



Volunteers in Medicine, Chattanooga, Inc.
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Newsletter, Volume IV, 2007

www.VIM-CHATT.org

A Note from Pat Dennison, Clinic Administrator: VIM-Chattanooga is very pleased to welcome **our new office assistant, Kathy Bolinger**. She comes to VIM with a myriad of expertise in the hotel hospitality business, as well as having worked for the Heil Co. in their corporate sales office. She has an AS degree in information systems from Chattanooga State. Kathy has a wonderful bubbly personality and is happy to serve VIM's patients. Please stop by and welcome Kathy to VIM-Chattanooga!

Allen Gravitt, VIM's Office Assistant, has decided to pursue other opportunities. We wish Allen the very best in his new endeavors.

A Note from Marilyn Fore, RN, Volunteer Coordinator: We have a number of new volunteers; many of them are nurses - HORRAY!! It is great to have more volunteers so I do not have to do so much juggling to cover all the positions. Although we have new volunteers, it does not mean that we do not need you or any new people. Because some of our Volunteers travel or head south during the cooler months, this may be a good time for you to call me. We certainly can use more physicians and nurses almost any time. Due to the volume of patients we are now seeing, most of the areas such as registration, triage and the lab are requiring two volunteers instead of just one. If you have not volunteered at the clinic for a while and would like to come back, please call me at 855-8220 ext. 3 and we can talk about the schedule.

A BIG THANKS goes to each of our volunteers. You were busy during the month of August as you represented VIM at **three health fairs**, the Minority Fair being the largest one. You are certainly a joy and a blessing with whom to work. As one pastor said, "Our volunteers are the cream of the crop."

The VIM Randy Smith Golf Classic was a success! After expenses are paid, we estimate the net raised is \$20,000 for the clinic during the inaugural tournament. Based on our expenses thru July of this year, the earnings from the golf tournament will enable us to operate the clinic for three weeks. The funds raised will enable the volunteers to serve 300 patient visits, to deliver medical care valued at \$67,460 at clinic rates or \$107,940 at ER rates. The clinic also received valuable media exposure from WRCB TV for the work we are doing. We are getting additional volunteers and patients from this event.

You may see **the top news story on Channel 3 from July 28th**, by going to www.vim-chatt.org and clicking on the golf tournament. In addition to seeing Randy on the tape, you will see Julian McLeod, a volunteer on the VIM Golf Committee, and Polly Henry, one of the Founders of the clinic and Board member, as well as scenes from the clinic.

A VIM Business DVD has just been completed and we will be sending it out to employers. You may go to www.vim-chatt.org and click on [business video](#) on the opening page to see it or click on [VIM Chattanooga Story](#) to see the DVD that was sent to the churches. If you know a small business owner (less than 50 employees) and you would be willing to contact them for VIM, please let us know.

Optometry Services: Thanks to generous donations from the Held Foundation and Essilor of America, we were able to purchase and install optometry equipment at the clinic during the month of August. We served our first VIM patients for eye care on September 21. It is important to remember that optometry clients must first be VIM patients under the care of VIM doctors or our nurse practitioner and must have a referral from one of them. The \$12,000 spent for eye equipment in August raised our YTD spending and cost per patient visit slightly, but the return both medically and monetarily will be great now that we are providing eye care for our friends and neighbors.

All of our **referrals to Memorial's Breast Center** in 2007 have received screening from Memorial's mammogram van at the clinic. There is an average of one positive result each time the van comes to the clinic. Follow up care is provided through the Mary Ellen Locher Breast Center at no charge to our patients; lives are being saved.

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

Combined Federal Campaign: VIM has been approved as a non-profit agency for the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). TVA, postal, and other federal employees can now give to VIM at work through the CFC. Special thanks go to VIM volunteers, Sandra Price and Sarah Kienel, for working the VIM booth on Sept. 12th at the TVA building. If you are a federal employee and would like to give to VIM through this means, **VIM's number is 28953.**

John Stophel: The VIM Board and Executive Committee extend our condolences to the family of John Stophel, local attorney. John had followed the progress of the clinic since 2004, when Dr. Colleen Schmitt asked him to serve on our Advisory Board. He came to the Grand Opening to hear and meet Dr. McConnell. John received our email updates each month on the progress of the clinic and would comment on how we were doing. Our loss is heaven's gain.

Cristin Doty: Cristin, VIM's Nurse Practitioner, has been recruited by a local orthopedic group to be its first mid level provider; our loss is their gain. This is a wonderful opportunity for her, since her husband is in Erlanger's orthopedic residency program. Cristin won't be leaving us until the end of the year, so if you know someone who would be interested in applying for this position, please have them send their resume to Volunteers in Medicine, PO Box 81057, Chattanooga, TN 37414. We are hoping the new person can come on board by the first of Dec. so Cristin can help train her replacement.

October 2, 2007

Volunteers in Medicine Update: January – September, 2007

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

Category	September YTD 2006	September YTD 2007
Patient visits	3,390	3,963
X-rays	163	220
Dental Services	N/A	\$11,541
Medical Services provided, X-Ray	\$271,852	\$331,589
Laboratory Services	\$61,326	\$109,592
Clinic Dispensary	\$129,909	\$98,063
PAP meds (90day supply)	\$437,288	\$343,408
Total Medical Care Delivered (clinic rates)	\$900,375	\$894,193
Total Medical Care Delivered (ER rates)	\$1,363,462	\$1,444,978
Available Counseling Hours*	136	326
Referrals – Memorial's Breast Center*	125	96
Referrals - Project Access*	177	306
Total Volunteer Service Hours*	8,809	9,793
Est. Value of Donated Volunteer Hours*	\$303,989	\$306,642

* Value is not included in Medical Care Delivered

VIM Staff = 4 FTEs

September 2007 YTD Financial Stats:

Spent: \$278,376.

Cost for one patient visit: \$70 **Value delivered for one patient visit:** \$225/clinic rate or \$363/ER rates.

Rate of Return: For every \$1 donated the return was \$3.12 at clinic rates or \$5.19 at ER rates.

Comments from two patients:

I would like to say 'Thanks' to all my friends that (volunteer) here at the Volunteers in Medicine for making me feel at home here and for helping me to get to feeling better when I come over here. Love you all

To everyone at VIM,

Thank You so much, you are such a blessing! God gives us so many wonderful things to be thankful for... Especially the kindness and thoughtfulness of wonderful people like you! What a wonderful blessing each of you have been who have touched my life through VIM. Abundance of Blessings to you all.

To all our volunteers and donors: Thank you for making this clinic possible.

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