



The Friendship Clinic

www.friendshipclinic.com

June 2013

Letter from Our Medical Director

Most of us have been among the fortunate who have not faced the prospect of being uninsured or underinsured for medical care. To a great extent, we take our health and healthcare for granted, confident that if we fall ill or are injured, we can simply see our provider for treatment and we recover. But the stark reality for more and more people is that they have no medical insurance nor do they have the resources to access medical care without facing a large financial burden. These less fortunate include the working poor, the homeless and the jobless, who can only hope that they will be spared injury or illness. It is for these people, that *The Friendship Clinic* was created and the mission for which it exists. Given the downturn in the economy and the persistent uncertainty in the future, the need for services continues to increase.

In an effort to try to meet these needs, we are pursuing partnerships that will allow us to increase the number of days per month that the clinic will be open to serve members of our community. We are blessed by the support and financial generosity that the clinic receives that allows us to provide much needed care to members of our community. Our volunteers are the backbone of the clinic. They are dedicated to the mission of the clinic and give generously of their time and expertise to enable *The Friendship Clinic* to meet the needs of our patients to the best of our ability. I want all of you to know how deeply your support is appreciated whether financial, time, talents or prayer. We could never succeed without you. Thank you all for helping make Marie's dream a reality!

Dawn Weiler, PhD, APRM-ANP, BC

Medical Director, The Friendship Clinic

Our Core Values

- * Promoting excellent health care for all people
- * Offering educational opportunities geared toward disease prevention and health promotion
- * Treating each patient with dignity and respect
- * Providing health services for the uninsured and underinsured
- * Providing a compassionate and caring environment

"The unfortunate
need people who
will be kind to
them;

The prosperous
need people to be
kind to."

Aristotle

A Big Welcome to our New Volunteers

Margaret, McLain, NP
 Martin Gabica, MD
 Todd Palmer, MD
 Phyllis You, MD
 Ellen Feehan, RN
 LeeAnne Jordon, PT
 Kyle Holbrook, PT
 Mallory Radford, RN
 Margaret Rogan, RN
 Katie Gillies, RN
 Noreen Pusey, RN
 Thomas Frandsen, FMHC Resident Physician
 Lindsay Meredith, FMHC Resident Physician
 Mo Ferguson, FMHC Resident Physician
 Michelle Amaya, Phlebotomist
 Mason Hinchcliff, Intake Clerk
 Linsey Amaya, Intake/Phlebotomist
 Tami Campbell, Speech Language Pathologist
 Brooke Burton, Intake Clerk
 Beth Peterson, Intake Clerk
 Amanda Williams, Intake Clerk
 Mary Price, NP
 Jennifer Hackwith, NP
 Kim Stutzman, MD
 Mary Barinaga, MD
 Christine Merriitt, PT
 David Faris, PT
 Jon Gardunia, PT
 Bruce Eastman, NP
 Jay Wood, RN
 Charlene Smith, RN
 Clay Swinney, Phlebotomist
 Pam Canavan, Intake Clerk

We will be losing Amanda to medical school. Congratulations!!

I would like to thank our enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers who spend their valuable time improving the health of our community. I'm humbled by your generosity of spirit and your compassion for your fellow human beings. It is all of you who so generously give your time, your warmth, your humor and caring. The future is promising, and I am excited to be a part of this wonderful service with you. I look forward to the future with much anticipation.

Yvonna Rowett,
Volunteer Coordinator

Idaho State Pharmacology students were present on May 12, 2013 taking cholesterol levels and counseling. Thank you for all your assistance!

Volunteer Highlights

Molly Moran has been our Monday morning volunteer for over four years and she is heaven sent! Molly is retired and gives so freely of her talents and time. Thank you, you are FAN-tastic.

Linda Stark has volunteered for over 8 years and has been an outstanding intake clerk, a million thanks, Linda!

For almost 40 years I have worked in the travel industry, 3 years for an airline and 37 as a travel agent. It has been a fun and rewarding job and I've had the opportunity to travel over a lot of our world. But, one of the most satisfying jobs I do is as a volunteer with the Friendship Clinic. My knowledge of medicine is limited in the extreme so my job is Intake Clerk, checking in the patients and helping out in any way I can. I have been with the Clinic since it opened and have met and worked with great providers and nurses. Helping out people in need is a joy. I am married to Ray (29 years!) and have no children. As I like to say - no children - just a vacation home in McCall!

