

# **July NEWSLETTER 2014**

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SERVING THE LAUREL HIGHLANDS REGION

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**JOHNSTOWN** 

#### Executive Director's Message

The Clinic continues to grow and expand its services. In an effort to increasing our knowledge to the provision of new services, Tammy Nunez, Volunteer RN and I attended a three day training and were certified as HIV Fundamentals Counselor. This certification will open the door to provide HIV rapid testing and counseling. Additionally, we are working with St. Francis University Community Rehabilitation Access for Everyone (CARE) to be able to offer our patients rehabilitative care. This service is scheduled to begin this fall.

Important to our services is health and welfare prevention education. To that end, we are working with the Cambria County Prevention Coalition/Cambria County Health and Welfare Council. This coalition is an initiative that aims to systematically collect data associated with drug and alcohol use, delinquency and violence involving young people and map out a plan to help kids make healthier decisions. After completion of a county-wide needs and resources assessment, the coalition will seek funding to create a community action plan for implementing programs and practices that help young people make good decisions for their lives.

#### New Services Added

In our ongoing commitment to provide our patients with comprehensive care the Johnstown Free Clinic is adding several new services.

Immunizations – The PA Department of Health will be providing periodic immunization clinics for uninsured health care consumers at the Free Clinic. Individuals whose health care coverage does not cover vaccines are also eligible. Summer clinics are scheduled from 1 to 3 PM July 7 and August 4. Appointments can be scheduled with the Department of Health by calling 814-248-3120.

Hearing Screenings – In a new partnership with the Easter Seals Cambria Somerset Division, we will be offering free hearing screenings to our patients. The initial screening was held July 1. Seven patients were screened, of which two indicated hearing deficiencies. The tests are provided free of charge. Based on the success of the first session additional screening dates are being planned.

### FYI for Medical Volunteers

The Medical Emergency Box has been moved from the Med Room to the Nurses Station. It's stored in the file cabinet labeled Emergency Drawer.

#### Thank you Conemaugh Health Foundation!

The clinic has received a \$3,300 grant award from the Conemaugh Health Foundation to purchase upgraded medical and education equipment including a digital scale, ear thermometer and computer LED projector. The grant will also help offset the cost of two additional software licenses for MedServices which will increase efficiency by making it possible for several medical professionals to access our medical records database at a time.

## When is your birthday?

There's an old adage that says one should never ask a lady her age, but we think its okay to ask our volunteers, staff and Board of Directors for their birthday. We've recently updated the volunteer application to include birthday - (minus the year) so we can remember our special volunteers on their special day. While we are currently collecting the birthdays of our newest volunteers we need dates for our current volunteers. If you would like to be included in the birthday database please email your birthday to <a href="mailto:rosalie@johnstownfreemedicalclinic.com">rosalie@johnstownfreemedicalclinic.com</a>. Our volunteers are the clinic's most valuable asset and one of the ways we want to express our heartfelt appreciation is with a birthday card.

#### Diabetic Education Team Adds Nutritionist

Individualized education sessions designed to help diabetic patients better manage their condition continue to be offered bi-weekly during Wednesday evening clinics. Sessions provide help with diet, medication, glucose testing and exercise. In addition to RNs Sue Konvolinka and Sharon Spinelli, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Ashley Staruch has joined our diabetic education team. This month appointments are available July 9 and 23.

# There is no Board Meeting this month Next Board Meeting - August 14th at 4:30

2014 STATISTICS: June 1 through June 30
Total Patient Visits258
Total Unduplicated Patient Visits207
Patients Recertified0 Patients Enrolled 77
Total Prescriptions Written
Prescriptions Filled944 Value of Filled Rx \$155,411.76
Volunteer Hours Clerical-101; RN/LPN-211; Physician -132;
Pharmaceutical-20; Education-11
Clinic Shifts 20: Donation Box \$5.15