

VIM VOICE



July / August 2020



Notes from Pam:

These are very trying times for sure, but thanks to our wonderful volunteers BJVIM is operating at full if not a little modified speed! Currently we have 5 doctors coming to the clinic weekly to see patients with Dr. Casey splitting her time between the Ridgeland and Bluffton clinics and Dr. Kondor now coming in to conduct eye exams once a month. Four doctors are utilizing our telemedicine program and “seeing” patients remotely once a week. Three doctors hope to return in the new year and we are currently working with two medical providers who we hope will begin seeing patients in the near future! Thanks to the hard work of Ruth, prescription refills are being distributed on Thursdays and we have a monthly diabetic clinic held on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Thanks to all in our community who have been volunteering and we look forward to the time when everyone returns.

Keeping you all in my prayers,
Pam



Thanks to Chris Cheek for the adult nebulizer that was given to us in July. These supplies, along with individual blood pressure monitors and glucometers, allow our patients to take a more active role in checking their health conditions.



We are in the process of

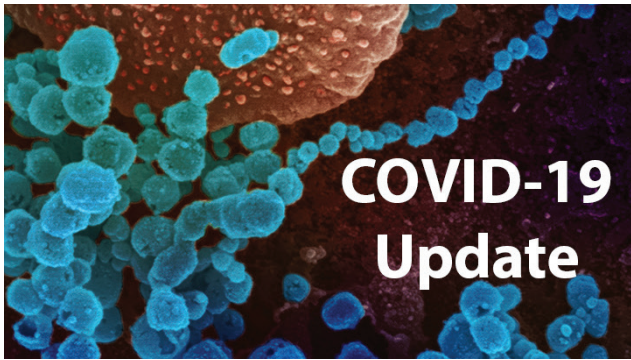
re-credentialing all the medical and paid staff for our

TORT Insurance/Malpractice Insurance. If you have recently renewed your license, please be sure you give Ruth and Pam a copy ASAP! We are fortunate to receive this insurance free through the CDC and is only possible if we have all your current information.



On July 22nd and August 19th a number of volunteers helped at the Coastal Carolina COVID-19 testing program. Very special thanks to Dr. Casey, Dennis Toney, Susie Carpoi, Jessica Saucedo, Gail Thompson, Linda Wolff, Terry Rowe, Wendy Barrett, Joe Pantano, Jennifer Parker, Sara Shankle, and George and Linda David. Not only were we able to help with the registration but with an emergency COVID-19 grant from the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation, we were able to provide healthy snacks for all the volunteers from the hospitals, Health Department, Fire and Rescue Departments and the National Guard.





COVID-19 Updates

Thanks to community volunteers, the BlueCross/BlueShield Foundation and a grant from the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation, we have been able to secure PPE equipment allowing us to have a good supply of face masks, face shields, gowns and hand sanitizer. We are still in short supply of disinfectant wipes but have liquid disinfectant to be used with paper towels. We have been referring patients with COVID-19 symptoms to Coastal Carolina Hospital for testing. If you have any questions, please ask either Dr. Casey, Ruth or Pam for information. We are monitoring the temperatures of all staff, volunteers and guests who come to the clinic. These reports are being kept in the office should there be a need for contact tracing. All personnel are required to wear masks in the clinic and when interacting with patients and staff. Face shields and gowns are available for all staff and volunteers.



Our Annual Volunteer Meeting in September has been cancelled. We will be putting together clinic information for you in a power point format to be viewed, along with policy updates. We hope to celebrate all our volunteers at a future date.



We are continuing to need both medical and non-medical volunteers for all shifts. Please log into Sign-up Genius to view volunteer time options. We are continuing to offer

monthly Volunteer Orientation on the second Thursday from 3-4pm. If you know anyone interested in volunteering, please give Shelley Martin their name and best contact information.

Dental News

Dental Update

Right now, we are just waiting for the building permits. All of the files and holiday decorations, tables and chairs have been removed from both bathrooms and stored in an offsite storage facility. A dust screen will be installed in the hallway. Fraser Construction will do all of the floor removal over the weekend to reduce the noise level when the clinic is in session. We are hopeful all construction will be completed by November!



Thanks to the generosity of many, our Virtual Spring Fling Fashion Show was a huge success bringing in over \$16,000 after expenses! Carrie, Lynn, Pam and board member, Dot Jeger, bid on and won handbags. Both the Christmas in July and Bourbon & Bubbly have been cancelled due to COVID-19. Our Resource Development

Team is in the processes making alternative plans to raise our much needed, non-restricted funds used to pay the clinic overhead.



Please remember to put your initials next to information that you place in the appointment box.

Due to our shortage of nurses and admin staff, please only double book patients for Dr. Irving. We cannot double book for any other doctors at this time.

Please remember that we operate on a four (4) hour shift. Again, due to volunteer shortages, we struggle if you have to leave early.

Please remember to clean your work area when you leave your area.



I would like to welcome Lee McSavaney

I would like to welcome Lee McSavaney to the BJVIM family as our new office manager. Lee previously worked as the administrative assistant at Habitat for Humanity in Beaufort. The COVID-19 regulations have resulted in many changes at the clinic, as a result, her job description has been modified. Suzanne Taylor has been such a tremendous help to us all over the past nine months and she will continue to help Lee as she learns all the “ins and outs” of the clinic. Peggy Pantano has been training Lee on Practice Fusion and Shelley Martin is helping with volunteer scheduling. Both of these wonderful volunteers have taken on additional work since March and we are so grateful for their help! More about Lee in next month’s newsletter.



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