



From the Board of SMC

One of the joys of my work with Smith Medical Clinic is to hear the amazing stories of healing and hope that happen every day. We simply could not do this important work without you, our compassionate and generous donors! Thank you! Thank You! Thank you!

And there is always more to do to take care of our most vulnerable neighbors. I am very excited to share our 2021 strategic plan with you and highlight a few of the many accomplishments achieved under our 2015-2020 strategic plan.

Looking back over a few of the accomplishments of the past 5 years....

- Increased patient visits by 50% serving 2100 patient in more than 8,000 visits per year (pre-COVID numbers).
- Increased our volunteer corps by 11%.
- Expanded diabetes education and orthopedics.
- Added specialty health services including pulmonology, neurology, gastroenterology, hearing testing.
- Developed a successful wellness program with the Georgetown YMCA.
- Built a new, debt-free facility in Pawleys Island, and opened a Georgetown location through collaboration with Tidelands Health.
- Established a regular community health rotation for MUSC/Tidelands medical residents, bringing residents and their supervising physicians to the clinic one day a week.
- Creatively adapted to serving patients during COVID, through telehealth and outgoing nursing calls to vulnerable patients.
- Implemented new electronic medical records and volunteer management software.
- Established a highly successful "grassroots" Ambassadors Program of over 300 community members dedicated to helping spread the word about SMC to ensure no one in our community goes without medical care.

Most importantly, the Smith Clinic helped to change and improve people's lives. Patients were able to return to work because their vision was corrected. Women's lives were saved because cervical cancer or breast cancer was

diagnosed early and treated. Patients were able to bring their diabetes under control and make fewer trips to the emergency room. And the list goes on...

So, what we intend to do for our community over the next three to five years? After a careful consideration of the health care and economic environment, the Board of Directors is focused on four critical strategic areas.

1. **Get Well. Stay Well:** Focus on early disease detection and improving patient outcomes in key disease areas.
2. **The People to Flourish:** Strengthen the volunteer-powered model; create options to deal with the shortage of professional providers; increase diversity throughout the organization.
3. **The Finances to Sustain and Grow:** Develop a diverse funding strategy that supports and sustains the ongoing operations of the clinic and provides additional capital for continued growth.
4. **The Facilities, Processes and Technology to Serve:** Optimize current facilities and operations to meet current & future needs; improve the use of Telehealth and external partner programs; evaluate space requirements and usage; monitor growth/health trends in the patient population and measure against organizational capacity.

As we all know, none of our goals could be accomplished without our dedicated volunteers and staff, with Anne Faul leading the way. Their hard work, passion, and commitment is what makes all our success possible. Thank you, donors, volunteers, and staff, for positively changing the lives of our patients!

With Deep Appreciation,
Nancy Laprade
SMC Board Chair



Patient Spotlight: Donna

"You have always had the power my dear, you just had to learn it for yourself."-Glinda the Good Witch

Mary Clay, RN, our Diabetes Educator, spends a lot of time helping our diabetic patients gain control of their own health. Lifestyle change is the biggest obstacle most patients face. In order to gain control of their diabetes, patients must often drastically change their diet

incorporate exercise into their daily routine. Mary coaches patients on what types of foods they should eat, which foods to avoid, and what kind of exercises they can start doing right away to fight diabetes.

When you get a patient like Donna, who is goal oriented and determined, you will really start to see changes in their health fast. In just two months, Donna has lost 15 pounds and is no longer taking insulin. Donna has changed her diet, with a focus on counting carbs, and has added walking at the beach at least to 3 to 4 times a week, despite her need to use a cane due to bad knees.

Donna says that if it wasn't for her belief in God and the encouragement she

receives from everyone at Smith Medical Clinic, her quality of life would be awful.

We love hearing about patients taking control of their health through positive life changes and we wish Donna well on her path to success.

To help make a difference in the lives of patients like Donna, click [HERE](#).

Where Are They Now?: Eric Robles

Eric Robles volunteered at Smith Medical Clinic from Sept 0216 to June 2017. During his time at the clinic, Eric helped with patient scheduling, worked as an interpreter for Spanish-speaking patients, and shadowed providers while the saw patients in order to gain some experience for Medical School.

He began attending USC School of Medicine, in Greenville, South Carolina, in July 2017, and will graduate May 2021. He is currently in his last year, with plans to go to residency training to become a pediatrician. He is currently undergoing interviews (virtually) all over the country. He says that he is looking forward to wherever he goes and to start the next chapter in his life.

Before COVID, he continued to be involved in community service volunteering at health fairs and Greenville Free Medical Clinic. He says, "School has taken up most of my time and I have been learning as much as I can before I'm out in the real world soon."

We are so proud of Eric and can't wait to see the great things he does as a Pediatrician!



SMC Job Announcement! Women's Health Nurse Practitioner or PA

Smith Medical Clinic is seeking a part-time OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner/Physician's Assistant to provide a broad range of healthcare services to women who require primary healthcare, or may have acute episodic conditions, as well as those seeking health evaluation, preventive care, and education or counseling.

To view full job listing, please click [here](#).

For those interested, please email resume and cover letter to Anne Faul at afaul@smithfreeclinic.org

Mark Your Calendars!



PALMETTO GIVING DAY

GROWING GEORGETOWN COUNTY

Palmetto Giving Day is
May 4-5th, 2021!

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Visit our website at www.smithfreeclinic.org to learn
more about the clinic

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