



# FAMILY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP CLINIC



WINTER 2010

## A Note from Suzanne:

As I look back on the last newsletter, I was full of optimism about the potential changes in the health care system. I am no longer so optimistic. It feels like health care reforms have been hijacked by special interests rather than the interests of the people. As we are told that the economy is looking up, I see more and more people who are coming through our doors or calling us for help. Sometimes we are able to answer those needs, sometimes we are not. The Clinic is a model of care delivery for our community, but it cannot be the model for delivery of care on a wide scale. We must come to some kind of resolve about health care in our country. I don't know what the answer is, but I do know that the system is crumbling and we are putting simply a bandaid on it where we can.

Suzanne Hoban, *Executive Director*

## Community Partners

Deputy Chief Ken Caudle and Captain Scott Ravagnie of the **Huntley Fire Department** have, for the second year in a row, spear-headed a pink t-shirt campaign. The t-shirt design changes each year and is created by Scott's wife and incorporates the fire department logo. The department members wear the pink t-shirts throughout the month of October, which is breast cancer awareness month. This collective show of support is seen throughout the Huntley community and helps the department to sell t-shirts to the public. Everyone loves it when guys wear pink!

Ken and Scott took the fundraising process to a new level this year. They sold the t-shirts at Culvers and Citizens Bank of Huntley. They sold t-shirts on e-bay and received orders as far way as Canada and from throughout the United States. They also utilized Facebook, every fire department-type meeting throughout October and they joined FHPC staff on race packet-pickup day to sell even more t-shirts. In addition to their efforts, other



*Pictured are DC Ken Caudle (HFD), Cathy Brickey (FHPC), Cpt. Scott Ravagnie (HFD) and Abby Padilla (FHPC)*

department members sold t-shirts to their family, friends and contacts.

The Huntley Fire Department has raised \$10,161.00 for the breast cancer fund at FHPC. They have dedicated themselves to help local women who are uninsured or underinsured and who are in need of breast cancer services. Everyone here at the clinic from our patients to our Board Members thank the Huntley Fire Department's efforts on the pink t-shirt campaign under the direction of DC Caudle and Captain Ravagnie.

Dick Ahrens, President of **Peet Frate Line** in Woodstock, has supported FHPC at its Annual Gala & Dinner Auction through a corporate table, donating auction items and supporting our Fund-An-Item fundraisers for the past several years. As a small business owner, Dick appreciates the importance of a clinic such as FHPC.

Dick and his wife, Yvonne, have been involved in the Care4 Breast Cancer 5K for several years, participating on and raising money for a team, the Pink Pythons. This year, Dick has joined the Care4 Breast Cancer 5K Committee and has been instrumental in arranging for the new location of the race in 2010 and inviting additional members to the committee.



*Pictured: Dick Ahrens, back row right side, pictured with Pink Pythons team*

## Clinic Wish List

There is an ongoing wish list of items for the clinic to operate. The list is ideal for youth groups, schools or churches who are interested in doing collection drives. Items needed regularly include:

- bandaids (of all sizes)
- small bottles of Tylenol or Advil
- small bottle of OTC allergy relief items
- AA batteries
- AAA batteries
- zipper zip lock bags (for storing medication)
- Toilet paper
- copier paper
- sharpies
- black ink pens
- Wipes
- paper cups (4 & 6oz)
- highlighters
- Jewel-Osco or Wal-Mart gift cards, \$15.00 value (for RX)
- Gas cards for patients with transportation needs
- Standard kitchen supplies

On the clinic website ([www.hpclinic.org](http://www.hpclinic.org)) there is a more comprehensive list of all items that are needed.

