

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.

Smith Medical Clinic;
99 Baskervill Drive
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

1101 Highmarket Street
Georgetown, SC 29440

(843) 237- 2672





SANDY TOES, BEACH AND SUN...HAPPY SUMMER!

July 2019

“ To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow” -Audrey Hepburn

Time is flying by! Summertime is usually a little bit quieter than other seasons at Smith Clinic since so many of our patients are working full-time at seasonal jobs and many of our volunteers are vacationing and/or entertaining out-of-town guests. However, this summer we've been busier than ever with record numbers of new patients and new volunteers. It's very exciting but we've hardly had time to celebrate the success of spring fundraising events: the Annual Gala and Palmetto Giving Day!

The Gala was a sold-out evening at Franks' Outback with perfect weather, wonderful food, beautiful music, and lots of laughter, friendship and fun. Thanks to the generous support of Woofie and Salters McClary and their suppliers, the gala raised nearly \$225,000! We simply could not have achieved these results without our community business partners that provided sponsorships and auction items, and the attendees who bought tickets, bid on auction items and purchased tons of raffle tickets. **Thank you again** to everyone for your participation and contributions.

We barely had time to catch our breath after the Gala's success and Palmetto Giving Day was upon us. We worked with various supporters to generate \$30,000 in matching funds this year including a \$10,000 match from our board of directors. Once again, our community stepped up to support health care for our neighbors without health insurance and helped us raise over \$50,000. **Thank you** for helping us make a difference for the patients we serve!

The success of these fundraisers allows our volunteers to continue to provide compassionate, quality healthcare services that truly make a difference in our community.

Ensuring that folks without health insurance and without a way to pay for care receive preventative care, screenings for early detection of disease and treatment for chronic and acute illnesses increases productivity in our community, eases congestion in area Emergency Departments and lowers total health care costs. And we do all this for less than \$250 per patient per year, turning every \$1 into more than \$10 in medical services.

Once again, **thank you to our supporters and volunteers** for your incredible generosity and efforts on behalf of Smith Medical Clinic patients.

Anne Faul, Executive Director

Please support our sponsors and donors.



THE DYNAMIC DUO

By Diane Hunt



I just met one of Smith Medical Clinic's Dynamic Duos – Dr. Thomas and Betsy Buter – volunteers who treat SMC patients with orthopedic concerns. Dr. Buter is a recently retired orthopedic surgeon whose 35-year plus practice was in Charlotte, NC. His wife, Betsy, is a retired ICU and recovery room nurse. Together, they treat orthopedic patients one or two days a month at the Georgetown clinic location. They live in Charlotte half the time and either Georgetown or visiting grandchildren the other half.

Why would retired medical professionals choose to volunteer their time to the clinic? Isn't retirement the time to sit back and relax? Dr. Buter explains, "When you retire from an intense medical practice there's a void; you come to miss the challenge of troubleshooting in a fast-paced environment. Working at the clinic gives us the opportunity to keep our toes in the water, so to speak. From a spiritual angle, we feel lucky to have the opportunity to love on our patients and show them they are valued and cared for. When we work at the clinic we feel the hands of God on everyone there."

Dr. and Mrs. Buter have some observations they feel are worth sharing with anyone thinking about joining the volunteers at the clinic. For them, volunteering at SMC feels quite different than working in private practice. The patients are so appreciative for the care they receive. The volunteer determines the length of time they want to spend with each patient. For example, the Buter's volunteer 4 hours at a time and see 8-12 patients in an unhurried personal session, allowing plenty of time to get to know each patient and prescribe therapy specific to their lifestyle and needs. When more than basic care is needed, the Buter's get additional assistance (i.e. x-rays, an MRI, surgery) through the Smith Clinic network. When physical movement is the best option, Betsy shows the patients exercises they can do on their own and/or sometimes patients are referred to the Georgetown YMCA who partners with SMC to provide memberships to patients. Sometimes patients are referred to physical therapy through the Tideland Community Care Network, an important resource partner to the clinic. Given the number of patients in need, however, Betsy says that the clinic would really benefit from having some Physical Therapist volunteers onsite to treat patients, too!

For anyone thinking of becoming a volunteer provider, Dr. Buter said, "Practicing at the clinic is not intimidating at all. All that is required is a regular medical or volunteer license. The staff at the clinic makes it so easy to serve. We average one or two half days a month and have been so richly blessed. The few negatives (time, convenience...) are minimal when compared to the positives we receive." This dynamic duo, married for 49 years, always knew they were destined for service in the medical profession and feel blessed to have found a partnership with the Smith Clinic where they can continue to use the gifts God has blessed them with. They would be happy to talk with anyone thinking of becoming a volunteer and can be reached through the clinic.

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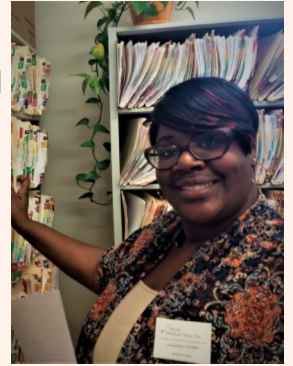
Joan Noble

INSPIRING SUMMER STUDENTS

Every summer, we are thrilled to welcome a variety of students to the clinic who are interested in serving the community while they learn more about their particular area of interest. This summer is no exception as we have students who aspire to medical school, nursing school, and medical administration helping throughout the clinic.

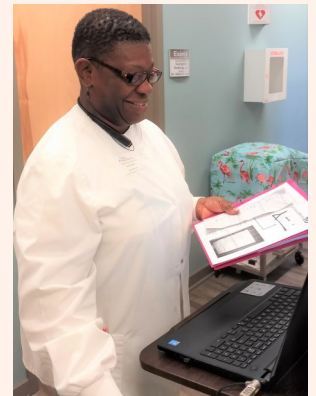
LaQuanda Palmer is a medical administration intern with Smith Medical Clinic this summer. Her ambition is to obtain a challenging position that will help a busy medical practice run smoothly and efficiently. At SMC, LaQuanda is helping with everything from scheduling patient appointments to answering the phones to managing the reception area and making patient referrals. She comes to Smith Clinic with wonderful experience in home health, a certificate in Medical Office Clerical Assistant and an Associates Degree in Applied Science from Williamsburg Technical

College in Kingstree. "I love the atmosphere at Smith Clinic, the staff, and everyone here," says LaQuanda. "I have already learned a lot. I will be able to progress to a higher level from this experience at SMC"



A rising junior at UNC-Chapel Hill, Madeline Rieker has volunteered at the clinic since her senior year at Waccamaw High School. Madeline is focused on completing her undergraduate work at UNC and, upon graduation, will apply to medical schools to become a medical doctor. To gain more exposure to clinical medicine, Madeline took the initiative to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. When she is not triaging patients, she will be shadowing the providers, assisting with charting patient encounters in real-time using our electronic health record system, eClinicalWorks.

Jackie Gasque has worked in the Emergency Department for 21 years, starting as a technician and then moving up to department secretary. Her ambition is to become a Registered Nurse and she is enrolled at Horry Georgetown Tech to begin that process this Fall. She is volunteering at the clinic this summer to assist with patient triage and to gain additional experience in a clinical setting. "I love this place," she says, "I am learning so much and everyone is so helpful."



Welcome, New Volunteers!

Reception: Michele Herwig, Mary Ireland
Scheduling & Interpreter: Bob Byers
Certified Nurses Assistants: Madeline Rieker, Jackie Gasque
Mental Health Counselor: Skylar Hepler
Providers: Ernest Gelb, MD, Mary Baker, MD

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