

# The Pulse

## of The Neighborhood Christian Clinic

RESTORING HEALTH & RESTORING LIVES • JUNE 2016

### God's Provision.

by Paul Lorentsen, Medical Director

**M**aria arrived at the clinic, nodded to the receptionist, and took her usual seat in the waiting room. Across the valley, a woman and her husband hopped into their car. This woman had just learned of our Clinic, and had loaded up their car with medical supplies they would be donating to us. Without their knowledge, God had arranged that these three people would be on site at the Clinic together.

Maria was escorted to her exam room by the volunteer nurse, walking gingerly on her bandaged leg. Within minutes, the dressings were removed from her leg, revealing the deep skin ulcer that had refused to heal for months. As I inspected the wound, I realized that even after months of care, the approaches we had been taking were not resulting in wound healing. Walking out of the exam room, I said to our nurse; "This patient needs to see a wound specialist! But the specialist I've called has not returned my calls!"

Down the hallway, our volunteer recruiter welcomed the couple with the donated items, and gave them a tour of our facility.

*As I sat down in my office, I overheard the husband mention "wound care."*

When that phrase was repeated, I left my office and joined the conversation. The husband, John, actually is a wound care specialist, who had just accompanied his wife to assist with the delivery of the medical



supplies! Incredulous, I shared our current need for his skillset, and within minutes he was examining the patient's wound. These types of wounds are typical for his practice setting, and he was quick to offer suggestions. Before leaving, he had agreed to begin volunteering regularly to see this patient as well as the others in our clinic who suffer from similar wounds.

I was reminded of God's provision, and his limitless resources. We can proclaim with the prophet Micah, "But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me."



### Big, BIG News.

**T**he Arizona State Legislature along with Governor Ducey just made the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit program better; much better. The program, also known as the Working Poor Tax Credit, is only available for 501(c)(3) non-profits that qualify; the Clinic does.

Effective with 2016, the credit amount has been increased from \$400 to \$800 for couples and from \$200 to \$400 for individual filers. **The tax credit amount has doubled; this year, you can double your tax credit donation to the Clinic without it costing you anything.**

#### Charitable Tax Credit

	2015	2016
Individual	\$ 400	\$ 800
Couple	\$ 800	\$ 1,000

The potential impact for the Clinic is huge. If each Clinic donor doubled their tax credit donation to the Clinic, we would be able to facilitate thousands of more patient visits each year and have even a greater impact for God's Kingdom on a community living in great need.

Please consider doubling your tax credit donation to the Clinic this year; it would cost you nothing to do so and the number of lives that would be affected because of your increased support would be huge.

*Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

II Cor 9: 6-7

### Keep Current with Social Media!

Become a fan and a friend of the clinic today to receive quick updates on the Clinic!

**facebook** The Neighborhood Christian Clinic

**twitter** Twitter/ChristianClinic

### Thinking About Estate Planning?

Join others who have already decided to help secure the Clinic's future of *Restoring Health & Restoring Lives* for the uninsured and underserved. Interested? Please contact the Clinic or the Arizona Community Foundation at 602 381-1400 or 800 222-8221.

### Current Clinic Stats

	Patient Visits	Volunteers	Hours	Turn Aways
March	806	69	751.3	104
April	722	69	728.9	88
May	730	71	708.3	120



## Meet George Griggs, M.D.

**M**arty, my beloved wife of 52 years, died on August 30, 2009. It was a very difficult time but I started volunteering at the Clinic just two weeks later working as a physician, twice a week. I continue to volunteer and cherish my time at the Clinic.

I had retired from my medical practice a year earlier to care for Marty and had learned about TNCC from CMDA (Christian Medical & Dental Association) who had recently held a meeting at the Clinic. I've been a CMDA member since 1956, beginning when I was a medical student. I was not able to volunteer until God took Marty home. The clinic gave me the opportunity to serve the poor and volunteering was a tremendous help to me when dealing with my grief. The Clinic staff and other volunteers are wonderfully warm and very supportive and helpful.

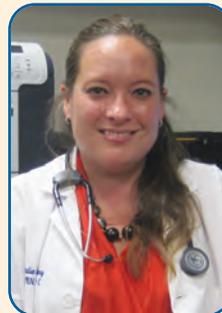
I have always enjoyed general medicine even though my subspecialty was pulmonary medicine. I particularly enjoy the largely Latino population of patients and am enjoying the challenge of learning Spanish, though I still need an interpreter. Importantly, most Clinic patients are particularly open to discuss spiritual issues and with few exceptions are especially happy when I offer to pray with them or share the Gospel. I cannot think of a more worthwhile use of my time; I hope to continue volunteering as long as my health and strength allow. God is very much present at the Clinic.



## Meet Natalie Doheny, N.P.

**W**hen I first heard about The Neighborhood Christian Clinic on LinkedIn (a professional, social networking site), I was working full time and was interested in participating at the clinic somehow but had no time available. I eventually quit my full time job which gave me plenty of time on my hands when I remembered the Clinic; so, I inquired about it again on LinkedIn. I've been volunteering once or twice a week since February. What have I gained from my experience at the Clinic? What could I take with me on the next step in my career?

From a practical perspective, I have undoubtedly improved my medical Spanish and have gained valuable clinical experience. More importantly, what I've gained is an understanding that the Clinic is focused on serving Jesus through serving others. I have been intending to volunteer more which is a drive ingrained in me from Catholic upbringing. I volunteered more when I was younger and single; and I now wonder if my drive to volunteer was only to gain God's good grace. When thinking about that, I realize that each encounter I have with Clinic patients brings a sense of satisfaction in knowing that I have had a positive impact in someone's life who would not otherwise have had access to healthcare. Yes, I do want to please God; but, I really do feel blessed by God through my experience as a healthcare volunteer at the Clinic. I am blessed to serve Him by serving others.

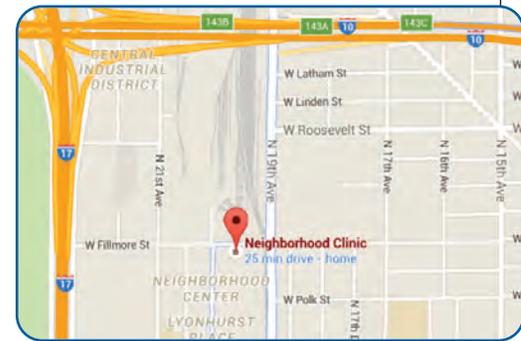


## Whole Community Health.

by Gary Flooster, Executive Director

**F**or many years, the Clinic's staff & Board have been praying for the health of our community and for a way to engage the community in such a way that will improve the overall health of the community from the "inside - out." Just as the Clinic practices whole person care, i.e. patient care that addresses physical needs as well as social, psychological and spiritual needs; we are praying that there can be a whole community impact in much the same way that we have a whole person impact.

Out of a recent Board initiative on another matter, God seems to have created sufficient energy to begin an undertaking of engaging the Clinic's community on its overall health. An oversight team has developed, ideas have hatched and the effort is underway.



The first of two "listening" meetings will be on August 13 which is designed to engage community members to understand what their concept of health is, what they believe are impediments to health and to help them identify community resources to remove those impediments. This will not be another program that the Clinic offers; rather, the intent is for the Clinic to foster a culture wherein the community "owns" its own health issues and devises ways to address them with resources from within the community. The intent is to have the Community recognize that Christ is Lord in all and of all. Spiritual healing, disease prevention, poverty alleviation and social and psychological healing are intended outcomes.

This is a very exciting, long term undertaking. We will keep you posted; please pray for what God will do, specifically for the meeting on August 13.



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