the GFC Wellness Clinic is seeing a new patient - the formerly middle class. Our new patients have been employed with health benefits and as a result of our economic woes are no longer employed and as a result have lost their health benefits and cannot afford to pay for healthcare out of pocket. Many of our new patients are age 50 and over. Our new patient is often frustrated as they do not

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GFC Undertakes Cost Savings Measures

In an effort to make our services at GFC more efficient and streamlined, the Health committee of GFC began an evaluation of our medicine formulary. Under the leadership of Jeanne VanTyle, Pharm D., once a proposed list has been compiled it will be sent to GFC physicians and pharmacists for review and input, and then implementation.

On an annual basis, GFC volunteer clinics dispense approximately 18,000 prescriptions at a cost of about \$40,000. As part of this analysis, we discovered that in the last year we discarded only 0.008% of

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GFC Mobile Unit leaves the Methodist South Campus Garage on a snowy morning to serve the uninsured.

Cold Weather Stresses Uninsured

The elements of an Indiana winter weaken the health of GFC patients. Because of increased exposure to cold, we treat many

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We gratefully accept these recent donations (From September to December 09). We are especially grateful for those contributions which have meant a sacrifice (regardless of the amount of the donation).

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by his mother
Our parents by Charles & Joan Webb, Jr.
Dr. Ryland Roesch by Nancy Roesch
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IN HONOR OF

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The Kenneth Knowles Family by Patty Miller
Dr. & Mrs. Kent Millard by Mike & Patty Miller
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Our 20th Wedding Anniversary by Drs. Bradley Weinberg & Betty Routledge
Stephen & Phyllis West by Diana Hunter

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Dr. Linda Kim
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David Wilcox

News... News...

Inhalers

Many clients benefit from asthma rescue inhalers that GFC provides free of charge. The albuterol inhalers cost GFC about \$15. Unfortunately, the inhalers have a "street value" that some GFC clients may abuse. The inhalers help enhance a crack cocaine high. Recently, it has been shown that 1 in 4 teens use their inhaler to get high. Please dispense the inhalers carefully and judiciously.

Staff Updates

GFC wishes Neda Davaloo well as she leaves after years as our dental assistant. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Dan McDonough, MSW as he recovers from illness.

Save the date

Wednesday evening February 3 will be the Annual GFC Meeting. This years event will focus on health care reform and GFC.

Needed Now

New white socks,
Stocking knit hats,
Winter gloves, all sizes, Cape 30 x 21
White F/B Open, 18"
Table paper 10 cases,
Welch-Allen probe covers WA/05031-101 - 12 boxes
And of course...
volunteer dentists,
physicians, nurses,
pharmacists, clerks,
and drivers are always needed at GFC.

Welcome to our newest Volunteers!

New Volunteers please call 639-5645 for an orientation session.

Tiffany Creedon

Courtney Hedrick, Pharm. D.

Nicholas Hochstedler

Jaala Hughes, R.N.

Dominique Leveque, N.P.

Christina McCarthy, N.P.

Adam Miller



GFC volunteers of the year 2009 (from left to right) Dr. Dawn Zimmer, Dr David Wolf, Becky Lomax-Summer, Jennifer Gillespie Pharm D., and Michael Ryan, at Editions Limited for the Volunteer Appreciation Event. Deborah Burkhard, RN was absent for this photo.

(New Patients—Continued from page 1)
understand the “social system network” of agencies and how services work. Many of our new patients have expressed gratitude for Gennesaret’s Wellness Clinic as this clinic functions more like a doctor’s office and is a place where they feel comfortable accessing care and can do so without shame or embarrassment due to an inability to pay.

The healthcare services offered by Gennesaret Free Clinic would not be possible without support from individual donors, foundations, corporations and fundraising events. – Thank you so very much! Rebecca Seifert—Executive Director

(Cost savings—Continued from page 1)
purchased medications that expired before dispensing. Thanks to our vigilant staff, we are making the best possible use of resources.

If you have suggestions or thoughts on ways to improve our GFC services, email or call our offices at 639-5645.

Year End Gifts Support GFC Through Year

Some give socks, others collect pennies while still others gather toiletries from past hotel stays to give to GFC this time of year. We depend on the generosity of the community for financial and material support never more than now in difficult financial times. Please consider a monetary gift. If that is not possible, perhaps your church youth group could raise funds and get some exercise during this years Homeward Bound Walk in April 2010. We appreciate whatever you can do to help GFC and our uninsured patients.

(Cold-Continued from page 1)
more respiratory illness during the next few months. GFC offers walk in appointments at 7 weekly sites and 2 appointment only sites. We expect to be extra busy in the next few months seeing upper and lower respiratory infections as well as cold related dermal problems (frost bite, chilblain, trench foot, and infections secondary to poor hygiene).

GFC also participates in the city wide “Homeless Connect” program that provides preventive services such as immunizations, health screenings and education. Also employment counseling, housing services and other aids are available.

Reflection Reflection

Prayer of Gratitude

O God, when I have food, help me to
Remember the hungry;

When I have work, help me to
Remember the jobless;

When I have a home, help me to
Remember those who have no home at all;

When I am without pain, help me to
Remember those who suffer,

And remembering, help me to
Destroy my complacency;

Bestir my compassion, and be
Concerned enough to help;

By word and deed, those who cry
Out for what we take for granted.

Samuel F. Pugh

615 North Alabama St., GF, Suite B
Indianapolis, IN 46204-1414



Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

Gennesaret Free Clinic
615 North Alabama St., GF, Suite B
Indianapolis, IN 46204-1414

Phone: (317) 639-5645
FAX: (317) 639-5609
email: rseifert@gennesaret.org

www.gennesaret.org

Our Mission

We

are health care professionals and other concerned individuals, who have heard a calling to offer our talents and training to the homeless and indigent in Indianapolis.

Through our efforts, we endeavor to provide competent, accessible, and compassionate health care to the needy.

Our faith moves us to show special respect and dignity to those who are disenfranchised; for we realize that it is in such a healing encounter that we are all made more whole by

God.

The Staff

Rebecca A. Seifert, MSW, Executive Director
Susan Berger, RDH, Dental Hygienist
Neda Davaloo, Dental Assistant
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John Long, HRP Operations Manager
Letitia Lynch, PA, HRP Director
Daniel McDonough, MSW, HRP Case Manager
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Tiffany Robinson, Practice Administrator
Pauline Small, HRP Assistant
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Brenda Warren, Exec. Asst./Volunteer Coordinator

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