Linda Stark, CTC



Our Goals for Year 2013

- Continue to upgrade patient care
- Attract additional volunteers
- Increase our clinical hours
- Increase educational opportunities to health care students

Reflections on The Friendship Clinic

Tuesday night I volunteered as a nurse at The Friendship Clinic. It was a busy night, as most nights are. As always I was impressed with the compassion, caring and expertise of the wonderful volunteers. That night the clinic was staffed by an MD who was the main provider, nurses, a receptionist, a phlebotomist, a physical therapist and an occupational therapist. It was a real blessing to be able to work with these health professionals in providing health care to the 12 clients seen that night.

Our clients are often those who “fall through the cracks.” More and more frequently we see those who have lost jobs and insurance and have no other place to come. To many, the clinic seems to be their last hope. They frequently come with expectations of being dismissed or marginalized.

“My spouse said you would be like everyone else and not help me,” one client said. As the client left the clinic we were thanked with tears and hugs. For many there is desperation because of various conditions, lack of medication, hard won jobs lost and getting by day-to-day becomes more difficult. One beaming client said as he left, “Now I have a plan.” Another group of clients are refugees. They are in a foreign country struggling with language and a complex health care system. They are fearful and often confused. One evening a few months ago, our clients were from the Ukraine, Afghanistan and Iran. Communication is a challenge for them and for us, but we were able to help them and received smiles and sincere thanks.

As a volunteer nurse at the clinic, I know what the clinic does for people. As a member of the Board of Directors I know a bit of how this is accomplished. The board is composed of dedicated volunteers, one of whom is the medical director. Other members are representatives of local faith communities, local legislators, and a grant writer. The Executive Director and the Administrative Assistant attend the meetings.

The clinic was a vision of Marie Blanchard who is the Executive Director. Marie is also the driving force behind the success of the clinic. She continues to be a visionary in fostering the growth of the clinic, opening an additional two evenings a month to serve a growing need. She was responsible for obtaining the services of mental health professionals two evenings a month for some of the most needful clients. In addition, the clinic has been the recipient of several grants that facilitate the day-to-day operations, as well as the purchase of necessary equipment such as an EKG machine and a laptop computer for the medical providers to use in charting progress notes. Marie is an exceptional custodian of the monies entrusted to her for the clinic, and all of it goes to support the care of our clients.

All Saints Episcopal Church is a huge factor in the success of the clinic, from supporting Marie’s vision to providing space to house the clinic. The support of so many in the local community has also helped make the clinic what it is today. It has taken a village.

On Tuesday night, when leaving the clinic, as I turned out the lights and locked the doors I reflected on all those who have made The Friendship Clinic successful; and I thought, “We did good tonight. We helped people.” That is what The Friendship Clinic is all about.

Margaret Leahy, RN

WWAMI Students at The Friendship Clinic

We have started an innovative program at The Friendship Clinic this March. There are UW medical students that spend the last year or two of their medical school training here in the Treasure Valley. They are grateful for the opportunity this training allows them and they want to give back to the community. The Friendship Clinic is offering them the opportunity to give back. Every first and third Tuesday of the month the students are seeing patients with the supervision of UW faculty that practice in the area. This partnership has allowed the clinic to increase its availability to patients and helps the students learn how to do various jobs that are required to make a clinic function from intake to organizational leadership. The students also have the opportunity to learn about providing health care to the neediest of our community and the various ways we try to help meet their needs.

We hope this will be a long lasting partnership that will grow with time to include nursing students and medical students from other schools. The students are so excited about this opportunity to have service learning here in Boise and to be a part of the greater community. The welcome we have received from all The Friendship Clinic has been outstanding. Together we hope to continue to work to meet the need.



Kimberly Stutzman, MD



The Friendship Clinic Board

Marie Blanchard, RN
Founder/Executive Director

Yvonna Rowett
Volunteer Coordinator
Office Administrator friendshipclinic2003@gmail.com

Board of Directors:

Dawn Weiler, PhD, APRM-ANP, BC
President, Co-Chairwoman
Medical Director

Margaret Leahy, RN
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Katie Davis, CAP
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Kimberly Stutzman, MD
Community Medical Liaison

Paula Shaver-Molina, MS, RN-C
Community Nurse Liaison

Thank You

*“A friend will never be in your way...
unless you’re falling down.” ~ Anonymous*

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There have been so many supporters of The Friendship Clinic since our founding. It is our hope that here we have acknowledged the kindness of all our friends, and ask the forgiveness of any whose generosity we may have inadvertently omitted.

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 to low income individuals and families who are uninsured and underinsured with emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention.

Yes! I want to help...

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Make checks payable to The Friendship Clinic

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

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