



SMC Newsletter

March 2021

From the Executive Director, Anne Faul



2021: Recovery and Reconnection

2021 is off to a fantastic start at Smith Medical Clinic. Working with local hospital systems, Smith Medical Clinic volunteers were fortunate to receive COVID-19 vaccinations beginning in January. As a result, we've seen a steady stream of returning volunteers, including providers, nurses, and administrative folks. With their help, patient care hours increased by nearly 18% in January. And the volunteers are here just in time to help with the 20% increase in patient visits.

Out of 577 patients treated since the first of the year, over 90% were seen for chronic disease management. While that may not sound like good news at first, we know that conditions such as diabetes and high blood pressure require regular monitoring to prevent the disorders from progressing to life-threatening levels. We also know that the relationship between poverty and poor health is strikingly evident in the United States. Patients living below the federal poverty level (\$2,208/month for a family of 4) have a shorter life expectancy and higher incidence of chronic disease than those with higher incomes.

As always, we are grateful to our donors and supporters for understanding that an accessible medical home and chronic disease management is essential to improving our patient's health outcomes. Not only that, but well-managed chronic diseases greatly reduces the need for costly emergency room visits— definitely a win-win for all.

And speaking of win-win, Smith Medical Clinic is registered and approved to administer COVID-19 vaccines! We will provide vaccination for our patient base AND the general public whenever our clinic is "activated" by DHEC – which we think will happen closer to June/July.

We look forward to helping our community return to normal. As our volunteers and staff continue to work selflessly to provide care to our patients, we have been overwhelmed by the support from donors, local businesses and organizations, schools, churches, and supporters from all walks of life who see Smith Medical Clinic as a vital member of the community. Your donations, whether they were financial, personal protective equipment, supplies, or meals were a daily reminder of the generosity inherent in this community.

Thank you for your support.

From the Board of Directors

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 Tideland Health.
- Established a regular community health rotation for MUSC/Tideland 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...

Board of Directors, Cont.

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**



In Memory of Anita Baker

Barbara Morton, RN has volunteered as a nurse at Smith Clinic for 7 years. Recently, we sat down to talk about her decision to dedicate her service hours to the memory of a good friend.

Barbara, I was so sorry to learn of Anita Baker's passing. She was such a great friend to Smith Clinic and to you. To honor her, you are dedicating all your volunteer hours, past, present, and future to Anita's memory. Can you tell me more about your decision to honor your friend in this way?

"Anita's recent passing after a brave 5-month battle with pancreatic cancer devastated me. She was the most compassionate, intelligent, kindest person I've ever known, and I knew I wanted to do something special to honor her memory.

"We met in 2015 when we attended the same book club. We hit it off immediately and I ended up being the first associate she added to her geriatric care management company, AGB and Associates, Inc. We would meet often to discuss our cases, and, over the years, we became very close friends. Anita was very involved throughout our community and helped so many people through her company and her own community service. She was especially interested in my volunteer work with Smith Medical Clinic and loved to get updates from me on what was happening at the clinic."

What is it about your work at SMC that make designating your service hours a particularly fitting way to honor Anita?

"First and foremost, we were both nurses with a great deal of pride in our profession and in how we took care of patients. Secondly, we were both involved with taking care of vulnerable people. In Anita's case, it was people who were getting older who needed help to coordinate their health care. In my case, it's the uninsured patients at Smith Clinic that often need help with multiple aspects of their lives."

SMC volunteers are heroes for donating their time and talent to help others. You found a way to honor your own hero.

"I will always miss my friend. Her passing is a huge loss to her family and to this community. It comforts me to continue her legacy of caring in this community through my work at Smith Medical Clinic."

Thank you, Barbara, for sharing your story at such a difficult time.



Dorothy Anita Gamble Baker of North Litchfield died Jan. 25 after a five-month battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 72.

She was born March 1, 1948, at Toumey Hospital in Sumter, the first child of William Goodman Gamble and Dorothy Dennis Gamble.

