



MOORE
FREE & CHARITABLE
CLINIC

Healing Hands. Caring Hearts.

HANDS and HEARTS

The Newsletter of Moore Free & Charitable Clinic

Our Mission: With compassion and respect, Moore Free & Charitable Clinic provides health care to the limited income, uninsured of Moore County.

Spring | 2025

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Message to Small Business Owners From the CEO

We meet many unsung heroes who come through the doors of the Clinic. They work in the restaurants we frequent, they keep our lawns green and neat, and keep our houses sparkling clean. The majority of our patients are of working age, and most are employed. Many work for the hundreds of small businesses in Moore County that often cannot afford to provide health insurance for their employees. We are proud the Clinic helps keep uninsured workers in Moore County healthy and on the job.



I'd like to talk about two examples of our unsung heroes. "Lou" came to us complaining of loss of energy and joint pain. As a landscaping worker, he often did not feel like he could meet the physical demands of his job. The sole support for his family, he sometimes missed work and was afraid he might not be able to stay employed in landscaping. When he arrived at the Clinic, he was diagnosed with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes. With medication, health coaching and changes to his diet, Lou slowly started to feel more energetic. He lost some weight and his joints feel much better. He is able to enjoy family activities and gets through his work days with energy to spare. Lou went from being fearful of losing his job to feeling confident in his work performance.

"Ann" is employed at a local restaurant and had been missing work from time to time because she felt so bad. She had type 2 diabetes that was not well controlled. She said her goal was to be able to discontinue insulin. She has since improved her diet and made exercise a priority. As a result of the health coaching the Clinic offers and her own hard work, Ann has lost weight, lowered her blood pressure and has been able to discontinue insulin. She now feels better able to meet the demands of her job.

I invite those who own small businesses to keep the Clinic in mind as a medical and dental resource for uninsured employees. I also urge you to support the Clinic as an investment in the health of the employees who contribute so much to your success, and who contribute to the community as a whole.

Thank you,

Staff Spotlight

Emily Scurlock, Certified Pharmacy Technician

A big part of the Clinic's daily operations involves dispensing medications. In 2024, Moore Free & Charitable Clinic dispensed over \$6 million worth. Emily Scurlock is responsible for managing the Clinic's medication programs. Emily previously worked in a retail pharmacy and saw many customers forced to leave empty-handed because they could not afford the full cost of their medications. She was inspired by that experience to work in the non-profit sector where she could help people get the medications they needed.

When a new patient sees a provider and has a name brand medication prescribed, Emily uses the patient's income information and clinical records to apply for medication assistance from the applicable drug manufacturer. For most high cost brand name medications, manufacturers offer discounts based on patient income. Emily efficiently coordinates the applications for new patients and for those needing recertification of eligibility, usually on an annual basis. The medications are shipped directly to the Clinic to be dispensed.

The Clinic also works with NC MedAssist, a state pharmacy program for the uninsured. Emily orders generic and over the counter medications through the MedAssist program that are dispensed as prescribed by Clinic providers. Over 500 patients participated in this program in 2024. Emily works closely with Clinic providers to ensure that each patient's needs are met.



Outside the Clinic, Emily is an avid gardener. Her vegetable garden provides her family with delicious produce all year round. She says, "I love to can and freeze surplus produce. It's great in the middle of winter to have that fresh taste of summer. And my two daughters are learning self-sufficiency." Thank you for carefully tending to our patients, as well, Emily!

Misty Pedacchio, Physician Assistant

Misty has been a part-time provider for Moore Free & Charitable Clinic since 2007. Though she works full-time as an internal medicine specialist in the FirstHealth of the Carolinas hospitalist program, she manages to work several days a month at the Clinic. She also is willing to fill in for the Clinical Director during absences. "I love my day job, but also enjoy outpatient work where I can develop a relationship with patients over time. Sometimes I see my former inpatients at the Clinic." Misty is very valuable as a liaison with FirstHealth and often facilitates referrals.

As mother of one daughter, Misty recently moved to Apex but is still commuting to Pinehurst and to the Clinic on her scheduled days. She truly enjoys her colleagues on her hospitalist team and considers the Clinic team as great to work with also. "We have very fine, competent staff at the Clinic. I don't want to give up that collaboration, and I would miss our wonderful patients."



Misty is an enthusiastic cook and foodie who loves to unwind at the beach, especially Kiawah Island, SC. Everyone at the Clinic appreciates Misty's loyalty and service to our patients!

How You Can Help

We depend on your gifts to make Moore County a healthier place to live for all.

Our average cost to take care of a patient is almost \$450. Won't you help fund the cost to provide quality services for one, two or more of your neighbors who need care?

HOW TO GIVE

- Use the enclosed envelope to send credit card information or a check made payable to Moore Free & Charitable Clinic.
OR
- Go to www.MooreFreeCare.org and click on DONATE NOW link on our home page. Or scan the code below with your smart phone camera app.
- For gifts of stock, a donor advised fund or your IRA, go to www.MooreFreeCare.org and click on Legacy and Non-Cash Gifts



All gifts—whether large or small—are deeply appreciated!

2024 Accomplishments

Total value of services provided \$22,073,323	Value of \$1 investment \$21.46	Value of services provided per patient \$13,350
Emergency Dept. diversion savings \$9,312,600	Number of unique patients 1650	Number of unique dental patients 239
Patient income 138% of federal poverty level and below 62%	Diabetic patients with well controlled blood sugar 65%	Hypertension patients with normal blood pressure 80%

Thank you to the staff and volunteers who make these accomplishments possible!

2025 Hearts and Hands Brunch

February 9, 2025

benefiting Moore Free & Charitable Clinic



Our 2025 Hearts and Hands Brunch at the Carolina Hotel was our largest ever, with just over 300 attendees. The famous Carolina Hotel brunch spread was delicious as always, with outstanding music by Charlie Mardigian and the Golf Capital Chorus. Our special guest speakers were Dr. Jenifir Bruno, Chief Medical Officer of FirstHealth of the Carolinas, and Dr. Samir Ridha, volunteer dentist. Valentine's Day portraits were taken by photographer Kyra Rodriguez. From left: Charlie Mardigian, Clem and Kamron Monroe, Karen and Jeff Fitch, Leslie and Marcus Laws, Chuck and Amy Walters, and Sirlancee McRay and Pamela McGregor. Many thanks to the Carolina Hotel and staff for being wonderful hosts!