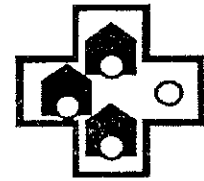

❖ **GENNESARET FREE CLINIC** ❖
NEWS



Volume 7 Issue 3 "And all those who touched Him were healed." Mark 6:58 May 1994

◆ **Womens' Health**

Mammograms for Mothers' Day

A simple X-ray can detect a lump nearly two years before you can actually feel it. Early detection and treatment can save both a woman's breast and her life. The American Cancer Society will provide free mammograms through May 14 to the indigent. The women treated by GFC providers are eligible to receive these valuable studies.

GFC is known for providing crisis care and medications. Our preventive efforts have generally confined to the annual Shelter Health Fair. However, this service is so important to the women we treat all are encouraged to recall that this service is available and to request that your patients be screened.

Those eligible are asymptomatic women over 50, any woman with suspicious breast mass, and those over 35 with a strong family history or risk factors (late age of menarche, nulliparity, late age of first pregnancy, high alcohol intake, and obesity).

To obtain a mammogram for your patient, please call 262-5645 and leave details for your patient. This phone number is posted by all GFC phones.



*Volunteer Health Care for
the Poor and Homeless*

GFC Mission Statement

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 made
more whole by
God.

◆ **Health Education**

GFC Van at Black Expo

The nation's largest minority health fair takes place in Indianapolis and GFC will be there. Black Expo proudly includes all facets of the African American experience and the health fair run by the Indiana State Department of Health is one of the major attractions. Drawing over 100,000 visitors, the fair is a major local and regional effort in health promotion and disease prevention. And the good news is that prevention is working. The shamefully high infant mortality in Indianapolis is improving; this is attributed to increased exposure of health related issues and services to our citizens.

Last year, our GFC van was inside the convention center as a station to distribute information and have blood pressure checks. This year we will bring our new mobile unit to the event. Hopes are for added information and health pamphlets and recruitment of volunteers from the fair goers.

We need volunteers to staff the fair from June 29 through July 3. Your participation will be one more step in increasing community awareness of the work of GFC and health concerns in general. Please call Linda at 262-5645 to sign up.



◆ GFC Services

Clinic News!

■ **No Shows** - Several GFC members have noted disappointment and inconvenience when they report for a GFC session only to find the doctor, nurse, or clerk not there. If you can't make it, please call the GFC office as soon as possible so that a replacement can be found. It is not a problem to miss a GFC session, after all we are volunteers and sometimes things come up. But please don't make it a bad experience for other volunteers by not phoning ahead.

It is easy to call ahead to arrange with the nurse, doctor, or clerk you are working with to plan your session. This is one more step to assure that your GFC volunteer time will be well spent.

■ **Log sheets** - Even if you never thought the log sheets were useful, please try to fill them out when you see GFC patients. We are presently trying to start some new programs to help the homeless and poor through grants. The log sheets are what we have to substantiate our services; we may not receive grants if our records cannot reflect the patients and treatments provided. **Please, dentists and all providers fill out the log sheets for each visit.**

■ **The Allison Christian Community Center** hosted **Dr. Louis Winterheimer** from Chicago's Lawndale Health Center to speak on "Community Health Care" and "Ebony and Ivory in Health Care." The conference was to inspire and encourage the community health care provided by GFC at the Allison Christian Community Center.

The Indianapolis Star featured the Allison Christian Community Center. "A lot of people can't afford medical care, and it's not accessible to them,"

said Pastor Jack Ramsey of the nearby Victory Center Church. And the numbers of persons at the Center are increasing.

■ **Sertoma Clubs** of Indianapolis honored GFC as Humanitarians of the Year for the Indianapolis district.

■ **Holy Family** has new shelving units in the medical room. There is much more storage room with them. However, **Marsha Busenitz, R. N.** notes that children seem attracted to them; watch that children do not get into them; we'll try to get some child-proof locks attached.

■ **Shelter Captains** have the responsibility to stock the medical facilities with the supplies and medications needed prior to each session. If you would like to provide this valuable service and are willing to stop by the GFC offices weekly, please call GFC at 262-5645 to submit your name.

■ **Eye glasses.** If your patient needs eye glasses, just call the GFC office to schedule a referral for testing and free eye glasses. This service extends through out the year as an extension of the Shelter Health Fair thanks to **St. Francis Hospital**.

■ **Dentists needed.** GFC and the homeless still need volunteer dentists. The dental needs of the homeless are significant. Our GFC dentists are some of this communities most highly regarded specialists. Thanks to **Dr. Latz and Dr. Stone** for all your help in organizing the GFC dental facilities and sessions.

■ **The GFC mobile unit** has been bringing health care to the indigent for 3 1/2 years. The services provided on the mobile unit are appreciated (especially the hygiene items). Please do not use the electrical items in the unit unless the generator is running. We have already depleted the auxiliary

battery. Thanks!

