



# HANDS and HEARTS

The Newsletter of  
Moore Free &  
Charitable Clinic

Fall, 2022

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### Our Mission:

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

For more information visit  
[www.MooreFreeCare.org](http://www.MooreFreeCare.org)  
211 Trimble Plant Road  
Southern Pines, NC 28387  
(910) 246-5333



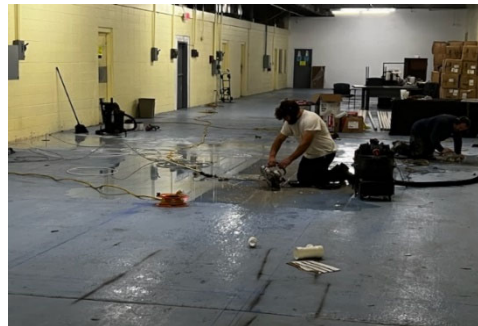
## A Message from our CEO



A little over a year ago, the Board of Directors of Moore Free & Charitable Clinic gave its approval to a plan to add a dental clinic to our current services. We have long been aware of the great need for access to routine dental care for low income adults. However, we also knew addressing this issue would take major funding.

If one of our patients suffers from a toothache or other oral health problem, we have few options. Our longtime partners, Monroe & Monroe Dentistry, provide extractions on a pro bono basis. But sometimes the problem has progressed to the point where the only option is the emergency room. People who cannot afford dental care are suffering daily from entirely preventable dental conditions. It affects all aspects of their lives, causing pain, medical complications and embarrassment.

I have spent a lot of time talking to people about our hopes for improving access to dental care, including local dentists, foundations, state policymakers and private donors. I can only describe the response as incredible. In a relatively short time, we raised enough funds to begin construction of space adjacent to our current offices. One of the highlights occurred last June, when we held the Dine, Dance and Donate gala at the Fair Barn. Please check out the article and photos on page 4.



I am happy to say we began construction on the dental clinic on November 1. Unfortunately, we will incur a large unbudgeted expense. Our plumbers must dig out more of the existing concrete slab to run water lines than originally estimated. In any construction project, we can expect cost surprises, especially in an

inflationary period. But with your help, we can integrate oral health with medical care in an innovative partnership.

Upon completion, our plan is to start by providing routine examinations and cleanings. We then will add other services such as restorations and extractions. This goal is possible because of the amazing support of individuals like you. ***When you consider your year-end giving, please help us continue to make Moore County healthier – one precious life at a time -- by making a gift today. It will have an incredible impact, right here at home.***

With gratitude,  
Tony Price, CEO

## Community Outreach

Terry McDaniel has been a Board member of Moore Free & Charitable Clinic for several years. He also is an active member of Pinehurst United Methodist Church. He believes churches can be effective partners of the Clinic by giving their congregations information about the services we offer. Terry says, “the Clinic has received financial support from the larger congregations in Pinehurst, Southern Pines and Aberdeen. We can give back by making sure the smaller, more rural congregations know about the Clinic when any of their members need access to affordable care.”

To accomplish this outreach, the Clinic compiled an address list of 140 faith based communities in Moore County. An introduction letter was sent to each and a Clinic brochure was enclosed. After a couple of weeks, Terry and volunteers from Pinehurst United Methodist followed up by telephone to answer questions and ask if more brochures would be welcome.

As a result of the outreach, Terry and Tony Price were invited to attend a community meal/food distribution event held on July 20 at Mount Pleasant Christian Church in Vass. Clinic information was distributed and three new patients were enrolled due to the event.



On October 23, Tony, his wife Sherry, and Clinic staff member Esther Ross attended a “Trunk or Treat” event for children held in West Southern Pines. The event was sponsored by three local churches. Along with all the candy

distributed, Tony and Sherry gave out Clinic brochures, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Community groups working together can make a big difference!

