

Notes from the July 14 Volunteer meeting (taken by Sherrie Hodges).

The Ashe County Free Medical Clinic volunteers met on July 14, 2009. Present for the meeting were Diane Johnson, Linda Sheridan, Melinda Hohn, Lucy Miller, Cheryl Earnhardt, Executive Director Greg Bolac, Patient Care Coordinator Monica Madden-Lynn, Barbara Trask, Claire Hammitt, Mindy Wonsick Medical Director, Linda Gee and Sherrie Hodges.

Greg reported that the Christmas in July booth was a success but there may be some changes next year with the taking of blood pressures. Approximately 100 raffle tickets for the sweater were sold. There were only minimal donations which will be used for general supplies in the clinic.

Thanks in large part to Greg's efforts, the County Commissioners gave the clinic \$25,000 from this year's budget. Several directors attended the meeting during which Greg made a presentation requesting funds. Greg urged the volunteers to thank the commissioners for their consideration of the clinic. Other monies received included a grant from BCBS in the amount of \$53,000 and Blue Ridge Electric for \$5000. The West Jefferson United Methodist Women will be conducting a fundraiser on September 12 during which tables will be decorated with different themes and dinner will be served. The meal will be catered by Rozie Bolac and each table will seat eight diners. More information will follow. Other fundraisers will include the mailing request for donations and the Jeff Little concert at the high school

Greg produced and emailed a newsletter for the clinic. There were pictures from the golf tournament, which was a great success. Greg thanked the volunteers for their help with the tournament.

There are two new directors on the board – Suzanne Black and Hal Pruett. There is still one vacancy on the board.

Greg said that we still do not have the position of mid-level provider filled. Marta will be working until November. Monica reported that clinic is getting a lot of requests for appointments. Greg was asked about a Free Dental Clinic and said that there are no plans for Ashe County to have one. There was previously a mobile dental clinic that went to several locations but is not currently serving Ashe County.

Cheryl asked about the status of the operation of the clinic and grants. Greg said that things are looking good for the next couple of years based on the money received from grants, the county and fundraisers should all continue as hoped. He did say that some grants are restricted in purpose for which they may be used.

Sherrie said the West Jefferson Woman's Club is sponsoring a Card and Game Party on July 24 to benefit the Sharing Center and Medications Assistance Program. She will have tickets available and may be contacted at 877-7938 for more information.

The next volunteer meeting will be on September 22, 2009 at 12:00 at the clinic.