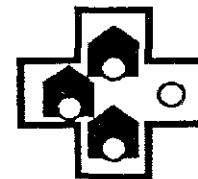


GENNESARET FREE CLINIC

NEWS



Volume 8 Issue 2 "And all those who touched Him were healed." Mark 6:58 May-June, 1995

◆ Fund Raiser

Second Annual GFC-Carpenter Golf Tournament

The Indianapolis offices of Carpenter's Better Homes and Garden Realty will once again organize and direct the extremely successful GFC-Carpenter Golf Tournament. Through the hard work of **Thomas Prahm and John Wolfe** and their staffs of Carpenter BHG Realty, this idea has come off the drawing board and become the most valuable and sustaining support for GFC.

This year there will be **TWO** tournaments to engage golfers. The first will be held **June 23th at the Saddlebrook Golf Course**. The second will be **August 24th at the Royal Oak Country Club**. Both events will include lunch and dinner, golf range practice, shirt, accessories, cart, prizes, and round of golf. These festive matches are open to golfers of all abilities; all get to help their team by playing the best stroke of your foursome.

Last year a few GFC volunteers participated and won lavish prizes as well as being very competitive. This year we need even more GFC supporters for this event. If you can organize a foursome that would be great. Can you convince your firm or practice to be a sponsor? We need your sponsorship to make this event a smashing success again this year!

◆ Volunteer Health Care for the Poor and Homeless

GFC Focus Sessions

Have you thought there might be a better way to run your GFC session? Wondered who are the other nurses on the schedule?

Take advantage of the GFC Focus sessions to be held this May and June. Each clinic and locality that GFC volunteers staff will have a separate meeting. All the volunteers who staff a particular shelter will gather for a light supper, conversation, and the opportunity to meet other GFC volunteers. There will be ample time to discuss the particular needs of your location and how GFC can do a better job serving the health needs of the poor and homeless.

Meetings will be the following days:

Sat. mobile (Flag Park)	Mon 5/15
Lighthouse	Mon 5/22
Sun. mobile (Cath. Kit)	Wed 5/24
Sal. Army	Wed 5/31
Allison Center	Wed 6/7
Care Center/ GoodNews	Wed 6/14
Dayspring	Mon 6/26
Holy Family	Wed 6/28

All meetings will be at the NEW GFC Administrative Offices at 631 E. New York - In the Indianapolis Medical Society Building. Come see the new place; please RSVP at 262-5645.

◆ GFC Statistics

Log Sheet Results - 1994

We all need some good feed-back at times. The results of our volunteers hard work cannot be put into numbers. The intangible caring and healing graces that take place cannot be put into a formula. Yet numbers do give an idea as to the scope of the goodness brought about by GFC volunteers.

The only accounting of GFC visits comes through the log sheets that are to be filled out for each encounter. To the extent that is achieved, our numbers are accurate. At least 2 shelters did not register visits for 4 months in a row probably indicating that they were out of blank log sheets. Dental visits are not logged either.

A total of 4189 (2318 male, 871 female) visits were recorded in 1994. The most frequent age groupings were 30-50 years, 50-60 years, and children. Only 5% were over 70 years. The most common ailments were respiratory, hypertension, orthopedic-rheumatology, dermatology, and gastro-intestinal. The most common medications dispensed were antibiotics, respiratory medications, anti-inflammatories, dermatologic, anti-hypertensives, and cold medications. The busiest GFC locations were Lighthouse Mission, Veterans Park, Cathedral Kitchen, Salvation Army, Care Center, Good News Center, Allison Center, Holy Family Shelter, and Dayspring Center.

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

◆ News

Indpls. Foundation Grants to GFC

In an effort to support GFC in its initial administration changes, the Indianapolis Foundation has granted funds to partially support our Executive Director for the next 3 years. This is seen as a show of confidence in GFC by a prestigious foundation. The Indianapolis Foundation has given valuable advise to GFC in the process on how to better manage a budding not-for-profit organization.

First Aid Instructors Needed

Do you know basic or advanced life support and first aid measures. If you are a qualified instructor and would be able to offer a class to the staff of Dayspring Center to handle the health needs of clients while GFC volunteers are away, please call the GFC office to set this up. Thanks for extending the health care of GFC through education of shelter staff.

Lighthouse Missions Addition

At the back of Lighthouse Mission a new addition has been progressing over the past several months. A larger reception area, an enclosed area outside, and an education area for cooking classes, computer instruction and general meetings will be finished shortly. **As part of the renovation, the medical room will also be equipped with a telephone.** This will permit busy Lighthouse volunteers to contact the GFC office answering machine for referrals more easily.

Scheduling for GFC Sessions

It is so frustrating to show up for a GFC session and not have the personnel present to be able to see patients properly- or at all! In order for each session to work, please try to make your scheduled session. If you can't, please contact the GFC office or arrange for your replacement and contact the GFC office with your plans. Our GFC secretaries, Mary Jo and Jewel try their hardest to make sure that everyone is informed of their upcoming GFC sessions, but if you are out of town, leaving a message on an answering machine does not tell us that you won't make your session. The best arrangement is for everyone to call each other to make sure that all will be present. With summer approaching, we can avoid the disappointment that volunteers and clients experienced during spring break when organization of several sessions broke down. Thanks.

New Volunteers

The following health professionals will join the ranks of GFC volunteers.

Welcome to all; thanks for your caring!

