

HIGHLANDS HEALTH



CLINIC NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 18 2023



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 <https://www.highlandshealthclinic.com/>

 Highlands Health Clinic

Highlands Health Clinic Celebrates Milestone: 9,000th Patient Served

Somerset, PA - On February 8, 2024, at 12:30 p.m., the Somerset Office of Highlands Health Clinic will mark a significant milestone as it serves its 9,000th and 9,001st patients. Since its establishment in August 1997, Highlands Health Clinic (HHC), formerly known as Johnstown Free Medical Clinic, has been steadfast in providing medical, pharmaceutical, and wellness services to residents in Cambria and Somerset counties.

"It is with great pride that we celebrate the 9,000th and 9,001st patients today," remarked Rosalie Danchanko, Executive Director of HHC. "This occasion holds even greater significance as these patients will receive services at our Somerset clinic, conveniently located within UPMC Somerset Hospital." From its inception, the clinic has provided outreach medical assistance to the low-income, uninsured, and underinsured populations, with the Somerset office opening its doors within the last decade.

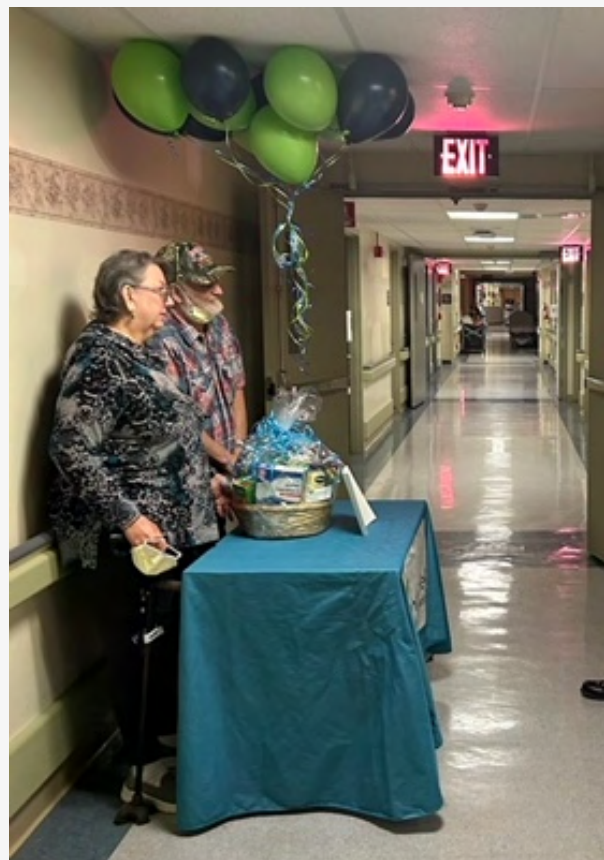
Initially operating on a first-come, first-served basis, one day a week, the clinic has since transitioned to scheduled appointments. In Johnstown alone, the clinic now serves over 35 patients daily, with Somerset attending to over 13 patients daily. The Johnstown clinic operates four days a week by appointment, while Somerset operates one day a week.

Among the patients scheduled to reach the 9,000th milestone are Trina and Harold Henry, lifelong residents of Somerset County. "I did not know about the free clinic until my husband nearly lost his life due to Diabetic Ketoacidosis," shared Trina. Harold, who struggled with diabetes, heart issues, and other health concerns, found it difficult to afford the hefty medication costs, amounting to over \$1200 a month. Trina's medication amounted to almost \$1200.

The Henrys received vital medication thanks to Highlands Health, easing their financial burden significantly. "With a monthly income of \$3,000, we couldn't afford the staggering co-pays," explained Trina, highlighting their dire choices.

Reflecting on his experience, Harold expressed gratitude for the compassionate care received at HHC. "From the moment I stepped into the clinic, I felt their genuine concern for my well-being," he recalled. Colleen Tretter, a Registered Nurse at HHC, emphasized their commitment to each patient's health. "We provide personalized care and support to every individual who walks through our doors," she affirmed.

