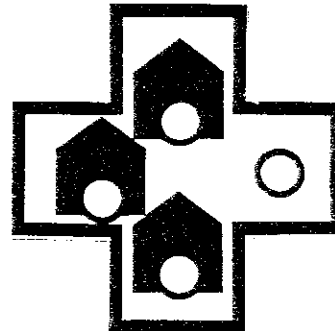


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## GENNESARET FREE CLINIC NEWS



### Volunteer Health Care for the Homeless and Poor

Clinics at Dayspring Center, Care Center, Lighthouse Mission, Salvations Army Adult Rehab., Holy Family Shelter, Mt. Olive Crisis Center, and Mobile Unit. Office at 631 E. N. Y., Indpls, IN 46202; (317) 262-5645

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February - March, 1992

"... And all those who touched Him were healed." Mark 6:58

Vol.5, No. 2

### Indiana Gives Campaign Kick-Off

With our 1992 Annual GFC meeting, we began our Indiana Gives Campaign in conjunction with the Indiana Donors Alliance. You may have noticed the gold seal on your invitation to the Annual meeting that states **Indiana Gives!** This was to honor our volunteers and donors for their outstanding gifts. The program is designed to encourage our active and vital volunteer health care professionals. The hours and talent given by some of Indiana's finest doctors, nurses, dentists, podiatrists, and ancillary personnel is our strongest asset. The campaign is intended to encourage new volunteers to enlist and to show how much we value our present volunteers. The Campaign is in keeping with AMA proposals for volunteering.

The Indiana Gives Campaign notes how we "Make a difference." Indeed, at our Annual Meeting we projected that to deliver GFC services at the standard fee rate would take approximately \$1.3 million per year. We at GFC give to the poor of Indianapolis, but are made richer in return through the intangibles of satisfaction of a job well done, helping another in a time of need, and serving our Lord.

The Campaign also serves to challenge us. It is true that few reach the lofty goals of 5 hours of time or 5% of our income donated to those causes we care about. However, the campaign asks us to "imagine." Although 5 hours and 5% of income seem small amounts for some of our basic needs or even pleasures, we all feel uncomfortable by the sacrifice this demands. But if GFC has done so much with the gifts to date, think of how much more could be done to serve the needy.

Especially the thought of money gifts hits close to home. But we have all been blessed with some excess funds. And some of us have an abundance of blessings. Does this campaign ask for the struggling household to forgo basic necessities in order to reach 5% of income donated to charities? This is clearly not the spirit of this campaign. Will those with an abundance of time or money be inspired to give even more than "5%" Time will tell.

If you are up for the challenge, please help GFC with your gifts of additional time. Consider helping out by serving on a Board of Directors committee, volunteering additional sessions, enlisting additional volunteers, or collecting medicines and supplies.

We request everyone to take part in contributing to your clinic. We wish to thank GFC donors by listing all donors over \$5 in our newsletter. Those giving \$50 or more will be offered a cloisonne pins featuring the Indiana Gives "pie slice." Those donating \$500 or more will receive a quartz desk clock with the GFC logo and Indiana Gives slogan. These fine gifts are a token of our thanks for taking "ownership" in GFC.

Look for our public service message about the Indiana Gives Campaign in your up-coming issues of the Indianapolis Medical Society Bulletin.

As part of the GFC Indiana Gives Campaign accept our thanks for your outstanding participation and please be open to extending your commitment as well.

### Mission Statement of GFC

We are health professionals of Indianapolis who have heard a calling to offer our talents and training to the homeless and indigent. Through our volunteer effort, 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 have been neglected; for we realize that it is in such a healing encounter that we are all made more whole by God.

### GFC Administrative Office Opens

At last, our GFC Headquarters is open and ready for business. The computer is working, the files are in place, and our new Administrative Assistant has begun. Linda Schnellinger will serve as our Administrative Assistant; she will be present during business hours to answer your telephone requests, to contact members, and to assist administrative efforts to improve health care for the most underserved.

Shortly, she will be contacting the entire membership to survey your needs, to introduce herself, and explain how she might help you. Please assist her in getting started and off on the right foot.

Very importantly, Linda will be doing the scheduling for the different shelter based sessions. Please contact the GFC office from this time forward concerning any scheduling. This will allow some of previous volunteer scheduling persons to begin new tasks to strengthen our service to the poor. Therefore, please do not contact volunteers with scheduling problems, but call 262-5645.

