

THE FRIENDSHIP CLINIC

YOUR BRIDGE TO HEALTH

March 2012

A Word from Our Executive Director

To all our friends and supporters, greetings from *The Friendship Clinic*. Thank you for your continued support. Our success would not be possible without your monetary and volunteer contributions. Your help is greatly appreciated and needed!

We continued to grow and are constantly working to expand medical services that will improve the healthcare offered to our patients. This year we have added two physical therapists, one occupational therapist, a speech pathologist, and a dietitian. We have collaborated with the Genesis Clinic Volunteer Physicians' Network. This means we are now able to refer our patients to a specialist as needed. This is a vital service and we are grateful for the partnership. We continue to offer mental healthcare on a limited basis thanks to Dr. Saccomando and Mary Stackle, N.P. who volunteer each month to offer this important service to our patients. The need for mental healthcare in this community is overwhelming.



Our clinic hours remain the same: Monday evenings and the second and fourth Tuesday evenings from 5:30PM-8:30PM.

Marie Blanchard, RN

The Friendship Clinic Executive Director

BSU Graduate Program Secures Grant for Friendship Clinic

The College of Health Science at Boise State University assigned two graduate students in their final semester of the Master of Health Services Leadership program to identify an opportunity to assist The Friendship Clinic. Cindy Dennis and Bill Hirai worked with Marie Blanchard and Yvonna Rowett and determined that there was a need for funds to implement an updated web-based computer system to track patient health information. The students conducted a needs assessment for the clinic, providing recommendations for implementation of the new computer program and its installation. They requested a grant from the Mary Bradof Foundation, a local Eagle organization that helps non-profit organizations such as The Friendship Clinic, providing a letter of explanation, a grant application and a copy of the report prepared by the students. In June of 2011 the clinic received word that a \$2,000 grant would be awarded in September to be used in the effort to secure, store and catalog all patient health information for the clinic clients since the clinics opening in 2004 and all future patients.

Special Note: Thank you Cindy and Bill for your hard work on securing this grant.

Hail to the chief, Marie Blanchard!

We would like to express our appreciation for all of the hard work, long hours and late nights you spent making The Friendship Clinic what it is today. Please know that none of this has gone unnoticed by the volunteers and patients. We are grateful for your kindness, loyalty and commitment to the clinic. You are truly an inspiration to all of us!

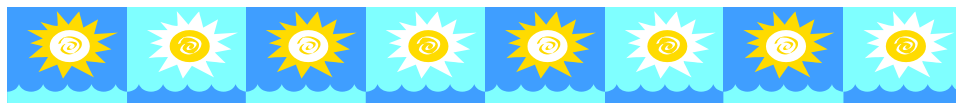


Why I Volunteer...

Caroline DeFrang

I have had the pleasure of working at the Friendship Clinic for about 2 years. I like it because it gives me an opportunity to use my talents to help people, but in a more pure fashion than what is done in regular, paid, "work life". My only goal, on my clinic nights, is to give my best help and advice to the person with a need who is right in front of me. There is no other motive for trying to do good at that time; I am not worried about getting paid, I am not worried about whether that patient will refer their friends and family to me, I am not worried about whether this person is going to give me a good evaluation to my boss, or whether a consultant will look at my work and be impressed. The only thing that matters is helping that person in that moment with their problem; and the medicines, staff support, other volunteer time, and lab and x-ray services are also being given by people with the same goal in mind – help that one person. I love being part of that.

There is an overwhelming amount of need in the world – people without safety, shelter, food, work, love, clothing, and medical care, among other things. There is no way to fix all of that, and I, like many people I think, in the face of that overwhelming need, fight the impulse to disengage from my fellow humans and just watch out for myself and my family. Really, what I can do is so small, how could it ever make a difference? How do you eat that elephant? But, on the evening when I sit next to a person and hopefully make their burden a little less, I feel like at least I took a bite.



Dawn Weiler

It is an honor and a pleasure to be a member of The Friendship Clinic family. I became aware of the clinic through the Boise State University nursing students who were assisting Marie Blanchard make her dream a reality. I enthusiastically volunteered to assist in the planning and final preparation leading to the clinic opening its doors and have never left. As a nurse practitioner with a strong dedication to meeting the medical and healthcare needs for individuals who are lacking adequate medical insurance, the Friendship clinic was the place for me.