Trina concluded, "This clinic is Somerset's best-kept secret, but I'm determined to spread the word about this invaluable service."



picture of our 9000th and 9001st patient
Trina and Harold Henry

Highlands Health Clinic Announces Board Restructuring in Preparation for FQHC LAL Status



Board president Richard Lobb

Johnstown, PA - February 22, 2024 - Highlands Health Clinic (HHC) is pleased to announce the recent restructuring of its Board of Directors, a significant step in preparation for achieving Federally Qualified Health Clinic Look Alike (FQHC LAL) status. President Richard Lobb reaffirmed the clinic's commitment to meeting federal requirements, "The clinic has been diligently working towards fulfilling the criteria necessary to become an FQHC LAL."

The Board, known for its hands-on approach, functions as a working board, with all members actively overseeing operations and contributing to policy development. Alongside President Richard Lobb, other officers reconfirmed include Bruce Jordan as Vice-President, Lisa Shirt as Treasurer, and Natalie Kauffman as Secretary. Welcoming new additions to the Board are Quan Britt, Eileen Ramirez, Holly Shomo, Anita Faas, Connie Bennett, Terri Gritzer, and Robert Callahan. Bill Mardis, Michele Scanlan, Richard Wozniak, and Paul Nihoff continue their service on the Board.

Highlands Health Clinic remains steadfast in its mission to provide comprehensive medical, pharmaceutical, and wellness services to individuals of all backgrounds and circumstances without discrimination based on age, sex, religion, national origin, sexual preference, disability, health status, or financial means.

GREG: Recovering from a serious accident and homeless. He said, "Thank you, Ms. Linda. She is a caring angel that God sent from Heaven to help me when no one seemed to care. Highlands is a blessing" OMOS helped too.

BERNICE: An elderly woman with cardiac issues. Her disability resulted in limited mobility. Fisher Foundation & Highlands helped her get a lift chair. She said, "Thank you Highlands, now I get in and out of my chair without help, gave me freedom."

MYRON: A young 35-year-old suffering from Drug & Alcohol attempted suicide. He praised the staff for their intervention, caring for him, and arranging for a recovery program. "Highlands saved my life."

SHORNDA: Shornda, 50 years old, is bedridden due to a degenerating disease. She said, "Highlands came to my house to give me a COVID shot and my Mom, too. No one would do that for us".



HOLLY: Holly came to the clinic and had to be rushed to the Emergency Room. She had congested heart failure. Staff arranged to care for her children during recuperation. She is now losing weight, taking her medication and healing. She said "Our nurses are Golden Girls!"

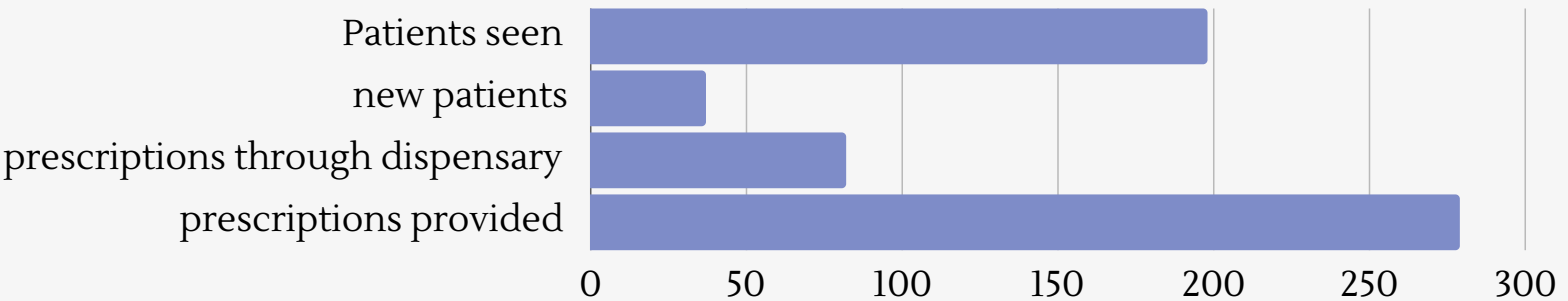
OCTIVIO: Octivio is a Mexican migrant worker who does not speak English. He was in pain for years and no one could diagnose. Coming to Somerset Clinic, staff translated and he was diagnosed with a gallstone. Now pain-free his words are "Muchas Gracias".

YULIIA: A young 35-year-old Ukraine refugee, uninsured and suffering from severe gastric distress and complex dental needs. She said, "Highlands believed me and took my concerns seriously, they are helping me even to get insurance".

