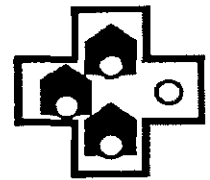




GENNESARET FREE CLINIC



NEWS

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

◆ GFC Fund Raising

Christmas Appeal

Last year the generosity of GFC donors at Christmas time was absolutely fabulous. **Almost 140 individuals and families remembered GFC through their holiday giving.** The gifts were both large and small; all were so very much appreciated.

Throughout 1994, we have used these gifts as responsibly as possible. The expenses for GFC include personnel and office expenses for our GFC secretary, medications and supplies purchased from wholesalers, mailings and communications, medical and dental equipment purchases, and telephone expenses. **Did you know that GFC pays no rent or leasing fees (at all!), no licensing fees, and no fund raising fees?** That means that a donation to GFC goes to providing service to the poor and homeless entirely. Our paid staff serve you the volunteers through scheduling, communications relay, and data base management. They serve the poor by organizing the logistics for testing and follow-up of patients.

Since we have continued functioning largely thanks to last years Christmas donations, **please consider GFC for your holiday giving** with the enclosed envelope. And thanks so much!



Volunteer Health Care for the Poor and Homeless

Shelter Health Fair Tee Shirt with Giving Message

All volunteers for this years Shelter Health Fair will receive a **long sleeved Tee shirt** that promotes the selfless giving of volunteers. The doctors, nurses, and clerks will wear their shirts the night of the fair for identification and as a sign of holiday cheer.

The front of the shirt will list all 11 Shelter Health Fair Sites inside of a wrapped present. Under the present the text reads, **"The greatest gift one can give is the gift of oneself. Shelter Health Fair, December 5th 1994."** The back of the shirt lists alphabetically the organizations participating in the shelter health fair. "Sponsored by St. Francis Hospital with the help of: American Lung Association, American Medical Student Association, American Red Cross, Gennesaret Free Clinic, Indiana School of Nursing, Indianapolis Medical Association, Marion County Health Department, People's Homeless Initiative, University of Indianapolis School of Nursing, Vision Care, and Wishard Memorial Hospital. "

We hope that volunteers will wear their shirts proudly this holiday season to bring a giving message.



◆ Preventive Medicine

1994 Shelter Health Fair On

Once again GFC volunteers have come through. At the time this is being written, final preparations are underway for this years Shelter Health Fair. Our **training session** will be held at the Meridian Methodist Church at 56th and Meridian St. in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30pm on Monday November 28. At that time the more than 35 GFC volunteers will receive their instructions on doing blood pressure screening, immunizations, TB screening, HIV education and testing, and vision screening. Also arrangements for free eyeglasses, skin cancer screening, and dental screening have been completed. As an incentive to participate in the fair, each client will receive a pair of gloves, a hat, and a scarf.

This years Shelter Health Fair is again sponsored by **St. Francis Hospital**. Their continued generosity allows for the purchase of over 500 gloves, hats, and scarfs, about 100 pairs of eye glasses, and some of the incidental expenses associated with the program. **The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis** will support that portion of the fair associated with HIV testing and education.



◆ News at GFC

You're Somebody Special

The Parisian store in the Fashion Mall announced that GFC was one of three recipients of their first "You're Somebody Special" award. Over 150 not-for-profit agencies were entered for this first ever award. Our thanks to Duane and Jewell Etienne for entering GFC. Although GFC did not win the first prize and the money award, we should be proud that our organization was thought of so highly. Come see the award plaque in our GFC office.

Volunteers in Medicine in Indy

Dr. Jack McConnell of the Hilton Head, S.C. Volunteers in Medicine Clinic spoke at Methodist Hospital to a group of physicians interested in charitable care. The VIM clinic has organized retired physicians to provide free care to the indigent of the South Carolina coastal area and the dynamic chairman, Dr. McConnell promotes volunteering ceaselessly. He is encouraging a group of retired physicians to volunteer through the Methodist Health Net organization. Retired physicians have been hampered from volunteering because Indiana does not have provisions for volunteer physicians to forego malpractice protection.

Christmas Gifts for GFC Van Patients

Plans were announced by van driver Dee Janik to provide clients coming to the GFC

mobile unit a small Christmas gift just prior to the holiday. What a wonderful idea for those who were called His favorites.