## New Physician Volunteer Begins Women’s Health Program



Moore Free & Charitable Clinic is proud to announce that Dr. Steven George has begun seeing patients on a volunteer basis. Board certified in gynecology, Dr. George plans to focus on women’s health issues by performing routine gynecological exams and screenings, including Pap tests. He

will address breast health and other issues specific to women’s health. But his practice will not be limited to gynecology. As Dr. George notes, “for most adult women, their gynecologist IS their primary care physician. I am experienced in providing a range of routine primary care and will support the Clinic’s core services.”

Dr. George grew up in Alabama, attending Auburn University as an undergraduate and the College of Veterinary Medicine. His practiced as a veterinary doctor for about five years. He decided he was more drawn to human medicine and was admitted to the University of South Alabama College of Medicine under the U.S. Army health professions scholarship program. He graduated in 1991. Upon completion of his residency in obstetrics and gynecology, he began practicing on Ft. Bragg.

After discharge from active duty, Dr. George practiced in Alabama and Mississippi for a number of years. In 2017, he returned to Ft. Bragg as a civilian physician. He and his family lived in Moore County and came to enjoy the area. When Dr. George retired in May of 2022, he and his wife Margaret made Southern Pines their permanent home. They enjoy traveling to see their 3 adult children who live in North Carolina and their daughter in Alaska. According to Dr. George, “I look forward to an enriching new phase of my life by helping the Clinic with its important work.” We look forward to it also! Thank you, Dr. George!



## Clinic Receives American Heart Association Grant for Blood Pressure Project



A local resident who wished to remain anonymous made a \$24,000 donation to the American Heart Association (AHA), with the caveat that the funds be used for the benefit of Moore County. Moore Free & Charitable Clinic was contacted to gauge its interest in participating in the AHA project called *Community is Why: Hypertension Initiative to Increase Hypertension Control Rates*. Clinic charge nurse Teresa Hanf said, “we knew this project would be a great fit for us because blood pressure control already is a large focus of our work with hypertensive and congestive heart failure patients.”

The grant, which is for 12 months, has provided funds to purchase patient educational materials, blood pressure cuffs and scales for home monitoring, and other equipment. Tony notes, “we really appreciate this grant, thanks to our local benefactor, because it will give us more tools in our toolbox for helping patients achieve better health.”



*Autumn mums add a spot of color to the Clinic's exterior, thanks to Morales Landscaping*

## *Please Give the Gift of Health and Hope to Our Less Fortunate Neighbors*

Moore Free & Charitable Clinic has an important mission: to keep people healthy who would otherwise suffer with untreated chronic diseases. That is a very costly mission, given the expense of hiring qualified staff, medical equipment, insurance, medications and, more recently, beginning construction of a new dental clinic. We gratefully ask you to **PLEASE GIVE TODAY**.

**In 2021, our average cost to take care of a patient was \$434. 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](http://www.MooreFreeCare.org) and click on **DONATE NOW** link on our home page.

MFCC is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and gifts are tax deductible according to applicable law.

Gifts of stock or other property, and IRA qualified distributions are welcomed, and can be a tax smart way to donate. If you are doing a review of your will or living trust, please consider a bequest. For more information on making gifts of this type, please call Tony Price at (910) 246-5333 ext. 207.

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

WE  OUR DONORS!

# Dine. Dance. Donate!

benefiting the Moore Free & Charitable Clinic

To celebrate his 50 years in the music business, on June 10, 2022, popular band leader Tom Bennett, husband of Clinic Board Chair Mary Lou Bennett, hosted a fundraising event at the Fair Barn in Pinehurst. The gala featured appetizers and a sumptuous buffet dinner by Elliott's Catering. Music was provided by Tom's two bands, Swing Street Little Big Band and the Carolina Moondogs. Best of all, a fund-a-need auction exceeded all expectations for raising money to build a dental clinic to serve Moore County residents who lack access to routine oral health care. We truly live in such a generous community!

We would like to recognize our generous sponsors, without whom this event would not be possible---

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