Known as Anita, she was a pioneer in the nursing profession. A graduate of the inaugural class of four-year nurses at the Medical University of South Carolina School of Nursing in 1970, her first job was as a registered nurse in the U.S. Army hospital in Nuremberg, Germany, where her husband, Laurin M. "Larry" Baker, was stationed with the Army.

Upon her return to Pawleys Island in 2014, Mrs. Baker started AGB and Associates, the first private geriatric care management company in the area. It continues to serve clients in Georgetown and Horry counties.

In addition to her husband of 51 years, Larry, she is survived by two children, Jennifer Baker Reid of Arlington, Va., and William Ryan Baker (Joy) of Bakersville, N.C.; and three grandchildren, John Ryan Reid of Arlington and Eva and Robin Baker of Bakersville.

Sustaining Patient Partners

**Mike and Elizabeth Calabrese
Steve and Brenda Chapman
Jason and Trava Hendrix
The Huffman Family**

**Fred Leuthauser and Kathleen
Hughes
Theo and Janet Krapels
Roger Lippincott**

**Dr. Michael Malone
Chad and Autumn O'Brien
Harold and Claudia Stowe**

Champion Patient Partners

James Barrow
Mustard Seed Trust

Charter Patient Partners

Chris Arnold
The Jackson Family
Waccamaw Community Foundation
Keith Bird and Nancy Laprade
Cohen Family Foundation Trust
Perry and Lisa Collins
Janice Coward
Allen and Janet Duncan
John and Anne Faul
Mike and Carol Finley
George and Ruth Baxter Foundation
Georgetown High School National Honor Society
David and Alice Gustafson
Dick and JoAnn Haney
Deb Harris
Bruce and Gail Jacobs
Jan Jones
Barry and Jill Lieberman
Delvin and Ellie Litman
Wilson and Patricia Lowery
Dr. Morgan Lowry
Carol Mabe
James and Sherbourne McGrath
Leda McIntyre Hall
Donald and Callie McLaurin
Henry and Charlotte Moore
Teresa Nolan
Denise Patrick
Michael and Jeanne Quinn
Bob and Jean Reinke
Gayle Resetar
Dick and Carolyn Riley
Robert and Susan Ruark
Rick and Laurie Russell
Esther Sharp
Darrell and Patricia Steagall
David and Carol Streeter
Tom and Susie Swatzel
Jody and Anne Tamsberg
Vandy Foundation
Waccamaw Neck Lions Club
Richard and Amy Webb
Doug and Trish Wimsatt

In Loving Memory of

Abraham Nelson
Alfred Adams
Alma Goehres
Amelia Arthur McFaddin
Anita Baker
Annette Sweeney
Bill Boone
Bill Perry
Brandon Vaughn Madden
Calvin and Mary Jane Hughes
Captain Richard Albright
Carlton and Annie Jones
Cathcart and Nancy Smith
Christy and Josie
Chuck Swenson
Cliff Smith
David Charles May
Dean Player
Doug Reid
Dr. Ed Vaden
Dr. Putt Pryor
Eleanor Laprade
George Vickery
Gerry Kenyon
John Erman
John Robinson
Joyce Todd
Kimberly Hampton
Leonard Zelinsky
Marion Rogers Coxe, Jessie Coggeshall
Rogers, Mary Rogers Field, and Bachman
Smith, III
Mary Lee Moore
Melvin Green Naus
Michael Coward
Michael Walters
Nancy Braman
Neil Gallagher
Paul Noble
Robert Wrigglesworth
Rosellen Wimsatt
Tom Charleson
Tootie Baroody
William Thomas Conroy
Mildred McLaurin
Tinker Rybolt

Faith-Based Patient Partners

Belin Joy Class
Georgetown Presbyterian Church
Grace Circle, Belin United Methodist
Church
Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcoal Church
Pawleys Island Presbyterian Church
Precious Blood Of Christ Church

St. Mary Our Lady Of Ransom Catholic
Church
St. Paul's Waccamaw United Methodist
Church

