

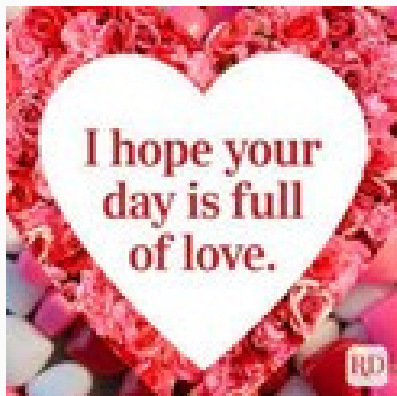
JANUARY 2024

VIM VOICE

SPREAD THE LOVE!

I had the opportunity to view a film at our local Cinemax recently entitled [A Case for Love](#). It was a meaningful film stressing how important love is in our lives and in the lives of others. The film introduced people in various stages of their lives either in need of love or sharing their love for others. As I heard many stories, I thought of our patients, many of whom both need our love and have shared their love with us. Last week Dr. Casey, Liz and I attended a men's church dinner where one of our patients credited Dr. Casey and the clinic with saving his life. Just before Christmas a patient brought in a delicious cake to share with the staff. At the dental clinic a patient came in that I had not seen in a few months and spontaneously we hugged each other. Not sure what life is like for any of us after we leave the clinic, but here and in Ridgeland I know (and am so very thankful for) all the love that is around us. Know that you all are loved this Valentines Day and Always!

Pam



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CHANGE

Dr. Hurst and Dr. Fortier are no longer volunteering at the clinic. Dr. Hurst had a stroke a few days before Christmas and continues to recuperate. He is not sure he will be able to return. Dr. Fortier enjoyed his time with us and caring for patients but decided not to return in the New Year. Dr. George Myers with the dental clinic had a health issue over the holidays and hopes to return in the Spring. Dr. Maryrose Eichelberger has returned and will be with us until May. We are in the process of getting insurance for Dr. Bonnie Shelton and hope to have her with us shortly. We also welcome Dr. Pitel to the dental clinic.

VOICEMAILS, VOICEMAILS, VOICEMAILS!

Hard to believe the month is almost over! The clinic reopened on January 3 with a full day and evening schedule! Having the staff come in the day before patients has really been a big help. Phone messages could be answered, and preparations made for the next day. Thanks to Ruth, Liz, Andrew, Analia, Linda, and volunteer Gail who helped get things organized for the big rush on Wednesday!

POP-UP HEALTH CLINIC

On Saturday January 13th nurses Gail and Liz and new volunteer Mick Andrews worked with Dr. Hufford to hold a health clinic in Hardeeville. Mick demonstrated chair yoga, Gail took BP and Liz and Dr. Hufford did foot exams. It was a great morning. We hope to do these health clinics quarterly. If you are interested in helping, please let Pam know.



VOLUNTEER MEETING FEEDBACK

I received great feedback on our annual meeting held at Downtown Deli. So I have once again booked the location for Thursday, December 5th.





CLINICAL MEDICAL ASSISTANT



We look forward to having two new CMA students with us. They will be helping in the clinic and taking inventory in the pharmacy. Please make them welcome!

IN THE NEWS

BJVIM has had some good publicity recently. The clinic was featured in WHHI TV for our collaboration with Bluffton Self Help and Lowcountry Legal Aid Volunteers. The South Carolina Free Clinic Association picked up the video and with the help of Debi Lyons will be holding another round table at the annual convention in Greenville at the beginning of February. BJVIM is also part of a feature article in the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry annual report. This time our collaboration with Hilton Head VIM, Mental Health America, and Lowcountry Legal Aid Volunteers. Like us on Facebook to read the full article.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Please check your signup genius accounts we need both nurses and admin volunteers in February. We had a good turn out for the Volunteer Orientation this month and hope to have two new nurses and additional admin volunteers soon.



BOURBON & Bubbly

Andrew held the first Bourbon & Bubbly meeting. The annual gala will be held once again at Hewitt Oaks on Thursday May 9th from 6-10. Please put the date on your calendars. We always need help finding auction items, helping the night of the event and this year are needing of 100 bottles of wine. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase a ticket for a surprise bottle of wine. Wines can be any value.

BOARD RETREAT

On Saturday, January 27 the BJVIM Board of Directors held their Annual Retreat at the Belfair conference room. At the meeting we discussed the clinic's 2023 accomplishments and made plans for 2024. As always, our clinic could not survive without the dedication of our volunteers. Looking forward to some of the 2024 goals; we hope to have the Ridgeland Clinic renovations completed by late summer/early fall, we are looking for additional ways to increase the number of nurses at both clinics, and expand our strategic planning for the next 3 years. We also welcomed Lisa Sulka, retired Bluffton mayor to the board.



THINKING OF YOU

Carol and Lynn had lunch with Lee the other day. They both said it was so good to see her. She is so upbeat and positive. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 5TH - VOLUNTEER MEETING
MAY 9TH - BOURBON & BUBBLY



BLUFFTONJASPERCOUNTYVOLUNTEERSINMEDICINE