My nursing career started in a local community hospital, and then transitioned to providing care to residents and staff at a long-term care and rehabilitation facility as a nurse practitioner. I have since moved into nursing education as a full time faculty member of the School of Nursing at Boise State University. As a volunteer nurse practitioner, and now medical director for the clinic I am able to provide much needed care for very gracious members of our community who desperately need our help and understanding. I cannot express the joy this brings to my life. When faced with challenges in obtaining needed care for our patients the word "can't" has been removed from the clinic vocabulary and replaced with "how can we?".....a motto that has served us well!

Volunteer Corner

A BIG thank you to all our long time providers.
We appreciate all your hard work at the clinic.

Heidi Peters, NP

Kae Leinberger, NP

Mike Loegering, NP

Dr. Robert McKie

Sally Suters, NP

Dawn Weiler, ANP

Paige Jeffress, FNP

Dr. Kim Stutzman

Dr. Mary Dittrich

Dr. Martin Gabica

Dr. Warren Gude

Dr. Caroline DeFrang

Dr. Dennis Weiler

Dr. James Saccomando

Mary Stackle, NP

Mo FitzMaurice, Resident Physician



Volunteers are the back-bone of our community. They are unsung heroes who are willing to share their time, talents, and energy to help make The Friendship Clinic run better and smoother, and help lighten our load. Every year our patient list becomes longer and longer as there are more families who find they are in need of our services. It is only with the assistance of our volunteers such as yourself that we can rise to meet the challenge. It's important to let each of you know just how much YOU are appreciated. Thank you for answering our pleas for volunteers every week, month after month!!

Yvonna & Marie

A Thank You Received...

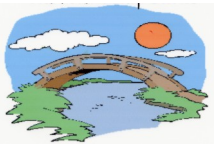
"I have been to many physicians recently and non, not one, has been as kind, caring, and thorough as my physician tonight, and the one two weeks ago." - **A Friendship Clinic patient**

Thank you to our...

- ♥ **Dieticians:** Christopher Chandler and Ruth Andrews
- ♥ **Physical Therapists:** Susan Bastian and Kyle Holbrook
- ♥ **Occupational Therapist:** LeeAnn Jordon
- ♥ **Speech Pathologist:** Tami Campbell
- ♥ **Social Workers:** Nancy Daniels and Virgil Rock
- ♥ **Grant Writer:** Barbara Jibben
- ♥ **Phlebotomists:** Jacqueline Thompson, Michelle Amaya, Irene Asher, Katie Brownell, and Kayla Gabica
- ♥ **Triage and Clinic Nurses:** Ruth Andrews, Karin Arthur, Betsy Bowen, Wendi Mabey, Kindra Carlson, Katie Davis, Syndi Elliot, Brandy Fitchett, Shalee Franklin, Megan FitzMaurice, Kathleen Gabica, Martha Jaworski, Sarah Jennings, Sandy Jocoy, Pat Knecht, Johnathon Lannan, Margaret Leahy, Carrie Matheny, Paula Shaver-Molina, Mary Nagel, Nancy Nissl, Noreen Pusey, Caroline Rea, Heather Reifsnyer, Alissa Rettschlag, Kim Saccomando, Amy Stang, Pat Taylor, Nancy Trout, Katy Weber, Kimberly Wiener, Trina Wilkinson, Alsiha Zweifer
- ♥ **Intake Clerks:** Brooke Burton, Pam Canavan, Dave Grabarczyk, Jamie Harding, Lindsey Hunt, Linda Stark
- ♥ **Office Volunteer:** Mollie Moran
- ♥ **Office Custodian:** Linda Sanchez

The Friendship Clinic
704 South Latah
Boise, ID 83705

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #32
Boise, Idaho



Mission Statement:

to provide free basic health care service to low income individuals and families who have no or inadequate insurance coverage with emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention.

Yes! I want to help...

Name _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

If you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically email us at: friendshipclinic2003@yahoo.com

Make checks payable to The Friendship Clinic

My gift is ____ a MEMORIAL or ____ IN HONOR OF _____
name

Send acknowledgement to: Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Zip: _____

The Friendship Clinic is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.