This year with Christmas and New Years occurring on the weekend our GFC schedule will be significantly disrupted. **If you or your family would like to volunteer on the morning of Christmas Eve or New Years Eve** in shelters or the mobile unit please call the GFC office. We will also send out the GFC mobile unit on Christmas day to the Cathedral Kitchen if anyone wishes to offer this service.

95 Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the GFC Annual Meeting for 1995. It will be held on Wednesday evening February 8th. More details to follow.

Medical Matters**T**uberculosis 10 Basics

1. Think TB! Consider the diagnosis of active TB in any patient with a chronic cough and fever.
2. Report suspected or confirmed cases of active TB and TB reactors to the Marion County Health Department.
3. Always take a careful TB treatment history. Obtain drug susceptibility studies of all initial TB isolates.
4. Strong consideration should be given to beginning all patients with active disease on at least four anti-TB drugs.
5. Ongoing care is a complex art. Evaluate the patient thoroughly at the first visit; monitor at least monthly thereafter.

6. Focus on complete treatment of all patients with active TB.
7. Never treat MDR-TB without expert consultation.
8. Isolate hospitalized patients as soon as active TB disease is suspected or confirmed.
9. Give preventive therapy when appropriate.
10. Preventive therapy for contacts of MDR-TB is complicated. Consult the experts!

New GFC Volunteers

We welcome our newest GFC volunteers. They are listed below:

Marianne Downey, clerk
Jan Hensley, R.N.
Rita Hensley, clerk
Julie Simmons, R.N.
Kelly Hart, R.N.
Clare Burns, R.N.
Stacia Ward, clerk
Janet Guntz, clerk
Mary Ann Wyand, clerk
Janet Meunier, clerk

GFC Donors

GFC wishes to thank our donors since our last newsletter.

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Harger, Dr. & Mrs. James Trippi, St. Joseph Youth Group, Inland Container Corp. Foundation, Col. & Mrs. Julius Culpepper, Dr. John Schutzman.



Referral Specialists

Several persons have asked to be updated on the current list of specialists who will receive GFC patients on referral. If you wish to have your patient seen by these fine referral physicians, please call the GFC office at 262-5645 and leave the details on the answering machine for the contact to be made. Our GFC specialists are listed below:

Robert Alonzo, M.D. Neurology
 Claire Bernardin, M.D. OB-GYN
 William Chapman, M.D. Urology
 Frank Countyman, M.D. Psychiatry
 Cathy Deasy, M.D. OB-GYN
 Scott Deasy, M.D. OB-GYN
 David Denny, M.D. Ophthalmology
 Evan Farmer, M.D. Dermatology
 Mark Frost, M.D. Dermatology
 Mason Goodman, M.D. Pulmonary Dis.
 Antoinette Hood, M.D. Dermatology
 Jack Jaffe, O.D. Optometry
 Thomas McSoley, M.D. Otolaryngology
 Charles Rehn, M.D. Neurology
 Keeter Sechrist, M.D. Dermatology
 Harry Siderys, M.D. Cardiovascular
 John White, M.D. Othopedic Surgery

alleviate the suffering of those who are in pain. There is obviously nothing wrong with that desire. It is a noble and grace-filled desire. But unless I realize that God's blessing is coming to me from those I want to serve, my help will be short-lived, and soon I will be "burned-out."

How is it possible to keep caring for the poor when the poor only get poorer? How is it possible to keep nursing the sick when they are not getting better? How can I keep consoling the dying when their deaths only bring me more grief? The answer is that they all hold a blessing for me, a blessing that I need to receive. Ministry is first of all, receiving God's blessing from those to whom we minister. What is this blessing? It is a glimpse of the face of God. Seeing God is what heaven is all about! We can see God in the face of Jesus, and we can see the face of Jesus in all those who need our care.

Once I asked Jean Vanier, "How do you find the strength to see so many people each day and listen to their many problems and pains?" He gently smiled and said: "They show me Jesus and give me life." Here lies the great mystery of Christian service. Those who serve Jesus in the poor will be fed by him whom they serve: "He will put on an apron, set them down at table and wait on them" (Luke 12:37).

We so much need a blessing. The poor are waiting to bless us.

from *Here and Now* by Henri Nouwen,
 p. 82-83, Crossroads, 1994.

Reflections



Jean Vanier, the Canadian who founded a worldwide network of communities for mentally disabled people, has remarked more than once that Jesus did not say: "Blessed are those who care for the poor," but "Blessed are the poor." Simple as this remark may seem, it offers the key to the kingdom.

I want to help. I want to do something for people in need. I want to offer consolation to those who are in grief and