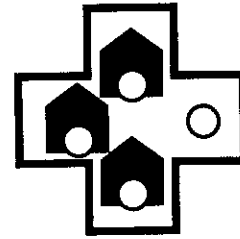


GENNESARET FREE CLINIC NEWS



Volunteer Health Care for the Homeless and Poor

Clinics at Dayspring Center, Care Center, Lighthouse Mission, Salvation Army Adult Rehab, Holy Family Shelter, Allison Christian Community Center, and Mobile Unit. Office at Indpls Medical Society, 631 E. New York Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46202 (317) 262-5645

September, 1993

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

Vol. 6 No. 6

Art Gala featuring works of the Poor to precede HCHP Conference

Do you like photography, poetry, visual arts, gospel music, or drama? These art forms and others will be represented in what is sure to be one of the most talked about art events of the year. The evening prior to this years Health Care for the Homeless and Poor Conference, an **art gala and reception will feature works of those in poverty.**

On Friday evening, September 17, 1993 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Indiana State Government Center this event will welcome conference attendees and as well as interested local persons in the art of the poor. A reception with a **light buffet** and drink will be offered.

It is not too late to register for the Health Care for the Homeless and Poor Conference. This year more topics will be covered with national speakers, diverse topics, and professional continuing medical educational credits. Last year **Philip Brickner** the director of the Robert Wood Johnson national Health Care for the Homeless programs called the conference **"first rate and the people you drew together represent excellently the best our country has to offer."** This Saturday conference will be an opportunity to learn, share with colleagues, and to rejuvenate your volunteering spirit.

These events are opened to health professionals and the general public. The conference and art gala will compliment each other nicely. Even if you cannot make the Health Care for the Homeless and Poor Conference, please try to **support the poor who seek to express themselves through art.**

GFC opens new Clinic at Allison Christian Community Center

On August 21, clients on the Northside of Indianapolis were welcomed to the newest GFC facility. Through the diligent work of

parishioners of **Tabernacle Presbyterian Church** this multi-service center has come into being. Many GFC volunteers who are active members of the "Tab" congregation including **Helen Phillips, R.N., Dr. Robert Weller, Sharon Marshall, Terri Connard, Denise Ayer, Dr. Lewis Smith, Mr. and Dr. Sue Pankratz, Nancy Russell** and many others wished to bring health services to the neighborhood of 34th and Central. These health services will reach out to those living in the neighborhood who are not necessarily homeless but cannot afford medical care.

The facility includes **2 exam rooms, a consultation room, medication-storage room, waiting room and secretary/receptionist area.** Also a dental suite is available for future expansion. The rest of the building is used for counseling, community service, food pantry, and church activities.

Health services on **Saturday from 10-12 am** include **adult and child medical services, on-site pharmacist, on-site social worker, and referral** to area physicians/services .

All are welcome at this **walk-in clinic** where patients can be referred for medication/supplies or medical services they cannot afford. Every attempt will be made to **place insured patients with nearby physicians.** Those physicians in the Midwest Medical Center area are invited to refer patients who are unable to afford medications they prescribe to receive free medications at the GFC Allison Christian Community Center.

If you are **interested in volunteering** (or know someone who is) at this new Saturday morning clinic, call Linda Schnellinger (262-5645) at the GFC offices for information and scheduling.

Congratulations to the "Tab" members for getting another GFC underway.



GFC seeks Social Work program

Wouldn't it be nice to have a social worker present to help direct your GFC patient to a nearby alcohol and drug rehab program or to help a client to obtain food stamps? These and many more services are sought for GFC through a **MSW preceptorship program from IUPUI**. The very accomplished students of the MSW program may be available to GFC sessions **up to 20 hours per week** through this program. This would very much augment the effectiveness of GFC services.

In order to have this program, a licensed **MSW preceptor is needed** to review work for 1 hour per week with the student. Therefore, we are seeking a MSW who would be willing to supervise a maximum of 2 students. This commitment of 1 hour per week by an MSW would translate into 20 hours of service to GFC. Please call GFC at 262-5645 to offer your help for this vital service.

Education services for GFC clients

Informal small group sessions on topics such as **AIDS prevention, family health, and instruction of children in safety matters** will be organized for GFC clients at male and family shelters. An informational meeting will be September 10th. Call 262-5645 if you wish to participate and attend this meeting.

Reminder to GFC Drivers

Several trouble spots have occurred with the mobile unit operation recently. Just leaving the cellular phone on for several days will completely deplete the starter battery requiring a jump start. Sometimes the battery has had to be replaced. Please remember to **turn off the phone, every single light, the air-conditioning, and the generator** after each mobile session. Also remember that a sharp turn out of the garage will scrape the backend against the dock.

News. . . News. . . News. . .

■ **Thanks to all GFC volunteers** for good attendance at medical sessions during the summer months. Traditionally, these have been difficult times to volunteer, but this year went better than most.

■ Notice in the clinics that new equipment is present to help improve our medical services. **Urine dipsticks, protective eye-glasses, empty**

prescription vials, and flash lights have been delivered and will be distributed shortly.

■ Did you know what it takes to get current date medications to your GFC location?

Medicine samples are picked up by **Indianapolis Medical Society Alliance** members after a call comes to GFC offices. These bulk contributions are taken to the GFC medical warehouse where **Butler pharmacy students** or dedicated volunteers like the **O'Donnells, Patti Fralick, and Karen DeCourcy** sort the medicines (sending outdated ones to St. Francis missions). Shelter captains then take supplies to stock the GFC sites.

■ Thanks to dedicated night nurses like **Chris Kessler, R. N. of the V.A. and Eva Benoit, R. N. of St Vincents** for staffing the GFC mobile unit the mornings after their shifts.

■ Please use the enclosed article from the *Criterion* to **interest your dentist into becoming a GFC volunteer** like you. Dentists are needed badly.

■ Missing something at a GFC site? **Call the GFC answering machine at 262-5645** while you are right there at the clinic or the mobile unit!

Reflection

We have to remember that work is not prayer. It is at best an extension of prayer. We fool ourselves if we argue that we don't have to pray because we work so hard or our work is so good. Those who work without prayer- no matter how good the work, no matter how sincere the minister- soon dry up inside. They have nothing left to give. Or, the work fails and they have no faith to sustain them, no perspective to encourage them. More important, real prayer makes us more effective people because real prayer changes us. Prayer delivers us from our own internal oppressions, the burdens we put on ourselves, the bitterness we carry, because it enables the inbreaking of God in our lives.

- Joan Chittister in *The Fire of Peace: a prayer book*. Printing Concepts, Erie, Pa. 1992

Please pray for Gennesaret and the people we serve.

