



Volunteers in Medicine, Chattanooga, Inc.
P.O. Box 81057, Chattanooga, TN 37414
Therese Padgett, Editor

423/855-8220
5900 Building, Suite 1400
Eastgate

Newsletter, Volume III, 2008
www.VIM-CHATT.org

**A NOTE FROM PAT:
THREE YEARS WITH CONTINUED
INCREASE IN PROVIDER SESSIONS!**

I marvel at the constant, continual support VIM's providers have contributed to our patient population. With the transition that comes with hiring/acclimating a new nurse practitioner on-site, the clinic has continued to schedule the maximum number of patients that can be seen each clinic session. All of the support volunteers that go along with that activity continue to grow as well. In fact the number of service volunteer hours in 2008 has increased another 5% from 2007!

Improvements in workflows, modifications/changes and continual training and retraining, retooling/re-skilling are all activities that accompany this continued growth. Thank you volunteers for your willingness to learn and adjust as we make these improvements on a regular basis. Your commitment to continuing to make VIM the best it can be is essential! Thanks for being the Volunteers that you are!

**MARILYN REFLECTS: COLLEGE
VOLUNTEERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Many people only occasionally come to the clinic and probably are not aware of some special young volunteers that have been helping us this summer. I will share a little about three

Louis Revenig is a Junior Pre-med student at UTK. He is home for the summer with his family here in Chattanooga. He is EMT, IV certified. He wanted to work in a medical setting for some experience. Most facilities will not hire a student during the summer so he called us. We were happy to have his assistance in our Lab with the blood draws. He has been very flexible and willing to do Triage (vital signs) or computer projects for us also. He planned to spend the complete summer with us until he was asked to help with a short medical research project in another country.

Jessica Paullet is a Pharmacy Tech. and taking classes toward her Pharmacy degree. She has been coming weekly helping in the Dispensary and doing computer projects for them. She takes her time here seriously. She comes in with a big smile and is happy to help doing whatever she is asked to do.

Mary "Kate" Shuster has just graduated with a Pre-med major and has applied to a number of Medical Schools. She has some experience helping in her (physician) father's office. She is also anxious to be in a medical setting for experience. She has been coming weekly helping wherever there is a need. She has done Triage (vital signs), Registration, EKG's, and computer projects. One day there was a little child needing someone with her in the Children's Room. When I walked by Kate was on the floor playing with the little one and they were both having a good time.

These young volunteers are full of energy and eager to help. It is good to see such quality young people, who will become leaders in our community, showing compassion and a desire to help at VIM.

INSPIRING YOUTH

VIM had two unique opportunities in June to reach out to young people interested in pursuing a career in the medical field. 1) Eight girls from Girls, Inc. spent a morning talking with Nancy and the staff and learning more about how the clinic was founded and what the different staff and volunteers do at the clinic. 2) This is our third year to host high school juniors and seniors who have been selected for the Chattanooga - Hamilton County Medical Society Youth Leadership Forum. These students spent a morning seeing the clinic in action. The students were so excited that the program may be expanded next year.

As well as serving our friends and neighbors, these two tours enabled VIM to inspire young people to pursue their dreams.

You have caught the vision with us. Thank you for caring for "the least of these."



**VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE
Chattanooga, Inc.**

July 7, 2008

Volunteers in Medicine Update: January – June, 2008

Vision Statement:

May we have eyes to see, with Christian love, those to whom we have been blind, arms to embrace those who have been excluded, hands to touch those needing compassion, wisdom and skill to alleviate suffering, with hearts bonded together.

Key data as of the end of June concerning the primary care area of the clinic:

Category	June YTD 2007	June YTD 2008
Patient visits	2,583	2,396
X-rays	120	125
Dental Services	\$3,628	\$1,394
Medical Services provided, X-Ray	\$216,590	\$195,573
Laboratory Services	\$52,665	\$67,148
Clinic Dispensary	\$70,084	\$30,154
PAP meds (90day supply)	\$232,630	\$402,611
Total Medical Care Delivered (clinic rates)	\$575,597	\$696,880
Total Estimated Medical Care Delivered (ER rates)	(\$2,302,388)	\$2,787,520
Available Counseling Hours*	298	60
Mammograms taken – Memorial Breast Center*	61	84
Referrals - Project Access*	165	165
Total Volunteer Service Hours*	6,074	6,404
Total Est. Value of Donated Volunteer Hours*	\$196,202	\$322,649

* Value is not included in Medical Care Delivered

(Recent adjusted formula)

VIM Staff = 5.0 FTEs

June 2008 YTD Financial Stats:

Spent: \$178,936. **Cost for one patient visit:** \$74.68 **Value delivered for one patient visit:** \$292/clinic rate or \$1,168/ER rates.

Rate of Return: For every \$1 donated the return was \$3.89 at clinic rates or \$15.58 at ER rates.

Highlights for June:

VIM opened the optometry clinic 9 months ago. Since the opening of the clinic, 122 VIM patients have received eye exams. Diseases were diagnosed and patients referred for advanced care thus preventing possible blindness in 12% of our eye patients.

- Diagnosed 1 patient w/optic nerve tumor, 6 patients w/cataracts, 4 patients w/glaucoma, 1 patient w/ hemorrhage of the eye, 2 patients w/retinopathy r/t diabetes, and 1 patient w/detached retina.
- These 15 patients were referred to Project Access for advanced eye care with ophthalmologists.
- Provided glasses for the majority of the patients through LensCrafters.
- Provided education to all patients during eye exams; this is part of VIM’s standard protocols.

View a new VIM DVD, VIM Randy Smith golf flier, and the 3 Year Clinic Report on the opening page of www.vim-chatt.org

The golf tournament is sold out for golfers in its second year. We could still use some Hole Sponsors at \$300 each. Also you can see publicity about the golf tournament and clinic activities as WRCB TV features VIM over the next month.

“I was sick and you cared for me....Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me -- you did it to me.”

Jesus of Nazareth