



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.

Summer | 2024

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A Message from our CEO



Dear Friends,

In the past few months, we have been settling into a good routine in the dental clinic. Our intent was to start slowly so we could address operational and scheduling issues as they arose, and this has been a successful approach. We have been fortunate to add the services of a dentist who is experienced in providing dental services in a free and charitable clinic setting. Dr. Brett Leslie serves as our dentist supervisor and sees patients 2 days per month. A short introduction to Dr. Leslie is included in this issue. I can't tell you how much we appreciate our volunteer dentists – Dr. Susan Buckland, Dr. Ganiat Lawal, Dr. Christine Gatti and Dr. Samir Ridha have been key drivers of our success. Soon we will welcome Dr. Kathryn Kim as a volunteer. From January through June, we have provided services to 170 patients. Only patients enrolled in MFCC are eligible for dental services at this time. Our patients are extremely grateful to have affordable, quality dental services offered.

As you may know, last December the NC General Assembly enacted legislation expanding Medicaid eligibility for all adults meeting the income criteria. Our internal analysis indicated that up to 40% of our patients would be eligible to enroll. However, we have experienced only a minor dip in patient numbers because MFCC enrollment staff have been doing effective outreach and recruiting of new patients. MFCC also assists patients with Medicaid enrollment. Our mission is to help everyone have access to affordable care, no matter who provides it.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all who helped make our 20th anniversary gala such a success -- sponsors, volunteers, staff, Tom Barnett and the Carolina Moondogs, Parker Benefit Auctions and, *especially*, all who attended. We cleared approximately \$103,000 for the David Bruton Samaritan Endowment Fund and the Bruton Benevolent Fund. We are pleased to have hosted Frieda Bruton and her family to honor and remember our beloved founder. It was a special evening.

As always, I am very mindful we could not do the good work we do without the support of this incredibly generous community. Thank you again and again!

Sincerely,

Tony Price

Welcome Dr. Leslie

Please join MFCC in welcoming on board Dr. Brett Leslie, who has served as the supervising dentist for our new dental clinic since January. Dr. Leslie is a North Carolina native from Salisbury. When he decided he was interested in a dental career, he shadowed dentists who were working at the local Community Care Clinic. Like MFCC, Community Care Clinic serves the uninsured and has offered dental services for a number of years.



Dr. Leslie attended UNC-Chapel Hill as an undergraduate and graduated from East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine in 2019. He went back to Salisbury and worked in a private dental practice for 1 ½ years, but community service called to him again. He joined the staff at Community Care Clinic and works there when he is not rotating to MFCC for 2 days a month. He and CEO Tony Price met in the planning stages of the MFCC dental clinic. With Dr. Brett's experience working with a similar patient population, he has been a valuable asset in organizing the new clinic according to dental practice standards.

In addition to working with patients, Dr. Leslie teaches courses in dental assisting at Rowan Community College. He also is working with the NC Association of Free & Charitable Clinics to ready a new mobile dental practice. "I love free and charitable clinics. They serve a huge need in our state and are at the forefront of the trend of integrating dental and medical services. It is so nice to be able to coordinate with our medical providers when the need arises."

Dr. Leslie hopes more local dentists will be inspired to volunteer at MFCC. "It is a modern, well-equipped clinic. Here, there are no business concerns -- you just come and be a dentist!" Thank you, Dr. Leslie, for joining the MFCC team!

**Did you know
August is
National Make-A-
Will Month?**

Get a head start by creating your will today, where you can get peace of mind for the future, protect your family, and even support the future of Moore Free & Charitable Clinic. Nearly 67% of American adults don't have a will, and we're sharing a free, online will creation tool from FreeWill so 100% of our community can support the people and causes they love.

Scan the QR code below to protect you, your family and create your legacy today! Or if you already have taken care of this important task, please forward this information to a family member or friend who needs it!



Moore Free & Charitable Clinic recently was designated a Gold Award winner by the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics. In 2020, the NAFCC established voluntary quality standards in the following areas: Administrative, Clinic/Pharmacy Responsibilities, Credentialing and Privileging Systems, Patient Care, and Risk Management Systems. NAFC Members that wish to participate in the program voluntarily submitted information to the NAFC on the various policies and procedures they have in place to attain their standards rating.

20th Anniversary Gala

To see more photos of the Gala,
please go to
[www.moorefreecare.org/Fundraising
Events](http://www.moorefreecare.org/FundraisingEvents)



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Nearly 300 attendees gathered at the Fair Barn on April 12, 2024 to celebrate Moore Free & Charitable Clinic's 20 years of healing hands and caring hearts. We also honored one of our founders, board member and medical director, the late Dr. David Bruton. A special guest, our co-founder, Rev. Dr. Mark Wethington, fondly shared some anecdotes and wisdom from Dr. Bruton. We know he would have been proud of the strong support this community showed for a mission he believed in so passionately. Thank you to all who made this special occasion so memorable!

Success Stories

Because your support makes all MFCC does possible, we like to share patient successes so you can see the real impact your gifts have. One patient, a 47 year old woman, recently had been diagnosed with diabetes. She was very concerned that she would have to take medications and, with provider and health coaching, was motivated to try to fight this disease without them. She committed to changing her diet and activity levels to address her condition. Over a year, she lost 10 pounds, which was enough to make a real improvement in her health. She is very proud of her accomplishment and is motivated to keep it up. She has her blood glucose levels checked every 3 months to monitor her progress. She feels better and is able to enjoy her work as a seamstress and her family now that she has taken charge of her own health.

Sadly, we have some patients who come to us with extra challenges due to the prevalence of substance abuse in society. One man in his thirties came to us 2 years ago and completed a rehabilitation program. Due to previously losing his license for driving under the influence, he got around on a moped. Unfortunately, he was involved in a serious accident on the moped and needed extensive care and physical therapy, which MFCC helped to coordinate. Through all this turmoil, he has maintained his sobriety with support from MFCC. He also is working on quitting smoking through MFCC's referral to FirstHealth's FirstQuit program. This patient is committed to getting off temporary disability and returning to work. It is amazing what people can accomplish with their health if they have access to needed resources and, most importantly, a supportive medical home.

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 this code with your smart phone camera app.



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. MFCC is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Gifts are tax deductible as permitted by law.

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