### Important Clinic Phone extentions:

Appointments, ext. 10

Donations, ext. 24

Executive Director, ext. 15

Volunteering, ext. 18

## News From 2009

2009 saw some wonderful new initiatives by the Family Health Partnership Clinic. The first is an initiative funded by the Baxter Foundation to help better deliver medications to the patients who need it. Through their generosity, we have expanded the number of hours for nurses to schedule medication pick ups. These appointment slots quickly filled up and we needed to add more. Kathy Rauch, our wonderful Volunteer Coordinator, had recruited several nurses who worked full time during the week, but wanted to be involved with the Clinic. With their help, and the help of Laurie Sabol, one of our staff nurses, we opened a Saturday medication clinic to help meet the increasing demand for nurse visits. They are held the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 9-11:45. These clinics have proved

invaluable to ensuring that people are getting their medications on time.

The Clinic is also pleased to announce its expansion in McHenry in October 2009! One of the barriers to getting care in our county is transportation. We have surveyed and looked at data from our own patients and found that the McHenry area is very underserved in its utilization of the clinic, although census figures indicate that there are a large number of uninsured there. With a generous grant from the Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation, the Clinic opened up a site in McHenry to care for the needs of that population. We are available in McHenry on Monday and Thursday mornings from 9-12. We are located in B201 of the medical office building at Centegra-McHenry. Appointments are taken at the main clinic office at 815 334-8987 ext 10.

## Clinic in the News

FHPC was featured twice on the **ABC7** show, "Chicagoing with Bill Campbell." Each segment highlighted the clinic, its services, events, and history. Clinic staff, a board member and a volunteer have joined Bill to promote the benefit FHPC has on our community! Links to the shows may be found on our website [www.hpclinic.org](http://www.hpclinic.org) under News & Events.

Suzanne Hoban was interviewed on **The Lite, 93.9fm** radio! Suzanne's daughter, Clara, contacted Diane Banks of The Lite and recommended her Mom be celebrated as a "Women of Chicago!" The entire interview may be listened to on a link at our website [www.hpclinic.org](http://www.hpclinic.org) under News & Events.



Mike Splitt wins 1st place in his age group



## Care4 Breast Cancer 5K Results

What an incredible sight to see 1,614 5K participants arrive at Lippold Park on Sunday, October 24, 2009! These participants, their teams and their supporters raised over \$130,000 for the breast cancer fund at Family Health Partnership Clinic. The breast cancer fund is for the sole purpose of assisting uninsured and underinsured patients who are in need of breast cancer services, education and prevention. This event and the money raised allow for patients to receive the care they need instead of holding off on getting care because they are unable to afford it.

In addition to the 1,614 participants, there were over 200 volunteers (most were youth from throughout McHenry County) who helped with set-up, registration, course preparations and traffic control. We could not do this successful event without everyone who was involved!

## Nurses Partner with Clinic

2009 was one of those years that I am especially grateful to the number of nurses that volunteer and support the needs of our Clinic. Nurses like Betty, Rita, and Jan have been a mainstay, faithfully arriving at the Clinic weekly. But as the number of our patients continues to increase, so must our recruitment of volunteer doctors and nurses.

This noticeable trend led me to contact the Nursing magazine, SPECTRUM, as a way to inform nurses in our state of the needs at our Clinic. Coincidentally, just after placing a letter to the editor in this publication, we were notified of a large shipment of donated medications that would require extensive sorting and organizing. Remarkably, some 80 nurses phoned our office from that one tiny plea for help in Spectrum Magazine. Twenty of those nurses began assisting us with all of the donated medications, and by September that task was completed in a very orderly and efficient manner.

Several of those nurses stayed on with us to volunteer on a regular basis. Nurses like Mitzi, Elvia, Donna, Jennifer, Theresa, Liz, Beth, and Claire presently volunteer each month assisting us with patient care. Because of these volunteers, we were able to expand our services into Saturday mornings twice a month to dispense medications from our

prescription medication program. Volunteer nurses Mandy, Mary, Janet, Mary Jo, Loretta, Laura, and Barbara have been instrumental in the success of this program.

But that's not all. Nurses show up in other areas of our Clinic. Janet is a retired RN that reviews charts and works closely with our Nurse Practitioner. Josette and Eileen volunteer in our med room. They sort, barcode, and replenish sample medications for our doctors, nurse practitioners, and nurses. We also have nurses like Mitzi that support our recruiting efforts by helping us at symposiums and workshops where we recruit new doctors and nurses.

