



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GRETCHEN SMITH

Spring 2022 has been busy here at the clinic! I am grateful our new Assistant Director, Angel Morton started working at the perfect time in mid-February. She was able to jump right in and help make both the Gala and Palmetto Giving Day successful. Although everyone told me that I would be amazed by the generosity of our supporters, it certainly was something I had to experience to believe! Over \$300,000.00 was raised between the two events. We had another bittersweet staff change this spring. Our long time Nurse Manager, Lissa Byrd retired; but not before vowing to continue volunteering as well finding the perfect replacement Shauna Shea, who you will hear from next newsletter.

This summer the clinic will be putting Angel's knowledge of ECW (our electronic medical records software) to work towards streamlining our referral process. Doing this will allow us to more accurately track our patient population when they have specialty visits or treatments outside the clinic.

Due to the rising cost of gas coupled with the fact that almost half our patients live in the southern part of Georgetown County, it has become increasingly important to meet patients' needs closer to home. To that end we are working to add hours of operation to the Georgetown location.

I am sure you all remember last newsletter's note of hope written by Anne Salley, sadly she passed away in May. Anne Faul has shared some of her memories with all of you which you can find on page 7. We will be honoring Anne's love of, and hard work for, the clinic at the Gala this coming spring.

## Welcome Assistant Director, Angel Morton

Greetings Smith Medical Clinic Family and Friends! I am excited to have the opportunity to introduce myself to all of you. I am a graduate of South Carolina State University and am currently pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Counseling at Webster University. I have worked in various healthcare organizational environments including healthcare administration, community-based programs, and clinical practice for 17+ years. I am a native of Georgetown, SC. During the height of COVID, my husband and I thought it would be best for our family to move closer to our family support system back here in Georgetown. I have to say it's proven to be the best decision we could have made for our family.

Service to mankind, healthcare and patient advocacy are my passions! As quoted by an anonymous author, "It's a beautiful thing when career and passion come together." Smith Medical Clinic encompasses all of these and so much more. Our providers, staff and many volunteers go above and beyond to ensure that our patients have access to the healthcare they need. I am hopeful my experience, connection to the community, passion for healthcare and patient centered care serves as an asset to Smith Medical Clinic and our patients. I can't express how happy I am to return home to my roots and to be a service to the community that helped to raise me!



### 2022 Board of Directors

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## Patient Spotlight: Burnett Shackleford

When patient Burnett Shackleford first came to Smith Medical Clinic in 2021, he knew he needed help. He was having severe hip pain because of his leg prosthesis. His leg had been amputated because of a birth defect when he was a child. He had always been active, but now was having difficulty working and getting around.

His general health was assessed at his first visit to SMC, and although his hip and leg pain were his chief complaints, he was also diagnosed with some other minor health problems that needed to be addressed. The prescriptions that he needed to help with his health concerns were provided free of charge to him from by the Smith Clinic Pharmacy. He was then referred to Dr. Preslar, one of the clinic Orthopedic doctors, to assess the prosthesis, and the pain that Mr. Shackleford was experiencing. Dr. Preslar immediately realized that the prosthesis was over a decade old and needed to be replaced as quickly as possible. He conferred with Smith Clinic Executive Director Gretchen Smith to try to find a way to help Mr. Shackleford with getting a new prosthesis. They reached out to Warren and Ashley Gibson and the caring staff at Waccamaw Prosthetics, who so graciously provided Mr. Shackleford with a state-of-the-art leg prosthesis at a low cost to Smith Medical Clinic. It was through the kindness of several community members; physicians, nurses and specialists that Mr. Shackleford was able to receive a life changing gift that allows him comfortable mobility to quite literally get back on his feet.

Mr. Shackleford is happy and grateful to SMC. He's a regular patient now, his medical conditions are controlled, and he's ready to resume his active life. Mr. Shackleford is just one of the many uninsured Georgetown County residents who have been helped by Smith Medical Clinic. Each patient has a story and have benefited from the generous donations and gifts made by our caring donors.