Darlene Baker, R.N.

Ned MasBaum, M. D.

Donors

Special thanks to the following donors since the last newsletter

Doug and Mary Strohl

Dr. and Mrs. James Trippi

Dr. Francis & Elizabeth Dillion

Dr. & Mrs. Richard Hahn

Anonymous - In thanks to Dr. Kevin Scheid

In kind gifts for the new GFC office:

Walter B. Freihofer Realty

Mary Ann Wyand

United Way Specified Gifts to

GFC - (we found you out, so now we can properly thank you!)

Colleen Brown

Barbara Healey

Robin Reagan

Mary Ann Wyand

Director's Column

Spring! What a wonderful time to embark on a new journey! Watching spring unfold fills me with energy, enthusiasm and hope for the future.

As I further acquaint myself with the history of Gennesaret Free Clinic and those of you who freely give of your talents, time and energy to serve the homeless and poor in our community, I am indeed impressed by all that you have accomplished since 1988. You have a lot to be proud of and our community has been greatly enhanced by your service.

Since March, I have had an

opportunity to attend two week long workshops. One on grant writing, sponsored by the Grantsmanship Center, and one on fund raising, sponsored by the IUPUI School of Philanthropy. I look forward to using the information and tools acquired at both workshops to further nurture the growth and development of Gennesaret Free Clinic. In closing, I will need your help in this process so that we can continue to reach out to those most in need.

Mammograms for MAY

GFC will be placing increased emphasis on homeless Womens' Health over this next year through the addition of a Case Manager. Shortly, a part-time social worker will be doing case management for the health of the poor and homeless women we treat. This will include health assessments and networking with other agencies to connect our clients to the services they are entitled to. Hopefully, this will help the many female clients and their children we treat. (Recent figures place women and children at 47% of our GFC clients - up from 37% in 1992).

In preparation, the **American Cancer Society Mammograms for Mother's Day program** is a good place to start in providing health promotion. Every year, ACS promotes mammography through free studies. This is an excellent opportunity to provide for our female clients over 40 years. To schedule this service - as all services at GFC- **please call the GFC answering machine** and leave details on your patients. Our administrative office will contact the patient, arrange transportation, and get the study results back to you.

Thanks to Butler Pharm Students

GFC wishes to thank the Butler Pharmacy students who spent many Saturday mornings volunteering. They would report to the GFC warehouse and sort medications, stock shelves, check for expirations, and prepare for shipments to the many GFC "mini-pharmacies."

Special thanks go to **Stacy Anderson** for coordination of the **Phi Delta Chi service fraternity** members for this outreach. **Adam Cochrane, Brandee Schultz, Wendy Pecyna, Jan Zaborowski, Heather Brofft,** and 7 other volunteers gave a total of 123 volunteer hours to GFC! Thanks for a job well done.

Personnel Profiles

Robert's Smile by David M. Latz, D.D.S.

I checked in the homeless shelter last evening and took the sign-up sheet from the bulletin board. Seven patients were on the list, but there would be more as the word spread that a dentist was available. I called my first patients over the P.A. system. A mother of nineteen, holding a newborn with a four year old daughter, and three year old son answered my page. They all had sound teeth. The mother needed a cleaning. Their oral hygiene was average, so I instructed them on proper brushing. As I checked their newly learned skills, it struck me how attentive and interested homeless patients were as dental information was being presented.

My fourth patient was Robert, "So, do they call you Bob or Robbie or . . ."

He interrupted, "They call me Robert."

"How old are you Robert?"

"I'm eight and a half."

Kids are always something and a half. The next day after their birthday they are that age and a half.

Robert's teeth were cleaned and he was given brushing instructions. He too was cavity free. By now the list of patients had grown to twelve and I asked Robert if he would like to be my assistant for the evening. "I'll check!," he said and shot from the room.

His mother appeared at the doorway and wanted explanation. Robert's mother agreed. Robert's face exploded into an awesome smile. The smile stayed as he put on his mask and gloves and I showed him how to adjust the chair and light.

The next patients were another family and this time the father was present. The mother asked Robert if he was going to be a dentist. He shook his head no. So I asked him what he wanted to be when he grew up. "I don't know. He paused. "I haven't thought about it."

As we treated each patient, Robert helped more and more- changing bibs, adjusting the chair and light, opening the Oral-B brushes. How did he do it with those big latex gloves flopping on his tiny hands? When I asked children to demonstrate their brushing technique and correction was needed, I looked at Robert and he took his cue. "Don't go back and forth, make little circles and be sure to brush the gums."

The next patient also asked my masked helper if he was going to be a dentist. Robert nodded and looked up at me with that smile. This patient required an extraction. Robert's twinkling eyes grew large as he saw the three bloody roots, but the smile stayed. We had two more extractions that evening. Robert was now a pro. He hid his amazement.

At eight-thirty the announcement came of the children's bedtime. I asked Robert if he needed to go. "No, it's okay, I can stay." This time he didn't check with anyone. At nine the last patient sat wearily in the chair. She and I seemed equally tired. Robert bounced in front of the startled patient, pulled down his mask and announced, "I'm going to be a dentist when I grow up!"

All aspects of dental care are important to the homeless, but of more importance is showing them that someone cares. It feels good to have a positive influence on someone's life. I did that last night. I could tell by his smile.

Next issue- Julie Weimer, R.N. brings love of nursing to her GFC ministry