

Spring 2012



The Care Connection

Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care

Volume 8, Number 1

Our Mission

To provide health care and support services to all, including the medically indigent, in a nondiscriminatory manner and setting, dedicated to continuity with quality medical care.

FHC Values– Equality

We believe in the inherent worth of each individual and strive to interact respectfully and fairly with each person, particularly those who are most vulnerable by approaching each individual with compassion and caring.

Board of Directors

Garnetta Brooks
Josh Freeman
Tim Griffith
Janell Jones
Gerald Ortego
J. Dollie Rainey
Allie Scholes
Jess Stark
Elizabeth Constance

WE ARE GROWING!!! Capacity Expansion Campaign 2012

Family Health Care is undertaking a campaign to raise \$1,000,000 for a capacity expansion that will allow us to increase the number of individuals we serve. The project consists of a two-story addition to the current building to nearly double the number of exam rooms, provide larger procedure rooms and include additional conference areas.

Effectively caring for low-income people requires expertise in handling complex medical problems, which are often accompanied by chronic mental illness and/or complicated social conditions. We are fortunate to have staff and professional volunteers who are ready to provide this care, but we need more space for these services. Family Health Care is eager to meet gaps in services and take on a greater volume of patients as the needs in our community grow.

Ophthalmology services are vitally important to FHC's patients. Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness in the population we serve. In addition to ophthalmology, OB/GYN, and plastic surgery, other specialist physicians including cardiologists and ENT physicians have expressed interest in volunteering at FHC if adequate space were available. Because it is so difficult to obtain specialist care for safety net clinic patients, it is both practical and beneficial for patients and the broader community to find solutions to help patients access care on-site at the medical home with which they are familiar.

Centric Projects and Clockwork Design include personnel who worked on our previous renovations. The general construction is being overseen by Richard Wetzels, Steve Swanson and Courtney Kounkel who was the project manager during our 2004 renovations. Neil Sommers will serve as the project architect. He was a junior associate to Cary Goodman who designed our current building.

We ask you to join us in making this campaign a success so that our clinic can better meet the increasing demand within our community.



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Notes from Dr. Lee



“Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together.”
James C. Penney

Over the years many forces have come together to grow Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care. The beginnings in 1989 were very modest with volunteers (Bill and Donna Lee) answering the phone and patients being seen in an attic bedroom. Initially, FHC was like a row boat with the rowers setting the direction by rowing harder on one side or the other.

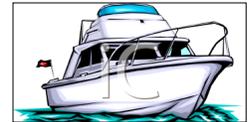
Following the boat metaphor— By the mid-nineties FHC hoisted our sails and developed more services requiring more hands and coordination to keep us moving in the right direction. Our

Board of Directors have helped steer us with leadership by a number of staff and non-staff individuals. By 1994, David Wing became our FHC “Convener” (our term for Chair) and helped us through 1998. In 1999 John Olen stepped up to the position until 2001, followed by Robert Jevons as interim and Scott Dorman in 2002. As we continued to need more propulsion, we converted to steam and with our second capital campaign significantly increased the size and scope of our work.

For the past decade, as we have continued to pick up steam, we are grateful that Kathy Hoggard has been so generous with her time and expertise as our longest tenured Convener. She helped us bring more forces to work together to help us not only grow, but really mature as an organization.

Helping things grow is what Kathy does. She helped start The Information Center in Lawrence (a crisis intervention, phone counseling center) and as a master gardener, she has taken on special projects like helping the women inmates at the Kansas City jail develop a garden that had an on-going impact on the inmates, their families and even the staff at the jail.

Kathy’s presence is comforting to many of us and her level-headed thoughtfulness has helped steer Family Health Care to calmer waters. We are grateful she has been such a consistent force working together with others to help Family Health Care grow and chart our future course.