## YOU CAN HELP PATIENTS LIKE BURNETT

Since 1985, people who want to have a direct impact on the quality of life in our community have supported Smith Clinic. To give you a direct link to the work of the clinic, we established Patient Partners, an annual giving program. This program has become the foundation for the clinic's ability to provide the best medical care possible for our neighbors.

Through the Patient Partner program, a \$250 donation provides complete medical care for a patient for an entire year. As a Patient Partner, your donation will have a direct impact on people's lives and their ability to care for themselves and their families. All patient partners are recognized on the donor wall at the clinic and in our newsletters.

BECOME A  
Patient  
Partner

If you haven't already, we hope you will become a Patient Partner.

More information on this program is on the  
enclosed donation envelope.

Become a Patient Partner today!



# The Gala's 2022 Return to Frank's

Fun was had by all this year at the Gala! It was wonderful to gather and celebrate the good work of the clinic with supporters old and new.

The Board extends a special thank you to Salters and Woofie McClary and their staff, who have gone above and beyond to make this celebration special every year for decades.

# THANK YOU 2022 DONORS!

## Smith Founders Circle

Bob Reinke, Dr. Teresa Nolan, Janice Coward, Vandy Foundation, Robins and Morton, Tideland's Health, James Barrow, Nelson Mullins, Estate of Christine A Thomas, Jan Jones, Dr. Katy Close

## Clinic Partners

Sullivan Family Fund, Gerald Stroud, Careteam Plus, Denise Patrick, Sherbourne McGrath

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Pawleys Island/Waccamaw  
Neck Lions Club  
Edward Jones/ Rob Unger

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# GIVE THE *gift* OF *health*



\$250-\$1000

**Patient Partner** The foundation for Smith Clinic's continuing ability to provide medical care for our vulnerable neighbors, the **Patient Partner** annual giving program directly links donors to clients by funding the care of a single patient, or that of a family for one year.



\$1001-\$4999

**Program Partner** A new option added in 2021, the **Program Partner** assists in eliminating barriers to receiving medical care that many of our clients face on a daily basis by giving donors the option to support our programs directly. Some programs of note include: **Uber and Lyft, Diabetic education and monitoring, mobile phone and tablet programs** This partnership is key to unlocking innovation for the future of the clinic and its patients.



\$5000-\$9999

**Clinic Partner** The cost to provide medical care to our low-income Georgetown County neighbors was approximately \$3000 per (working) day. The **Clinic Partner** provides the vital function of enabling the day-to-day operations of running both the Pawleys Island and Georgetown clinics. This enables Smith Clinic to provide 12,000 patient visits annually: at a cost of \$60 per visit including all tests, labs, prescriptions, provider and nursing consultations.



\$10,000 +

**Smith Founders Circle** In 1985, Dr. Cathcart Smith and his wife, Nancy recognized the lack of medical care for vital members of our community and utilizing an 8-foot-wide trailer and medical supplies from his office practice began the clinic. The **Smith Founders Circle** designates major gifts given in the generous spirit of the Smiths more than 35 years ago and continuing to this day.



**Volunteer Partner** Smith Clinic could not survive without our volunteers and donors. The **Volunteer Partner** program recognizes those who contribute to Smith Clinic; their time, talent and money.

## 2022 FIRST QUARTER STATS

ANNUAL GALA

\$176,800

COVID VACCINES

146

30 DAY PRESCRIPTIONS  
FILLED ONSITE

PALMETTO GIVING DAY

\$131,546

PATIENT VISITS

2049

1528

# Welcome the Newest Volunteers!



Maxine Korn was a dental hygienist, who had worked for 48 years before retiring! Originally from New York City, Maxine and her husband moved to Murrells Inlet in 2018. She has been volunteering at SMC for the last few months, answering phones and taking messages for patients.

Rhona Williams, RN, just finished receiving her Bachelors in Science -Nursing from the University of South Carolina-Upstate, Mary Black School of Nursing in Spartanburg, SC. Rhona now lives in Myrtle Beach with her husband. She volunteers as a nurse triaging patients prior to seeing the provider for their appointments!