■ **Them Health Care for Homeless and Poor Conference** set for September 17 is planned with speakers that should make this years event even better than last year's. Two plenary speakers and numerous workshops include purely clinical topics, mental health topics, and administrative/social topics.

■ **The GFC Picnic** is an annual summer event. If you have any ideas for this summer fun activity to bring together GFC volunteers and their families - or wish to suggest a location or volunteer your place, call the GFC office.

■ **The GFC lapel pins** are seen on several loyal GFC supporters around town. If you wish to draw attention to your good example, just call the GFC office to get your own pin. Many ask about the distinctive design which offers a chance to spread the word about your clinic.

■ **Steve's story** was more articulate than most- and more harrowing. He worked part-time for the Washington Post but was not able to afford an apartment in our nations capitol with its pricey real estate. He didn't do drugs or alcohol and mostly kept to himself. And lived on the streets. There was enough money for food and little else.

He never bothered anybody and that is why he found it so hard to understand why any one would do this to him. He remembers vividly that night trying to stay warm sleeping in an automatic teller machine enclosure when he awoke screaming. Burning and on fire from someones hatred or wicked sense of humor. The fire went through 4 of his 7 layers of clothing leaving him with 2nd degree burns over his back and arms. But the psychologic scars are even deeper. And he is still trying to understand and cope.

Donors

Since our last newsletter we wish to thank the following generous donors to GFC. St Andrew Presbyterian Church, Yolanda Gregori, Nancy Gregori, and Patricia B. Roland.

Reflection

Walking down a deserted beach at sunset, he noted a child ahead in the distance. The child was leaning down, picking something up, and throwing it out into the water. Time and again, she was hurling things into the water.

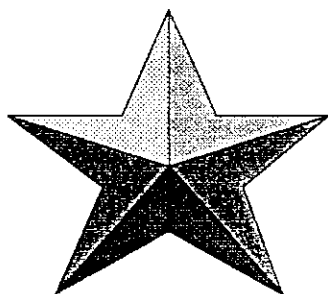
Upon approaching, it became apparent, that the girl was picking up the numerous starfish that had been washed on the beach. And one at a time throwing them back into the water.

"Say what are you doing?," he asked.

"I'm throwing these starfish back into the ocean. If I don't throw them back into the sea, they will die from lack of oxygen."

"I see," he said, "but there must be thousands of starfish on this beach. You can't possibly get to all of them. There are simply too many. And this must be happening on hundreds of beaches all up and down the coast. Can't you see that you can't possibly make a difference?"

The child smiled, bent down and picked up yet another starfish, and as she threw it back into the sea replied, "Made a difference to that one."



Here's a list of companies that provide medicine for the poor

■ Income often is a guideline to pick recipients

Orlando Sentinel

These companies provide medicine for the poor through patient assistance programs. Most require that patients meet certain income requirements. A few allow family incomes as high as \$35,000 to \$40,000 annually.

- Abbott Laboratories/Ross Laboratories, (202) 637-6889; (800) 922-3255
- Adria Laboratories Inc., (614) 764-8100
- Allergan Prescription Pharmaceuticals, (800) 347-4500, extension 6219
- Amgen Inc., (800) 272-9376
- Boehringer Ingelheim, (203) 798-4131
- Bristol-Myers Squibb, (800) 736-0003
- Burroughs-Wellcome, (919) 248-4418
- Ciba-Geigy, (908) 277-5849
- Genentech Inc., (800) 879-4747
- Glaxo Inc., (800) 452-9677
- Hoechst-Roussel, (800) 776-4563
- Hoffman-LaRoche Inc., (800) 526-6367
- ICI/Stuart, (302) 886-2231
- Immunex Corp., (206) 587-0430
- Johnson and Johnson (Ortho Biotechnology), (908) 704-5232
- Johnson and Johnson (Janssen Pharmaceuticals), (908) 524-9409
- Eli Lilly and Co., (317) 276-2950
- Marion Merrell Dow, (816) 966-4250
- Merck Sharp Dohme, (215) 540-8600
- Norwich-Eaton, (607) 335-2079
- Parke-Davis, (201) 540-2000
- Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, (800) 869-9979
- Sandoz Pharmaceuticals, (800) 937-6673
- Sanofi Winthrop, (212) 907-2000
- Schering-Plough, (800) 822-7000
- G.D. Searle and Co., (800) 542-2526
- Sigma-Tau, (800) 999-6673
- SmithKline Beecham (Program 1: all pharmaceuticals), (215) 751-5760
- SmithKline Beecham (Program 2: Eminase and Triostat), (800) 866-6273
- Syntex Laboratories, (800) 822-8255
- Upjohn Company, (616) 323-6004
- Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, (215) 971-5604