

Volunteer Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2011

In attendance: Monica Madden-Lynn, Audrey Lundin, Lucy Miller, Cathy Ehrhardt, Doug Ehrhardt, Linda Sheridan, Linda Gagnon, Linda Marsh, Otto Funes, Greg Bolac

Monica gave a quick overview of clinic services which include:

- Dental: Drs. Yates, Summey, Rector/one patient each per month
- Chiropractor: Drs. Current, Ryan Woods/one patient each per month
- Ear, Nose and Throat: Dr. Ford's office in Boone/unlimited
- Hematology: Dr Flint Grey (Dr. Davis usually can handle patients with these kinds of problems)
- Ophthalmology/Optomety: Dr. Vollmer/15 per month WCEA (in Boone): one per month
- Orthopedic: Steve Anderson will see 5 each month when he is available
- Pulmonary: Dr. Steve Young/unlimited for PFT or simple pulmonary work up
- Podiatry: Dr. Zimmerman/about 1 per month
- Urology: Dr. Charles Miller/one per quarter
- Nephrology: Dr. Qualheim (fax referrals/we fax patient info/he'll fax recommendations)
- Surgery: Drs. Sundin/Jones/about one per month
- Rheumatology: Dr. David Caldwell in Hickory/unlimited
- Mt Hearts: diabetic education (75% discount but still expensive)
- Massage Therapy: Margie Shinkle/one per month
- New River: Valerie can see as many as 3 every Thursday
- Linda Gee: has helped approximately 45 patients get medications through North Carolina Medication Assistance which helps with generic medications and once established the patient can order refills themselves.
- Ashe Medication Assistance: continues to help patients get expensive medications from the pharmaceutical companies
- Dr. Walter Davis continues to see patients all day on Wednesdays and Dr. Marta Pfaffenberger sees patients from noon to 4 on Thursday afternoons. Dr. Davis will take over Thursday afternoons when Marta goes back to Florida at the end of November.
- Thursday evenings: Volunteer providers are Dr. Bradley, Dr. Kurtz, Dr. Wonsick, Dr. Darter, Heather Herman, FNP, CB Jones, PA and Mark Scott, PA.
- The clinic sees approximately 25 to 30 patients each week and does approximately 15 to 25 labs. Usually there are only around 5 to 8 patients scheduled on Thursday nights and many times volunteers are not needed.

Other topics discussed:

- Farm Workers Program: Debbie Trulock, RN who runs that program has let us know that due to cuts in their program, she wanted to send a few more Hispanic

patients to the clinic (which she has done). Debbie will call patients to remind them of their appointments and her program may also be able to pay for specialists if necessary.

- Winter Weather: don't take a risk driving to the clinic if the weather is bad. If the clinic is closed, it will be announced on the local radio stations and Doug will post it on the web site.
- Clinic Holiday Schedule: the clinic will be closed on Thanksgiving and the Friday after and from December 24 until the first Tuesday of January, 2012.
- The clinic is now administering the flu vaccine. We have 100 doses plus 50 CVS vouchers for free shots.
- West Jefferson Methodist Church Women's Club recently presented the clinic with a \$14,000 check that they made from their Festival of Tables. This is our largest non-grant donation. We will have our annual golf tournament in April and we made a few thousand dollars off of a marathon this year. Greg Bolac also sends a mailing once a year to solicit donations.
- Greg Bolac reported that East Carolina University has started a dental school and they are looking to place dentists in training at 10 dental clinics throughout the state. Dr. Davis and Greg are looking into the possibility of getting one of those regional clinics in our area but it begins by obtaining the land, etc. Our local dentists will only pull bad teeth and do no cleanings, etc., There are dental suites at the ADHD but even a hygienist must work under the care of a dentist. It is even hard to get any local dentist to volunteer at the dental clinics that are sponsored by the NC Association of Dentists that come to Sparta each year.
- The national election of 2012 will determine what happens with the Affordable Health Care Act. If it stays in place, most of our patients will qualify for Medicaid.
- Heath Net is a grant based program in the county that is supposed to help uninsured people find a home. Greg estimates that there are around 5,000 uninsured in the county. He is hoping that the clinic may be able to take over that program which would mean an extra \$40,000 a year for the clinic. If the clinic is able to get that money, we may be able to pay Mountain Family Care to see some of the clinic patients for female issues or for medical problems that may arise when the clinic is closed or too busy to see them.
- On November 4, Wilkes Community College will provide free breakfast and lunch to the clinic patients and staff.
- Doug Ehrhardt reports 14,000 hits on the clinic's web site since September, 2010.