## Meet our New Board Members!



Joyce Grant-Linnen is a Case Manager at the Family Justice Center a non-profit organization that deals with victims of domestic violence. She is a compassionate person that cares about the well-being of others. Joyce is a community-oriented person with 19 years plus experience as a Community Outreach Coordinator and volunteer in several capacity with numerous community organizations. She has built relationships with organizations with the community and local agencies along with a network of resources from previous employment experiences. She considers herself a liaison between the community, clients and agencies.

Rob Unger's career started as an Edward Jones financial advisor upon graduation from college in 2010. One of the primary reasons for he became a financial advisor was the desire to help people. His family moved to Pawleys Island in 2017 and became involved with the Lion's Club and Georgetown County Chamber. After attending the Smith Medical Clinic Annual Gala a few years, he realized quickly that he wanted to be involved and do more. Rob is very excited to bring his financial knowledge to the board and assist with the fundraising committee. He grew up on the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri helping his parents run a small family resort. This was a great learning experience and helped shape who he is today.



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THESE SERVICES AND MORE, WE NEED THE HELP OF VOLUNTEERS!**

Please contact Dina Wells at [dwells@smithfreeclinic.org](mailto:dwells@smithfreeclinic.org) if you would like to help in the following ways:

Behavior Health Counseling  
Front Office/Appointments/Check-in/Check-out  
IT  
Nursing  
Physician  
Referral Coordinator

# And finally, Remembering Anne Salley

By Anne Faul

I was humbled and honored to speak at the recent memorial service for our beloved Anne Salley, who passed away on May 17th. Anne was the Director of Marketing for Smith Medical Clinic from 2018 until 2021. Anne did so many incredible things for Smith Clinic and for our community. To me, the common factor in all she did was her incredible drive AND ability to make things better.

Anne's relationship with the Clinic started while she was still working at the Georgetown YMCA. We had developed a program where Smith patients could work out at the Y for free, but enrollment was extremely low and the program was languishing. When we were talking about what we could do to increase enrollment, Anne offered to come onsite at the clinic and talk with people, one-on-one, about the program. Well, the next thing you know, we've got 35 people enrolled and working out regularly at the Y. It was amazing - from 3 to 35 in just a few months and the only thing that changed was that Anne Salley spoke with each patient personally. She made that program better and she improved the lives of the patients that came to the Y.



One day when I was reviewing some reports, I noticed that there were 3 ladies that lived in Sampit that were working out nearly every day and I was puzzled because I knew that they didn't have transportation. How were they getting to the Y? When I asked one of the ladies about it, she told me that when she mentioned to Anne that she didn't have a way to get to the Y, Anne insisted on going all the way out to Sampit to pick her up every morning - at O'dark thirty! This lady had 2 more neighbors in the same boat...so Anne started picking them up, too! I told the patient how great it was that she was working out so much and she said "Well, I figured if that crazy Anne Salley is willing to drive all the way out here to get me, the least I can do is show up." I later found out that she even started driving one of the ladies to Charleston for her eye specialist appointments. This lady had already lost a lot of her sight because she had gone without treatment. Anne faithfully took her to Charleston for these appointments and helped keep her from losing her sight completely. Just another example of Anne making things better.

When Anne joined Smith Clinic in 2018 as Marketing Director, she immediately set about spreading the word about the clinic - and Anne knew EVERYBODY! She was incredible - it was like a fireball had entered the clinic. Her impact on donations was immediate and dramatic. I think one reason she was so effective was because she didn't really ask people for money, she just shared how the clinic worked and who we helped and her natural enthusiasm for the cause got people excited about being involved. If Anne Salley thought something was a good idea, people wanted to be part of it. She made things better. Because of who she was and how she was, Anne constantly encountered people that needed help - sometimes it was medical but often it was other things like help with rent or utilities or groceries, going to the dentist - whatever. She never hesitated to get involved and always followed up and followed through to be sure that the person got whatever help was needed. She broadened the clinic's definition of "care" - and that made us a better organization. Anne worked tirelessly to surpass every fundraising goal that was set. Every campaign, every gala, Anne set a new record - she wasn't happy unless she did better than before, because she believed in the work of the clinic and she cared deeply about people and her community. There will never be another Anne Salley - but she left us a legacy to try to carry on - and that is to continuously work to make things better.



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