



# The Care Connection

Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care

Volume 9, Number 4

## 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

- Dennis Boody
- Garnetta Brooks
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- Josh Freeman
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## Annual Champagne & Chocolate Event a Success!



For nineteen years supporters of Family Health Care have gathered for Champagne & Chocolate, a unique fundraiser which supports health care and

support services to those in need in the greater Kansas City area. Many thanks to this past year's hosts, Steve Metzler and Brian Williams, who generously opened their home to this wonderful cause and went above and beyond in their efforts to make the evening a huge success! From a fabulous open bar to delicious hors d'oeuvres by Anne's Catering, Steve and Brian provided much more than necessary to make the night truly exceptional! A crowd of over two hundred sampled savories and desserts from more than forty of Kansas City's top restaurants, bakeries and chocolatiers. Dedicated hosts and beautiful November weather provided us with a very special event!

Our gracious Event Co-Chairs Courtney and Tiffany Goddard and their outstanding Host Committee: Jennifer & Doug Call, Jenny & Warren Erdman, Heather & Derek Feagans, Betsy Glick, Summer & Brandon Henry, Kerri & Stephen Jones, Shellie & Don Kemna, Mary & Jeff Morris, Katy & Joe Platt, Cyndy & Pat Price, Rachel Sexton & Brian King, Drs. Erin & Jason Stahl, Gina & Jeff Stingley, Mary & Richard Wetzell and Julie & Joe Zwillenberg spent months insuring the success of this vital fundraiser for Family Health Care.

Special thanks to:  
Centric Projects, sponsorship of event valet  
Chris Campbell, photography  
Tommy Taylor, guitarist  
Jill Terry, logo design  
Jim Fedor, calligraphy  
Pat Hopewell, audio  
Country Club Plaza Gap Staff, volunteers  
Kathy Hanis, PR  
Chris Rosburg, napkins  
Kathy Hoggard, serving pieces  
Our hard working event volunteers!  
We are tremendously grateful for all of our event sponsors and donors. We could not do this without you!

Photos courtesy of Chris Campbell



Host and Honorary Event Co-Chair, Steve Metzler with FHC Medical Director, Dr. Sharon Lee.



Event Co-Chairs, Tiffany and Courtney Goddard.



Gene Switzer, Michael Henry and Dr. Terry Anderson enjoy the festivities!



The wonderful Gap staff volunteers, Brent Thompson, Serena Capuzzo and Lauren Malone, helped make the event a success!

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## Notes from Dr. Lee



Recently, I was reminded of my good fortune while talking with a colleague from my medical school class. He said one reason he enjoys working with medical students is because students are still idealistic and they remind him of how he felt before he succumbed to reality. I enjoy working with students as well, but my job allows me to sustain an idealism that may have been lost in other settings. At Family Health Care, I am able to work daily in an environment of camaraderie with a common goal of helping our neighbors. Our idealism works.

“Idealism detached from action is just a dream. But idealism allied with pragmatism, with rolling up your sleeves and making the world bend a bit, is very exciting. It’s very real. It’s very strong.” - Bono

Family Health Care was founded after determining that what we could do to help needy people in our community access health care, was establish a clinic. After considering versions of how to do the work, we incorporated values of sharing responsibilities into a fairly unique organizational structure. Now, more than fifty staff and many volunteers roll up their sleeves daily to do the work that helps hundreds of our neighbors with services to improve their health in a supportive atmosphere.

Twenty-five years after our beginning, Family Health Care is far from just a dream. I feel lucky to be a part of this dynamic organization. The hard work of our board and staff and the concrete support of many individuals, including each of you, sustains our idealism. Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care’s application of idealism is very exciting. It is very real. It is very strong.

## News & Notes

- \* Local Kiwanis Clubs provided 200 turkeys, potatoes, cranberries and stuffing to FHC for the Thanksgiving holiday. Turkeys were distributed to clients of both the Southwest Boulevard and Quindaro clinics.
- \* Thank you to United Healthcare and manager of provider marketing, Christine Krause, for the donation of a Sesame Street themed literacy corner!



Christine Krause and FHC employee, Kim Stuart, with the new literacy corner!

## Champagne & Chocolate—Thank You To Our Sponsors!

### Underwriters

Steve Metzler & Brian Williams  
The Turner Family Foundation

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## Optical Shop Now Open!



You could think of Dr. Terry Curran as the Tom Sawyer of Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care. He's an ophthalmologist, sure. But more importantly, he's a fence-painter. "I want everybody to paint the fence with me," he said. "I want them all to *want* to paint the fence."

Over the past several months, he's proven persuasive. Earlier this year, after the clinic moved into its new addition, one of the new rooms was equipped with machinery for diagnosing vision deficits and eye diseases. The source of the pricey equipment, according to Curran: "Me and my friends."

The clinic hired an optician, Dennis Moyers. This past summer, he and a volunteer optician, Ben Moyers, set up an optical shop. They began dispensing glasses a few months ago and expect soon to begin fitting patients with contact lenses. And the lenses, according to Moyers, are "the best lenses on the market." Nothing about the new eye clinic is second-best, said Moyers, who has managed and worked in eye clinics for nearly 20 years. "This is probably one of the most advanced eye clinics I've ever worked in. I've worked in so many offices where the equipment was 10 years old."

This clinic has a retinal imager and a digitized eye chart." Not standard equipment," Moyers said. "Cutting edge. This is such a treat. A lot of times when you're doing safety net (medical care), you do just what'll get you by." Not so at this clinic.

And the coats of paint just keep coming; Dr. Curran recently confirmed that the Hunkeler Eye Clinic Institute is ready to start doing eye surgeries for free on clinic patients. "We're up and running," he said. Dr. Curran anticipates a need for surgical treatment of diabetic retinopathy, cataracts and glaucoma. "One of the problems with poverty is it leads to people getting older sooner," he said. "There are a lot of 50-year-olds who need help, but they don't have any insurance." Dr. Curran is recruiting more ophthalmologists, and expects to expand his stable. "We want everybody to be part of this effort," he said, sounding like someone who doesn't readily accept "no" for an answer. "We want the doctors to find a way to give back."

Next up, he's got his eye, as it were, on an operating room for eye patients he expects will open soon at the KU Medical Center just up the road, making it very convenient for other retired KU physicians to do surgeries there. It's only a matter of time before Dr. Curran starts handing out more brushes and rollers.

Story by: Karen Uhlenhuth

## Champagne & Chocolate—We Thank Our Wonderful Donors!

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## **Wish List**

- \* Audiometer for hearing screens.
- \* Digital scale that weighs up to 500 lbs.
- \* Ultra sonic cleaner for the vision clinic.
- \* Frame boards for the vision clinic.
- \* Scanner for the legal department.
- \* Leander chiropractic table.
- \* Treadmills, exercise bikes and elliptical for the fitness center.

## **We're Thankful For...**

- \* The Bounds Family, and their donation in memory of Big Changes program member, Adam Bounds.
- \* United Healthcare for the Sesame Street themed literacy corner in the waiting room of the clinic!  
Sesame street tables and chairs, a variety of books, bookmarks with health information, coloring pages and crayons are among some of the items included!