



# HANDS and HEARTS

The Newsletter of  
Moore Free &  
Charitable Clinic

Spring, 2023

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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

In last Fall’s newsletter, I was happy to announce the beginning of construction for our new dental clinic. As of this writing, we are just a few weeks away from completion. We are near the end of this dream project because so many individuals and groups stepped up to help bring routine dental care to the underserved of Moore County. Thanks to you, we will be able to 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. I want to thank the following members of the dental clinic advisory committee for their wisdom and guidance through the planning process and going forward: Dr. Sharon Harrell, Dr. Kamron Monroe, Dr. Ganiat Lawal, Dr. Susan Buckland, Dr. Alex White, and dental educator, Jennifer Carbon.

Initially, we hope to staff the dental clinic with volunteer dental hygienists and dentists. That is how we started our medical services in 2004. I urge you to be an ambassador for Moore Free & Charitable Clinic with your dental professional. We have many newer dentists in Moore County now, so let’s make sure they know about the important role the Clinic plays in the health of our community. This will be an opportunity to provide urgently needed dental care to our less fortunate neighbors in a state-of-the-art setting.

I want to take this opportunity to announce a change that makes all of us here at the Clinic a little sad. Dr. Mike Antil, who has been our medical director for the last three years, is moving from Moore County with his family. Dr. Antil has been a dedicated and long-time Clinic volunteer. He and his wife Lynn have been loyal supporters and friends of the Clinic. Their commitment to improving our community was unparalleled. They will be greatly missed here, but we wish them much happiness in their new community. Dr. Antil’s colleague at Pinehurst Medical Clinic, Dr. Greg Blakely, will be our new medical director. Welcome to our family!



Dr. Antil

*When you consider how to make your own contribution to our community, 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

## Sweet Community Support

On February 11, 2023, Pinehurst United Methodist Church held its popular Chocolate Festival. This event is held biannually to raise money for local nonprofits selected by the Chocolate Festival Committee. This year, Moore Free & Charitable Clinic was one of the organizations that benefited from the proceeds, as well as Tandra Place and Military Missions In Action.



*Rev. Jabe Largen pictured with representatives of Military Missions in Action (Greg Gebhardt), Tandra Place (Tandra Chamberlain) and Moore Free & Charitable Clinic (Tony Price).*



*Thank you Pinehurst United Methodist Church for your amazing support of our mission!*

## *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.**

**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](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!

## Your Generosity in Action

It is important to keep our donors informed about how their gifts are used. That is why we always share our annual health outcomes and statistical information. We want to show how the Clinic is accomplishing its mission to make Moore County healthier for everyone. It is a little harder to share individual patient stories because not everyone is willing to make their personal health struggles public. Every patient's confidentiality is protected. But one brave lady who has made a 180 degree health turnaround wants to let others know how the Clinic has changed her life.

"Annie" is a 48 year-old woman who has been a patient for almost 3 years. During her initial visit, she explained she had received no medical care over an extended period of time. Her major concern was severe acid reflux that sent her to the FirstHealth of the Carolinas Emergency Department several times. She also had not received treatment for hypertension, nor had a routine mammogram in years. The Clinic arranged for her to get lab work and appropriate medications, as well as a referral for a screening mammogram.

A review of her lab results at her follow-up appointment the next month revealed elevated liver enzymes and decreased levels of potassium, both suggestive of alcohol abuse. Annie admitted to being a daily drinker but did not seem concerned at the time with the findings. Unfortunately, several months later she was admitted to the hospital and diagnosed with liver failure, anemia and jaundice. This made the terrible consequences of her alcohol consumption very clear. Annie came out of the hospital with strong motivation to stop drinking and to improve her health with the Clinic's strong support.

Since that crisis, Annie has taken advantage of all the services available to her through the Clinic. She receives regular lab testing, preventive screenings, and prescription medications. She also has received long overdue gynecology and cardiology care, as well as knee arthroscopy. Annie takes advantage of the Clinic's diabetes education and self-management program, calls to speak with the nurse with any question or concerns, is compliant with her medication, and has continued on her sobriety journey. Her current condition and prognosis have improved dramatically since she has begun taking an active role in her health.

This kind of significant improvement in patient health is the result of a positive relationship between patient and the Clinic staff. It requires trust that the Clinic has the patient's wellbeing at the forefront of all we do. In addition to improved outcomes for Annie, the most satisfying, yet unexpected outcome of this relationship is how Annie has become a strong advocate for people taking charge of their health. Annie has encouraged her significant other to enroll as a Clinic patient and she offers encouragement and direction to other patients with whom she is acquainted. Annie is a testament to what people can achieve when they have access to care and a strong support system. But it takes inner drive and motivation like Annie's to make it all work together.

Annie's success story is not uncommon. It is through the generosity of our community supporters like you that stories like this are possible. We also are so grateful to our provider partners – FirstHealth, Pinehurst Medical, Pinehurst Surgical and Pinehurst Radiology, to name a few -- who have been an integral part of so many of our patients' health stories. On behalf of Annie and all our patients THANK YOU!

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### 2022 PERFORMANCE METRICS

<b>Unduplicated patients served</b>	<b>1751</b>	<b>Medications dispensed (average wholesale price)</b>	<b>\$6.7M</b>
<b>New patients</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>Total value of services</b>	<b>\$25.5M</b>
<b>Referrals from FirstHealth</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>Estimated savings to health system</b>	<b>\$7.8M</b>
<b>Medical visits</b>	<b>7619</b>	<b>Total return on \$1 investment</b>	<b>\$31.70</b>
<b>Specialty referrals</b>	<b>861</b>		

## We're Making Progress!

By mid-summer, we hope to welcome our first dental clinic patients. The opening of this service will help fill a huge gap in health care for Moore County. Currently there are few resources available for uninsured adults who need routine dental care. Poor oral health affects overall health in many ways we are just beginning to understand. With the help of our generous supporters, this dream will come true!



### STAY TUNED!

In the coming weeks, we will be announcing our plans for an Open House so all our supporters can tour our new dental clinic and to see the changes in the overall facilities that were completed right before COVID-19 restrictions hit. We are excited for everyone to see how far we have come from a few small rooms in the Health Department to our beautiful and functional space!