

VIM VOICE



June 2021

NOTES FROM PAM

Dear Volunteers;

The following is from the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics news:



During May, we celebrated nurses and all they do to keep patients healthy – even more deserved because of the COVID-19 pandemic when excellent patient care can mean life and death. Nicole Lamoreaux, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (NAFC), calls nurses “the heart and soul of what we do.”

Based in Alexandria, Virginia, NAFC has 1,400 free and charitable clinics around the country, annually providing health care to 2 million people, and 6 million patient visits for them. (I am pleased to say that BJVIM is a member of the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics Association)

“Free Clinics are the community’s response to health care,” says Lamoreaux. “They are grassroots medicine at its finest. They’re not funded by the federal government, and are all 501(c)(3) organizations, which makes them different from other clinics in the safety net sector.”

People connect with the clinics through word of mouth, direct outreach, their website or through

community partners that connect people with rural or community health centers. People can also find free clinics on the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinic’s website, their state’s free clinic website or the VIM-America website.

We may be a small clinic, but we are part of a national group of clinics caring for the uninsured in our country! Thanks everyone for your care!

— Pam



Care When It Counts

I am happy to report that we have been recertified by the SC Free Clinic Association. Along with the certification certificate came a letter stating “the SCFCA commends you for your commitment to high quality care and taking the necessary steps to maintain compliance with the rigorous standards established by the certification process.” The letter went on to say they would forward this information to the National Association of Free Clinics to inform them that we have met all the needed standards to comply with National requirements. Special thanks to Donna Rhodes for working on our certification book and to all staff and volunteers who work so hard to make our clinic special!



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Special Thanks

Special thanks once again goes out to our anonymous donor who has given us additional funds to create newspaper ads for volunteer recruitment, informational commercials, TV spots on WHHI-TV to promote both clinics and update our web page. I have already seen some of the ads and one of our volunteers said she received a pop up on her Facebook page about the clinic. For many years we have tried to create a public relations campaign but have lacked the funds. This opportunity will allow us to promote BJVIM and look to future sustainability.



We would like to welcome our new volunteers: Karen Walker, intake volunteer; Quandal Gray (BJVIM Board Member) admin volunteer; and nurses — Charlotte White, Elizabeth Matteson and Kathy Cooper. We are so excited to have you with us!



We are most fortunate to have new volunteer, Cathy Cooper, with us who not only is a nurse but also a certified CPR trainer. She has already held two class. Currently scheduled is a class entitled "Family & Friends." **This class is a skill class ideal for anyone who wants to be prepared to save a life — it is not for health care providers needing certification. The class will be held on Thursday, July 8th from 1pm-3:30pm. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board as you come into the clinic. (There is no cost to participate.)**





Jasper Clinic News

With funds from our anonymous donor, we are working on expanding services at the Ridgeland Clinic. Recently hired June Bess will now be the nurse at the clinic Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. June comes to us from Hampton Regional Hospital and is a past resident of Jasper County. She will be working with Ruth for the next four weeks before beginning her work in Ridgeland. Please welcome June. June's hiring will not remove the need for volunteer nurses in Ridgeland but will allow us to bring more services to the clinic and increase our hours of operation. We are excited to have June with us!



Christmas in July, our fundraiser for Jasper County, has been changed this year from an in-person event to a spectacular raffle with 10 chances to win weekend getaways and gift cards! As more and more places are opening and people are taking trips, please think about purchasing a ticket to help our clinics and have a chance to win a "weekend getaway".

Volunteer Meeting

I am excited to say that we are planning to hold our **Annual Volunteer Meeting on Friday, September 24th from 9am- 2pm.**

Please put this date on your calendars. More information to come.



1st Prize

The Greyfield Inn, Cumberland Island, GA

Three night, all-inclusive stay includes ferry to the island, room, meals, bicycles, kayaks, and beach equipment



2nd Prize

The Sanctuary Hotel, Kiawah Island 2-night stay and \$200 gift card

3rd Prize

The J.W. Marriott – Savannah Plant Riverside District 2-night stay, tour of Savannah & \$200 gift card

4th Prize

The Rhett House Inn, Beaufort 2-night stay, includes signature breakfast, tour of Beaufort & \$200 gift card

5th Prize

The Sonesta Resort, Hilton Head Island 2-night stay includes gift cards for dinner

6th Prize

The Bluffton Inn 2-night stay and Gift Card to the Burnt Church Distillery

7th Prize

End of the Road Cabins, Lake Lure, NC 2-night stay in luxury, tiny cabin in the heart of Lake Lure and The Hickory Nut Gorge, NC. Gift Card for dinner.

8th, 9th, 10th Prizes \$100 gift cards