Family Patient Partners

Paul and Jackie Amthauer
Evelyn Bowler
Eric Braman
Charlie and Sally Brodhead
Harvey and Kathy Brown
Frances Close
J.E. Cornwell
Nelson and Mary Crichton
Lucille Jones and Julia Cripps
Carl and Marcia Falk, Jr.
Carl & Lois Fisher
Georgetown County School District
Wayne and Barbara Hinman
Oma Hodges
Dayne Holleman
Neal and Paula Holmes
Buddy Lindsay
Bob & Cindy LoCasale
Luke and Gayle McCain
Frank and Sybil McLaurin
Lee and Anna Milling
Richard and Sandra Moore
H & N Morgan Foundation
Kevin and Linda O'Connor
Bob and Jean Oliver
Harry & Stephanie Oxner
John and Rosemary Plesha
Linda Ray
Robert and Elizabeth Rieker
Jackson and Melissa Roper
Donald and Janel Rowland
Harold and Eva Scharfstein
Richard and Cathy Scott
Dale and Angie Short
Springsteen Foundation
Patrick Stowe
John Tindale
Edwin and Elizabeth Vaden
H. and Carey Weathers
Susan Webb
William Gilfillin Foundation

Business Patient Partners

Anderson Brothers Bank
Creative Landscapes, Inc.
Custom Home Decorating (CHD)
FASTSIGNS Of Myrtle Beach
Fragasso Financial Advisors
Paragon Custom Construction
Satterfield Interior Design
South State Bank
Whitmire Fine Jewelry
Waccamaw Helpers

Annual Patient Partners

Darlene Adams
John and Scott Adams
Suzie Albright
Glynn and Nan Alexander
Bruce and Kathy Allan
Dawn Anderson
Steven and Celeste Bailey
Bruce & Betsy Bailey
Paul and Alicia Barnes
Caldwell Barron
John and Barbara Bartha
Suzi Bateman
Ed and Dawn Bell
Wendy Belser
Larry and Joan Bertolucci
Mike Bivona
Douglas and Margret Bloom
Blum Shapiro Foundation
Pat Blunda
Tate and Marcia Bowers
Gus and Renelle Brame
John and Marty Brownlow
Margaret Bruno
Thomas and Susan Bruns
Simon and Anna Bula
Tommy and Loretta Burbage
Sandy and Susan Burns
Tom and Betsy Buter
Harry and Becky Butler
Georganne Byrd
Lissa Byrd
Joseph Camp
J. Carey
Janet Caruso
Art Cates
Nancy Cave
Randy and Jennifer Chapman
Warner and Carol Cole
Karonda Collins
James and Jane Cooper
Paul and Myrna Cott
Robert and Kathy Cox
Harry Crichton
Jean Cross
George Cunningham and Dorothy Faul
Dorothy D'Ambrosio
Rick and Bonnie Danser
David and Terri DeCenzo
Daryll Degraaf and Lavonne Wieringa
Sloan Derrick
Rusty and Sloan Derrick
Tucker and Kimmie Dieter
Jonathan and Margaret Dieter
Dennis Donat and Pam Hays
Mark Doran
Darrel and Joan Dore
Richard and Caroline Drummond
Anne Duncan
Suzanne Edkins
Thomas and Linda Edwards
Doug and Eve Eggiman
Scott and Sheila Ellison
Harriett Enzor
George and Meg Fahs
Joseph and Sandra Fee
Philip and Meg Filiatrault
David Fink
Patrick and Tracie Fisher
Richard and Vicki Flathers