TERESA & MATTHEW: Matthew said, "Dr. O. saved my leg. I was an uncontrolled diabetic. They came to my house, brought me medication, and found me a scooter" Teresa was on a ventilator, and a colostomy bag. She was near death, "Dr. O. diagnosed my problem and worked to get me the care to keep me alive."

February Statistics

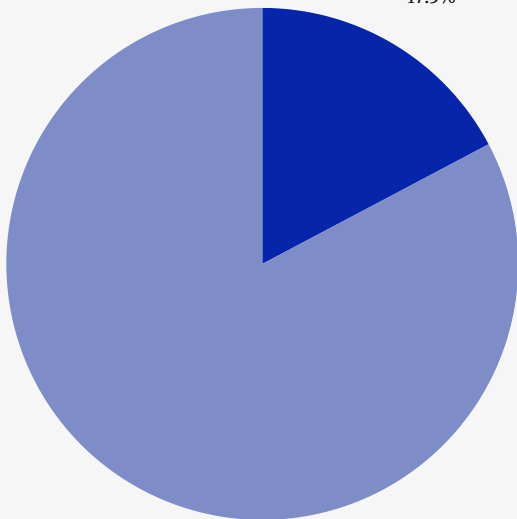
Patients visits/incomes and dispensary:



total value of prescription: \$118,303.76

Cambria Somerset patients:

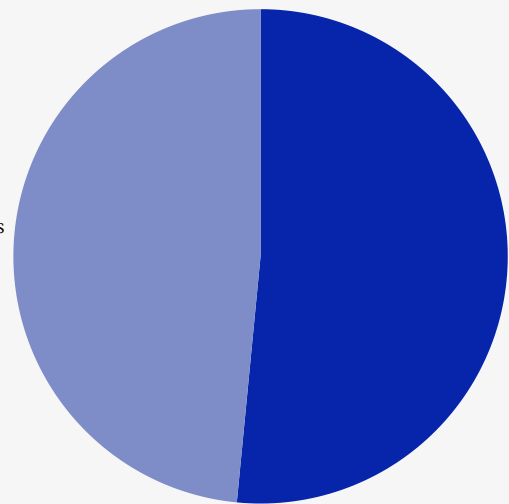
visits in Somerset Clinic
17.3%



visits in Johnstown Clinic
82.7%

Patients Gender:

male patients
48.5%



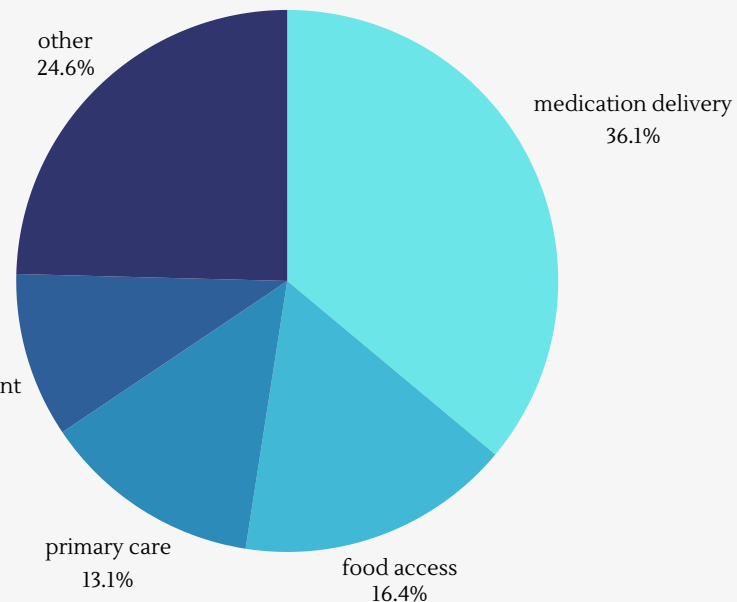
female patients
51.5%

Patient assistance:

During February, we assisted 71 individuals with utilities, rent, transportation, food, medication, chronic disease management and other services.

other includes:
other clinical/health/medical service
urgent care/ emergency care
specialist
dentist/orthodontist
other non-clinical sdoh service
job interview/ job

chronic disease management
9.8%



Concert Surprise



WE WILL SOON ANNOUNCE THE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CONCERT. KEEP AN EYE ON THE NEWS; JUST A HINT... THIS YEAR'S GROUP RECORDING HAS HIT THE TOP 40, AND THEY HAVE BEEN THE LEAD BAND FOR THE "JONAS BROTHERS".