Food Comes to “The Q”

Residents of the Northeast community are among the poorest in the metropolitan area and reside in a food desert. A food desert is a food environment unsupportive of health; it is defined by barriers which restrict access to healthful foods. Barriers include lack of access to retailers, availability of nutritious foods, or affordability of foods. The nearest grocery store to residents takes two buses and is about forty minutes away. FHC has purchased a structure next to “The Q”, currently known as “The Greely House” for use as a neighborhood grocery store. Upon opening this year, we will provide low cost groceries, promote nutrition, and provide education on healthy eating habits.

Currently, a team headed by Mark Whitney; the project coordinator, has worked with volunteer Jesuit students and The Executive Service Corps to conduct research on this project including focus groups, creating an operating manual and business plan, and becoming involved with various groups and organizations in the area to reach our goal. We will provide basic foods at low cost to our consumers and although we do not have a definite date for opening, we have a target date of mid-summer to early fall. Our hours will coincide with those of the Quindaro clinic to augment the services provided there. We still have not officially named the grocery store. “The Q” and “Mama Lee’s” have been suggested. We encourage everyone to come up with a name for it.



News & Notes

*Pam Jasinkas, a sixty year old client from FHC Fitness placed first in a recent karate tournament. Way to go Pam!

*On February 12, “The Q” hosted a play about Harriet Tubman. FHC’s own Rachel Jefferson was a cast member.

*FHC Fitness sent 23 of their students to a local karate competition.

*March 3rd was Ophthalmology Day for Kids at FHC. Local school nurses identified children who needed to be screened for glasses.

*Kansas Board of Public Utilities generously donated the proceeds from their 2011 Golf Tournament to the Family Health Care Fitness Center. This is helping to fund the current renovations and new dance floor. Many thanks!



Save the date for **TACOS & BEER ON THE BOULEVARD**

an event benefiting Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care



Thursday, June 21st 6:30-9:30 pm

Boulevard Brewing Co. Muehlebach Suite

2501 Southwest Boulevard

Kansas City, Missouri

Brew with a view! Join us for cold beer on a hot night! Great food, live salsa music, and an amazing silent auction! Reservations are limited, \$50 per person, tickets must be purchased prior to event. For tickets contact Shari Webster at 913.722.3100, ext. 272 or shariwebster@swbfhcs.org
Purchase tickets via PayPal at swbfhcs.org, and click on events.

We're Thankful For...

Special thanks to Peggy Rice along with her amazing staff, Erin, Seth, and Andrew for hosting our Capacity Expansion Kick-off event on Thursday, February 23rd.

THE *Rice Gallery* OF FINE ART

11535 Ash Street Leawood, KS 66211

We are grateful to Gordon Biersch, Room 39 and California Pizza Kitchen for providing appetizers for our event!

► Organizers of the HIV Women's Perspectives 2012: Transitions Conference at Penn Valley on March 2nd, Rose Farnan/TMC, Susan Tusher/KAETC, Kendra Malloy/KC Free, Emily Hachman/GSP, Sherry Pryor/UMKC Education, Maria Reyes/Guadalupe, and J. Dollie Rainey/FHC. Thank you for such a successful event! .

► Janice at Missouri Organics for 2.5 yards of compost.

► Strasser Hardware for a discount on materials and free rental for construction on "The Greely House".

► Electrical Integrated Technology for free materials and labor.

► Tim Reynolds from First Data for our wireless credit card machine.

► Mark Whitney for all of his volunteer work on the Greely Grocery Store project.

► Sergio Mendoza from the roofing crew.

► Fitness Center: Patsy Brown for fitness donation, Eric Marshall from Dick's Sporting Goods, and Chris Standby.

► Bob Winner for volunteer literacy support.

Help us grow!

Support Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Payment Method

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed
(payable to SWBFHC)

Please charge my VISA/Mastercard \$ _____

If paying by credit card:

Card Number

Expires ____/____/____

Security Code _____

Signature below:

Thank you for your support of Family Health Care!



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**Join us for an FHC Open House celebrating 23 years!
Saturday, March 31 8am-12pm**

Bagels & Fruit



Coffee , OJ & Water

Enjoy our employee art show and tour the clinic!