

VIM - CHATT

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A Note of Gratitude from Nancy Franks, President, VIM. Chattanooga, Inc.

It is hard to believe that we served our first patients at the Volunteers in Medicine clinic 3 years ago, May 4, 2005!!! Some of you have followed this ministry from the planning stage, nearly five years ago!!! We want to thank you for your prayers and support for this ministry. You will find the comparative statistics later in this newsletter. Please read the reflections and feel free to pass this newsletter along to others who might be interested in this ministry.

A Note from Pat:

Happy Third Birthday to VIM!

Here we are in the spring of 2008 (unbelievable, isn't it?), celebrating the tremendous efforts of so many, as Volunteers in Medicine- Chattanooga gratefully rejoices in her accomplishments to date.

Many hours of diligence and commitment and a bountiful amount of prayers have contributed to VIM's ability to serve those who are experiencing a time of need during these last three years.

May we continue to strive for excellence in serving our friends and neighbors and continue to seek improvements in helping to make a difference in the lives of so many.

We look forward to the arrival of VIM's new nurse practitioner, Priscilla Simms, who begins her tenure with VIM on May 12, 2008. The Lord has been gracious to the staff, as they have waited for her to join the team. With the help of VIM's medical director, Dr. Bowers, and the additional hours from providers and other volunteers, VIM has been able to continue to serve without difficulty.

May we continue to rejoice in the provision and care of our Lord Almighty.

A Note from Marilyn:

Special Volunteers and Special Projects

All of our volunteers are special! We have a number of volunteers that do special projects, usually in the background. Therefore, not many people are aware of what they do and what a difference it makes for the clinic.

We have the Scanning area where all the lab reports, EKG's and x-rays are scanned into the computer. This is vital so that the medical personnel have access to this information as soon as possible. Hugh Hannah has been working in this area from the beginning of the clinic. With the patient load increasing, it has been necessary to have more help. Dr. Bob Segrest is now helping several days a

month. We are thankful for these men and their faithful service.

The PAP area has some hard working, detail-oriented volunteers that make a real difference. They arrange for the free medications through the drug companies. This makes it possible for the patients to obtain some of the high cost medications when necessary. Don Dodson, Virginia Yarbrough and Loreen Atkins are doing a great job in this area.

Joe Solis comes in every Monday morning and makes reminder calls to all patients with an appointment or a need to sign papers that week. This reduces the missed appointments. Joe certainly helps to lift the load for us in his pleasant way.

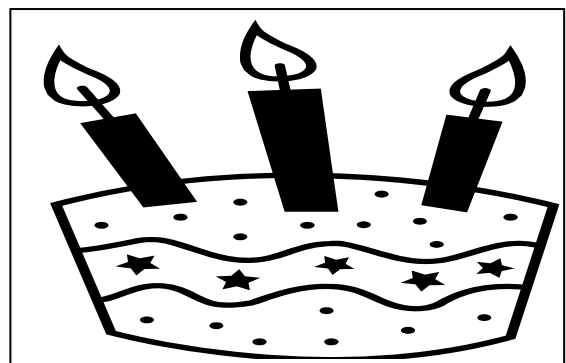
Every Tuesday morning, although we do not have regular clinic, Kathy Owens is here to help answer phone calls or make calls that are needed. She greets the patients for Physical Therapy and X-ray, has them sign in and makes them feel that she is truly happy to see them.

When special appointments need to be put into the computer or changed, Libby Raiford is the person to ask. She has learned some of the more complex tasks and it is always such a blessing to have her help.

Debbie Worthington and Denise Petite do special computer projects for us. Denise especially helps by recording the medications that come in from the drug companies and contacting the patients. Debbie usually helps by entering new volunteer information into a special computer program. This information makes it possible for us to have the Touch Screen to record each volunteer's time and also to obtain a detailed report of the volunteers' hours each month. These are, again, such valuable helpers.

Each of these special volunteers has found an area where they make a real difference. Thanks for all that you do!

Happy Birthday, VIM



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



**VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE
Chattanooga, Inc.**

May 2, 2008

Volunteers in Medicine Update: January – April, 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 April concerning the primary care area of the clinic and the 3rd year preliminary report:

Category	April YTD 2008	5-05 thru 4-08
Patient visits	1,555	12,881
X-rays	67	701
Dental Services	\$994	\$14,336
Medical Services provided, X-Ray	\$121,606	\$1,075,000
Laboratory Services	\$36,546	\$316,444
Clinic Dispensary	\$15,749	\$414,634
PAP meds (90day supply)	\$288,874	\$1,686,097
Total Medical Care Delivered (clinic rates)	\$463,769	\$3,506,510
Total Estimated Medical Care Delivered (ER rates)	\$1,855,076	\$14,026,040
Available Counseling Hours*	40	679
Mammograms taken – Memorial Breast Center*	53	388
Referrals - Project Access*	104	932
Total Volunteer Service Hours*	4,274	37,968
Total Est. Value of Volunteer Hours*	\$221,254	\$1,239,593

* Value is not included in Medical Care Delivered

VIM Staff = 4.0 FTEs

3 year Stats:

Cost: \$77.24 cost of one patient visit. Value Delivered \$272.21/clinic rate, \$1,088.84/ER rates.

Rate of Return: Spent \$994,980. For every \$1 donated the return was \$3.52/clinic rate, \$14.10/ER rates.

Reflections:

At the end of April, we finished our third year of operations! Each year there are new services added to the clinic. This past year we added an eye clinic and an orthopedic assessment clinic in conjunction with Project Access. We had our first VIM Randy Smith Golf Tournament and the first Band-Aid Banquet to introduce new people to this ministry. The golf tournament raised enough funds to operate the clinic for 3 weeks and the Band-Aid Banquet raised enough funds to operate the clinic for over a month! Volunteers developed a DVD that is used to tell the VIM story with new stories being told. Based on a Duke study, we have adjusted the estimated value of our services if rendered in an emergency room. Even though this is a conservative estimate, we think this more accurately reflects the contribution we are making in the community.

Thank you for taking this incredible journey with us. Some of you have been on this journey since the inception, some have just joined us, but each person is important as together we reach out to serve the uninsured in our community.

“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