

# *GENNESARET FREE CLINIC*

Volunteer Medical Services for the Homeless

"And all those who touched Him were healed." Mark 6:56

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## Conference on "Health Care for the Homeless and Poor" set for 9/14.

GFC will present the first regional Midwest conference on medical issues for the indigent. The enclosed brochure provides information on this exciting day of learning, controversy, and challenge. Many authorities in the field will be speaking and leading discussions. Physicians, nurses, administrators, and interested persons from around the State and the Midwest will be attending; this will be a perfect opportunity to share experiences and pick-up new ideas in our care of the homeless and indigent.

In that GFC is presenting this conference as host organization, a good showing from our members is essential. We will need members to staff our GFC display booth and to help with the arrangements. We will need a few GFC members to offer their homes to those who may not be able to afford hotel rooms. Most importantly, GFC members could help all of our out of town guests feel welcome and encourage others in their programs. If successful, we will try to have a national conference next year.

Please register early, space is limited. This conference is for all GFC members! Please make plans to attend on Saturday, September 14.

GFC Annual Picnic to be Saturday, August 10th.

Every year GFC members take time out from their schedules of work and volunteering to have a little fun. And every year the picnic gets better! This year our GFC Board of Directors Committee has out-done themselves. The party will be pool-side at the Gregori's with water and outdoor games for all the young at heart. The adult prizes are SPECTACULAR! Gift certificates, dinner certificates, jewelry, and (believe it or not) an all expense paid trip to Disney World for 2! But you need to register to win. Please call The Gregori's at 872-6155 to RSVP. You need not be present to win, but it would be a better party if you could come.

GFC Number is now 262-5645

GFC has made arrangements to have a dedicated phone line through the Indianapolis Medical Society. The line will be handled through day time hours and by answering machine at night. A GFC member will be on call at all hours for emergencies and can be reached through the Medical Society Exchange at 926-3466. Our GFC number will be listed in the new directory this fall. This new number will ease the burden that a few volunteers have carried. Volunteers to staff the GFC office are to call (what else) 262-5645.

Did you know?

+ GFC will be moving our medicine supply room to an improved location? Final negotiations are underway for our new site. Details to follow.

+ Holy Family Shelter is the most popular homeless shelter (with GFC volunteers). In fact, we have too many physician and nurse volunteers in that GFC clinic rotation. If you wish to apply your talents in clinics that are short of physicians and nurses please call Nancy Gregori at 372-6155.

+ Nancy Gregori is hosting our pool party, scheduling volunteers, and helps stuff these newsletter envelopes too. Could someone else help stuff future newsletter envelopes? Let's give some assistance to a dedicated GFC worker.

+ Dr. Steve Pfeiffer will bring the GFC mobile unit to the Holy Cross Church Food Pantry (the city's largest) every Tuesday afternoon. The St. Vincent Internal Medicine program will assist Dr. Pfeiffer also. We need nurses who can help during these afternoon sessions where between 200 and 400 persons are served by the pantry. Please contact Dr. Pfeiffer at 842-7928 if you can help. This makes the sixteenth weekly health care session provided by GFC.

+ The next GFC Board of Directors meeting will be August 28 at 7:00 pm at the Indianapolis Medical Society. Our new office and computer system will be shown at that time.

+ Volunteer Lori Wyman has been trying to enter our log sheets into the data base program created especially for GFC by Barbara Healy. Unfortunately, GFC

doctors and nurses well known for compassionate and competent health care are not always so good at filling out our simple log sheets. In order to document what we are doing and project what we will be doing, the log sheets need to be completed more carefully. Thanks.

+ A well kept young man with a fractured ankle was seen on the GFC mobile unit. When asked his address, he answered without hesitation, "Here." It took a moment to realize that meant the street. Ponder for a moment what it must be like for every street to be your address, but not to have a real home.

+ Several GFC members find it in their hearts to pray for GFC and those we serve. Please include the homeless and poor you have treated or will treat in your prayers. And please remember GFC and our attempts to be there as a healing presence.

## Reflection

Impart as much as you can of your spiritual being to those who are on the road with you, and accept as something precious what comes back to you from them.

*Memories of Childhood and Youth.* Albert Schweitzer. Macmillan, New York, 1931 p. 92.