Many of our nurses come to us by way of Centegra Health Systems and Advocate Good Shepherd. Some have retired and are seeking to stay connected with patient care on a part-time basis. Others are on hospital shifts that allow them time to volunteer at our Clinic

I am so grateful to these hardworking and dedicated nurses for carving out time in their busy lives to serve their community.

If you are an RN with a current license and would like to schedule a tour and learn more about the Clinic, please call me at 815-334-8987 Ext. 18.

Kathy Rauch , *Volunteer Coordinator*

## A Patient's Story



*Pictured above Alan Schweiger of Huntley.*

In 2002, Alan was diagnosed with hypertension, diabetes and high cholesterol all at the same time. As Alan put it, "I was hit with a trifecta!" He was unemployed at the time, but did have a small health care policy, but was considered underinsured. He was sent to Centegra Health System for his initial treatment which required a hospital stay. Once he was released, he was referred to FHPC for his continuing care to manage his three diseases. He remembers receiving complete care with an A1C test, education on his glucometer and education on his diet at his very first visit. Alan continues to come to the clinic to receive care and help with managing his health. He says, "If I had to hold off on care or wait until the last minute to get care (all because I could not afford it) I would be a very sick man!" "I thank FHPC for all the help, goodness you've given to me and I hope more doctors come with the helping spirit."

— Alan Schweiger, *Huntley*

## "Did You Know?"

*Did You Know... In December 2009, the clinic was able to obtain over \$90,000 worth of medication for its patients through the Indigent Drug Program.*



GETTING  
TO KNOW  
OUR STAFF



Rhienna Kujawa is the creative force behind many of our events at the Clinic. As the Event Coordinator, Rhienna gets to use her organizational skills to put on wonderful programs that help us get the message out about the clinic, as well as raising much needed funds. Rhienna has been with the Clinic for 4 years, and comes to us from a corporate level Event Planner. Her background is in television production, and she has worked as a producer for ABC-Channel 7 in Chicago. Her dedication has made the Annual Gala a big success, and she has almost tripled the number of people participating in the Breast Cancer Race in October. She also worked to make other various events successful including the Clinic's 10th anniversary, a housewalk in Woodstock, a chamber mixer and various staff gatherings. Rhienna also owns her own business – H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Produce Experiences). We appreciate her work and her willingness to give freely of her talents to ensure that uninsured people in McHenry County have a place to go for their healthcare.



FAMILY HEALTH  
PARTNERSHIP  
CLINIC

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# 2009 NUMBERS

## 2009 Numbers

2009 was a busy year for the Clinic. There were 7,334 visits to the Clinic. The Clinic also purchased a software package that allows us to track the value of medication that is obtained through our Medication Assistance Program. An average of 90 patients a month receive assistance through this program, which helps patients navigate the programs offered by the pharmaceutical companies. Most pharmaceutical companies have a program that helps people who are uninsured get their medication for free. Only a handful of drugs are on these lists, however, and the paperwork can be daunting. Katie Fisher is our Medication Program Coordinator, and with the new software, was able to calculate that in December, she obtained over \$90,000 worth of drugs for our patients. That is a fantastic return on investment!

## Save the Dates...

### Annual Gala & Dinner Auction

Friday, April 23rd

Holiday Inn, Crystal Lake  
More information at [www.hpclinic.org](http://www.hpclinic.org)

### Gavers Community Cancer Foundation Barndance

Saturday, July 17

Emricson Park, Woodstock  
More information at [www.gavers.org](http://www.gavers.org)

### Care4 Breast Cancer 5K

Sunday, October 24th  
Location TBD

*Follow Us on Facebook & Twitter!*

*Please join our monthly newsletter to learn about current happenings, send your e-mail address to [cpatenaude@hpclinic.org](mailto:cpatenaude@hpclinic.org).  
Our lists are not shared with other organizations.*