

VIM VOICE



June/July 2019

Patients:	May	June
Bluffton	246	279
Ridgeland	49	68



Notes from Pam

Each year our clinic must complete an in-depth clinic report. This report is then combined with reports from other VIM clinics throughout the nation. The following is part of that report.

Over 28 million people in this country lack health insurance and millions more face barriers to care which included gaps in coverage, high costs and provider shortages. Volunteers in Medicine addresses these needs by harnessing the collective will of communities to come together and compassionately serve their neighbors in need.

In 2018, Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Alliance clinics delivered over 349,000 patient visits to nearly 87,000 patients. Over 10,000 community volunteers and medical professionals shared their time and expertise to deliver quality health care services in the 88 VIM Alliance clinics. These adjusted figures are based on the 2018 VIM Alliance Annual Survey, with 77 of the 88 eligible VIM Alliance clinics responding.

Hypertension, diabetes, mental health issues, and obesity are among the most frequently treated diseases. Specialized on-site services include pediatric care, dental services and behavioral/mental health services. Sixty-four percent of clinics track off-site

referrals. Among these clinics, 37,606 referrals were reported. Seventy-three percent of VIM Alliance clinics have an on-site dispensary, pharmacy or utilize some other method to distribute medications. Forty-two percent of clinics are open 32 or more hours per week for patient care.

A note from the National Office; sometime this summer, the VIM national office will be moving from Vermont and relocating to Hilton Head. Moving to Hilton Head will be like moving home as the first Volunteers in Medicine Clinic opened there 27 years ago! Watch for more information on this move.

**** Newly hired VIM National Executive Director Mark Cruise will be guest speaker at our Annual Volunteer Meeting on **Friday, September 27th**. Mark your calendars!!**

Bluffton Chamber of Commerce Coffee Hour

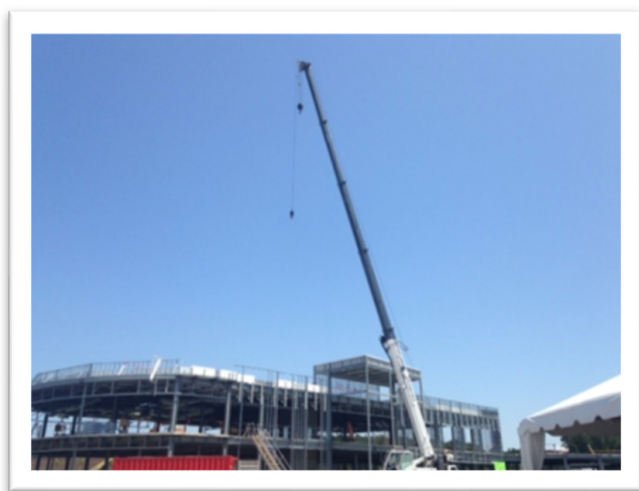


On June 4th, the Greater Bluffton Chamber of Commerce held a coffee hour at the clinic. Over 50 people attended.

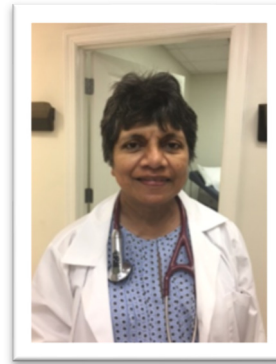
Special thanks to KML Computer Services for sponsoring this event, The Grind Coffee shop in Sheridan Park for donating the coffee and the new Kroger on Buckwalter for donating the donuts. KML also made "goodie bags" for all those who attended the event. Special thanks to the volunteers who were on hand to give tours and answer questions about the clinic!

New St. Joseph's Candler Facility

If you have been driving on Buckwalter Parkway recently you may have noticed that St. Joseph's Candler will soon have a big presence in Bluffton. On Monday, May 20th Dennis and Pam had the opportunity make our mark on the last beam to be installed on the new building. We proudly signed in big letters Bluffton Jasper County Volunteers in Medicine and then returned on May 22 to watch as this final beam was installed! Just a few short months ago, Dr. Smith was present at the groundbreaking for this medical building. We are hopeful that we will be able to refer our patients to the services offered by St. Joseph's when this new facility opens.



Good Luck to Dr. Stokoe



We were very sorry to see Dr. Stokoe leave our Ridgeland clinic at the end of June. Dr. Stokoe began volunteering with us in at the end of 2016, first working at the Bluffton clinic and then becoming our weekly primary care physician in Ridgeland. Dr.

Stokoe often worked beyond the 8:30 -12:30 shift seeing patients who needed special care. We certainly will miss Dr. Stokoe and wish her well.



**Christmas
in July
is almost
here!!**

\$10.00 raffle tickets are now on sale and \$50.00 dinner tickets are also

available. Santa will pull the winning ticket at the dinner on Thursday, July 25th at the Palm Key Center in Ridgeland. This is the third year for our Christmas in July event with the food and music promising to be even more special this year! We currently have over 100 volunteers and it would be wonderful if each volunteer purchased a raffle ticket for \$10.00. Money from this fundraising event helps us better provide for our patients and you just might win that trip to Biltmore Estate in Ashville, NC!!



BJVIM in the News!

Hope you got to see the TV clip on WTOC TV. We had great coverage

with special attention given to Terry and the OPTOS machine, Sandy in the pharmacy, and Dr. Cross speaking on why he volunteers at the clinic! FYI, Dr. Cross said he first started to volunteer at the VIM Hilton Head and has been associated with VIM clinics for 28 years!!!

Are you  to be a
BJVIM volunteer???

Volunteer Orientation Meetings

Monthly orientations have been well attended. Thanks to the coordination by Shelley Martin and Peggy Pantano, we have had many nurses and admin people who feel they are “mint to be a BJVIM volunteer.” Special thanks to BJVIM Board Members, George David, Dot Jeger and Joe Pantano who have taken turns attending the orientations.



Thank you, Callawassie!

Special thanks to Friends of Callawassie for their grant of \$2,000 to help with patient referrals.

BJVIM at Brew & Blues

Thanks to help from the Resource Development Department and BJVIM Board member Barbara Elbertson, BJVIM participated in Brew & Blues at the Bluffton Oyster Park. Volunteers and Board Members became bar tenders for the night and collected \$500.00 worth of tips! Thanks everyone!!

