



Highlands Health
Laurel Highlands Free & Charitable Medical Clinic

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Highlands Health Clinic CARES

Highlands Health Clinic is committed to serving our community. Last year over 2,500 individuals received medical, pharmaceutical and wellness care at the clinic. Of that number, 784 patients were evaluated, diagnosed, and provided a treatment plan. In addition, 69 patients received job physicals, 176 were provided Narcan and training, 107 were given various immunizations, 132 received Vivitrol injections and 1,447 individuals received the COVID vaccine. The clinic dispensed in-house, over 1.1 million dollars in medication to our patients.



Clinic services were provided not only at the clinic but at churches, community events, public housing, schools, fairs, parks, senior citizens apartments and individual's homes. Since the beginning of the pandemic, HHC administered 15,000 COVID vaccinations and traveled to the homes of 800 disabled, and vulnerable, homebound residents.

How Many Times Do You Help?

If you are in a boat and see the person next to you jump into the water acting reckless, or fall overboard, or get pushed, do you throw a life preserver. If they continue to act reckless and fall overboard again, do you throw the life preserver the second time or a third time. Of course, you do! An individual with substance use disorder deserves to have a life preserver thrown as many times as necessary. Recently a middle-aged woman with two grown children asked the clinic for help. She was clean for years and relapsed. Her family rejected her. She had no support, felt hopeless, lost her job, could not pay her bills, and faced eviction. She was so depressed she could hardly get out of bed. She was days away from being homeless. Fortunately, she came to the clinic to seek medical attention and we learned about her other issues. We threw the life preserver and helped her to find the funds to pay her back rent, encouraged her to interview for a job (she was hired), assisted her with making a budget and arranged support counseling. This is a success story, in fact, she is paying back the money given to stop her eviction.

Our Board President- Richard Lobb



We are excited to shine a spotlight on our esteemed Board President, Richard Lobb, whose extensive experience, and accomplishments in the healthcare industry have made him the perfect choice to lead Highlands Health into its future. Rich has over three decades of leadership and experience in healthcare administration and operations. He has served as a Chief Operating Officer for business development, quality improvement, sales, and information systems' departments. During his tenure at Altoona Health System's Post-Acute Service Business (Home Nursing Agency), he provided strategic planning, business analysis, acquisition and merger services that grew the post-acute business from 950 employees at \$58 million in revenues to well over 1,100 employees at \$65 million in revenues. Another major accomplishment was leading the first out-of-state post-acute provider acquisition.

During his position at The InforMedx Group, LLC, he focused on developing a national revenue cycle consulting, professional fee billing, and healthcare information technology practice. Rich grew the company from one regional client with \$600K revenues in their opening year to 24 clients in six states, well over 55 full-time employees and contractors, and \$2.2 million in revenues. Other major contribution include developing a LEAN Six Sigma quality initiative, training over 120 management personnel, and coordinated efforts to improve operational efficiency post-merger of two organizations which resulted in a \$17.5 million-dollar reduction of operating expenses while preserving greater than 95% of the workforce.

It is an honor to have Rich as our Board President. Highlands Health has a promising future under Rich's leadership.

Welcome to Our New Employee

Mario Rodriguez, Johnstown is the newest addition to our Highlands Health's team. Mario is fluent in English and Spanish. Translation for our Hispanic patients has been a major obstacle to patient care especially in Somerset County. Mario has already made an impact with patients. Patients are now able to relate their symptoms to someone who understands. Through Mario's efforts, the number of Hispanic patients seeking service has doubled in the last several weeks. Mario's official title is Dispensary Technician/Intake Worker. He is a quick learn and with his medication knowledge he is able to explain the how and why medications are being prescribed.

In addition to Mario, translating skills, he is a skilled chef, musician, and fisherman. Welcome Mario and thank you for your effort in providing quality healthcare to all members of our community.

Concert Date August 26th, 2023

We are excited to announce that JWF Industries is the prime sponsor of Highlands Health annual fund-raising concert. Thank you, Bill Polacek, CEO, JWFI, for taking lead to get this party started. This years event will feature a well know California based band. Watch the news for the big announcement. More sponsors are needed! Please follow Mr. Polacek's lead, call us at 814.534.6242 and be a sponsor. Your support helps us to serve those without insurance and who are uninsured.