Ingrid Flewelling
Steven and Ann Gailar
Elizabeth Gallo
Walter and Winnie George
Karen Glendinning
Gilbert and Nancy Goldsmith
Carolyn Gonyea
Emerson and Jane Gower
Vicki Grant
Kenneth and Joy Griffith
Lance and Patty Griffith
John and Evon Grosskortenhaus
Brian and Gloria Haas
Dr. Mary Ann Haden
Melvin Hall
Gerry and Linda Harmon
Robert Harper
Suzanne Harris
Frank And Nancy Hawkins
Clarke and Ginny Hayes
Mary Haynes
Rip and Maggie Head
Debbie Heller
Jeffrey and Michele Herwig
Marianne Hight
Rock and Lib Hinson
Gail Huffman-Joley
Glen and Libby Insley
Sue Jackman
Henry and Betty Jobe
Joanna Jones
Louis and Andi Jones, III
Larry and Kathy Judge
Paul and Mary Jo Karre
Catherine Kelley
Kate Kelley
Barry and Joan Kelly
Tom and Theresa Kendrick
Jerry and Christina Hughes
Jim and Cissy Knapp
Mike and Ann Knight
Sam and Kay Koonce
Catherine Kremzner
William and Cindy Lapworth
Richard and Rebecca Lovelace
Philip and Pamela Luers
Jonathan and Tory Mackey
Richard and Pamela Mahany
Paul and Sharon Malone
Joe and Susan Maloney
Gene and Cheryl Mannella
William Marchal
Jan Mashman
Chet and Diane Maslowski
Dennis and Elizabeth McAlpine
Salters and Estelle McClary
Susan McClure
Sharon McCullough
Don and Georgia McDowell
Aimee McElveen
Jim and Alice McLaughlin
Christopher McLaughlin
Edward Mills
John and Diana Milner
Thomas and Mary Sue Molnar
Carolyn Montagne
Jim and Peggy Morgan
Tom and Betsy Mosimann, Jr.
Cissy Murdaugh

Clint and Val Myers
Fred and Cheryl Newby
Scott and Natasha Nicol
Joan Noble
Jerry and Kim Oakley
William and Deborah O'Brien
Don and Karen Olson
Janet Orosz
George and Patricia Orr
Bill and Alice Otis
Herman and Sally Overcash
Marion and Janet Parsons
Jack Patrick
Bob and Anne Pennington
Carolyn Perry
Arthur and Teresa Peterson
Sean and Lisa Phelan
Cynthia Phillips
Elisabeth Philo
Christine Pikaart
Butch and Laurie Porter
Kevin and Mary Prince
Kate Rath
Shirley Ray
Peter and Linda Raymond
Tom Riley
Dan and Sharon Roach
Steve and Jean Rothrock
Peter Roy
Nicholas and Judy Rummo
John and Geales Sands
Jim and Rebecca Schaper
Reinhardt and Waltraud Schindler
James and Donna Schmidt
Dick and Maryanne Schwab
Judy Schwarzmann
David & Ginger Scott
John and Christen Scott
Donald and Barbara Sherrill
Larry and Carol Smith
Wilson and Mildred Smith, Jr.
Alex and Pat Spivey
Laura and Gary Sprance
Harry and Alice Spurling
John and Patricia Steigerwald
James and Amy Swartz
Ronald and Denise Talbert
Edward and Sydney Taylor
Mike and Jill Thomas
William and Christine Thompson
Michael and Celie Travis
Sharon Valentine
Russell and Stephanie Vedder
Susan Wallace
Jill Waring
Olin and Linda Warren
Kevin Washington
Bruce and Holly Watts
Dina Wells
Jim and Rita Whalen
Dale and Babs White
Benton and Elisabeth Williamson
Dale and Mary Witt
Payton and Angela Worley
Phyllis Wrigglesworth
Owen and Dawn Wright
John and Suzette Wright

Kelly's Story



Kelly, a hairdresser at Transformations and Massage in Pawleys Island, and mother of two small children, has been suffering from chronic hip pain for the last three years. Without health insurance she had been trying to just suffer through it. When it became too painful to stand, she would sometimes go to Doctor's Care, where they would give her steroids and a huge bill.

When she first heard about Smith Medical Clinic she thought we only treated minor illnesses. She came to an appointment for a different medical reason, but mentioned the pain she was having and had been having for a long time. Her provider told her we had a physical therapist that she could see right here at the clinic and got her set up with an appointment.

During her first visit, our physical therapist said she knew she could help her with some anti-inflammatory medication and some area-specific exercises. Following this routine, she has seen major improvement in a short period of time.