Our GFC Administrative Office will be the triage center for telephone messages. Your day time needs will be handled as soon as possible. Your evening and weekend calls will be recorded and acted upon the next business morning. Our GFC Administrative Assistant, Linda Schnellinger, will get to your messages more rapidly and thoroughly than our previous decentralized system.

Thanks for everyone's patience during this long wait. People have in some ways felt a lack of support due to volunteer administrators being stretched too thin. We hope you will appreciate the improvement.

## Medical Matters

Urethritis caused by *Chlamydia trachomatis* or *Ureaplasma urealyticum* cannot be distinguished clinically, but either a tetracycline or an erythromycin is usually effective against both. Ofloxacin (*Floxin*) is an additional alternative. Mucopurulent cervicitis caused by *C. trachomatis* usually responds to the same drug used to treat urethritis. A single dose of azithromycin (*Zithromax*), a macrolide antibiotic recently approved for marketing in the USA, has been as effective as seven days of doxycycline (*Vibramycin*, and others) against uncomplicated genital chlamydial infection.

Doxycycline, other tetracyclines, and ofloxacin are contraindicated in pregnancy. An erythromycin usually is effective, but erythromycin estolate is also contraindicated in pregnancy. *The Medical Letter*, 12/27/91.

## Your Local Clinic News

+The Care Center - Sandy wants to remind everyone that the keys to the medicine cabinets are in the top left drawer of desk. Hopefully, a dental hygienist will start soon with the second dental chair installation.

+Dayspring Center - A new ophthalmoscope/otoscope is loosely mounted between the medicine cabinet and the first exam table. The medical records are kept in the file cabinet at the left end of the main desk.

+Mobile Unit - Remember to turn off the cellular telephone before stopping the engine. The phone will drain the battery over the week. The engine can be started off the auxiliary battery using the rocker switch at the left of the dash board if the main battery is dead.

**Do you have some news about your clinic?** Please call 262-5645 to get it in the newsletter.

## Contributors

Since our last newsletter contributors to GFC have been the following: Indianapolis Power and Light, Central Stainless Steel, Junior League, Michael Coscia, M.D., Frank Iacona, Donna O'Donnell, Phil Price, Patti Fralich, Nancy Gregori, Alfred Plant, Indiana Society of Association Executives, Joy Newby and Assoc.

## GFC News Items

The 1992 GFC Annual Meeting was held at the Allison Mansion on February 5. More than 100 GFC volunteers heard Mayor Stephen Goldsmith. He used glowing terms to describe the service that GFC provides the city's most needy. Thanks to all who made the evening a memorable event.

437 persons were served by the 1991 Shelter Health Fair in December. This almost 100 more than the year before. Many received free eyeglasses thanks to the work of Dr. Matt Vega, the Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis, Vision Values, and volunteering optometrists.

The Institute of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved focuses attention on health care and underserved populations by bringing together health professionals, disseminating critical information, and serving as a focal point for research news. The institute publishes the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, a scholarly quarterly with papers, and reviews, and communications (\$35 per year). Contact the The Institute on Health Care for the Poor and Underserved, Meharry Medical College, 1005 D.B. Todd Blvd., Nashville, TN 37208 (800-669-1269 or 615-327-6279). This journal is on file at the GFC office.

Christian Community Health Fellowship (CCHF) calls Christian health professionals to make a commitment to work with the poor. CCHF educates such professionals as to the difference between medical care and health care, the need for cultural sensitivity, the importance of community participation in planning a health ministry, and the imperative for empowerment. Membership in CCHF is \$20 per year (\$15 for students). Each member will receive *Health and Development*, the quarterly publication. To join, send address and fee to CCHF, Box 12548, Philadelphia, PA 1951-0548.

Richard Craig, Director at Lighthouse Mission and President of the Homeless Network, presented GFC with awards for the past year of service. He also noted that the client resuscitated at Lighthouse Mission in January, 1991 by GFC volunteers Dr. Robert Weller and Linda Watkins, R.N. lived to leave the hospital and eventually return to his freed homeland of Lithuania.

## Reflection

(used to close the 1992 GFC Annual Meeting)

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
opening the eyes of the blind.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
clothing the naked.

Blessed are you Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
setting captives free.

Blessed are you Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
guiding our footsteps.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
taking the sleep from my eyes and the slumber from my eyelids.

Hear, O Israel: the Lord is our God, the Lord is One.  
Blessed is his Glorious kingdom forever and ever.