Kelly says this has changed her life. Her pain is almost nonexistent already and has made being on her feet all day for work much more tolerable. Pain can affect all aspects of your life, and just make you exhausted all of the time. She is so happy to not be in pain any longer. Kelly said, "I'm so grateful to Smith Medical Clinic and their providers for improving my quality of life!"



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

This is our annual 36-hour Online-Giving Extravaganza!

Visit <https://www.palmettogivingday.org/organizations/smith-medical-clinic>
for more info

VOLUNTEER

all that's missing is U!

Smith Medical Clinic is in real need of the following Volunteer Specialty Providers:

- **Gynecologists**
- **Dermatologists**
- **Rheumatologists**

Hours are flexible, and we will be happy to accommodate you with whatever time or day that you would have available. Even a few hours a month would be a huge help! We provide medical malpractice insurance at no cost to you, however you do need to have a current license to practice in order to volunteer.

- **We are also in need of volunteer nurses.**

Again, hours are very flexible, and we will provide medical malpractice insurance for you, as well. Volunteer nurses take vital signs and chief complaints for patients prior to seeing their provider. Nurses do not need to have a current license to volunteer with us.

SMC has been following CDC guidelines since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. All patients are screened and temperatures are taken prior to entering the building. We have the following PPE available for all to use:

- N95 and surgical masks
- face shields
- gowns
- gloves
- hand sanitizers
- wipes and cleaning supplies.

In addition, most of our staff and volunteers have been vaccinated



For additional information or questions, please contact Dina Wells by phone at 843-264-0384, or email dwells@smithfreeclinic.org. You can also visit our website at: smithfreeclinic.org

Where Are They Now?: Kristina Rubio

Kristina Rubio served as an AmeriCorps VISTA with Smith Medical Clinic from 2013-2014. As the Marketing and Training Specialist, she was responsible for onboarding new volunteers, running social media, creating and distributing the newsletter, donor relations, and special event planning. Kristina also worked on managing and reapplying for the Susan G. Komen grant. Because there were very few clinic staff at that time, Kristina took on many different tasks during her time as a VISTA.



After her term with Smith Medical Clinic, Kristina attended James Madison University where she received her Master of Education degree. She then served as the Coordinator of Special Events for the University of Maryland's Stamp Student Union, focusing on tradition-based programming for the more than 30,000 students at the school's College Park campus. This included leading all Homecoming efforts and additional programming to showcase the resources and offices within the Stamp Student Union.

Desiring to return to the west coast, she became the Manager of Strategic Partnerships with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund in her home town of Los Angeles. As part of the Strategic Partnerships team, her primary responsibility was to identify, recruit, and manage partnerships with various constituents to empower Latino students and families with the knowledge and resources to successfully complete a higher education.

Most recently, Kristina served as the Community Development Manager for the San Gabriel Valley with the American Cancer Society. In this role she used her passion of community-building and event management skills to lead 6 different Relay for Life events during the 2020 season. With her various teams totaling 50 volunteers, she was responsible for keeping the mission of, "Living in a World Without Cancer," in the forefront of the current public health crisis.

Kristina is continuing to merge her passions of education and community building as she searches for the next step in her career.

Smith Medical Clinic, Inc.

99 Baskervill Drive

Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Dr. Cathcart Smith

Smith Medical Clinic was established in 1985 by Dr. Cathcart Smith and his wife Nancy in an 8-foot wide trailer with office and medical equipment from Dr. Smith's former medical office. Initially, Dr. Smith recruited five retired doctors and a dozen nurses to volunteer at the Clinic. This volunteer model has become a Smith Clinic tradition. Today, over 200 volunteers, aided by a small, part-time staff and financial support from our community, provide complete medical care for over 2,000 low-income, uninsured, Georgetown County residents a year for less than \$250 per patient per year.

“For years, I had suggested to many retirees who had come under my care that they should consider retiring to something rather than from something.”

Contact Us

Call for information about our services and volunteer opportunities.

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Pawleys Island, SC 29585

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Georgetown, SC 29440

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www.smithfreeclinic.org

