

The Pulse

of The Neighborhood Christian Clinic

RESTORING HEALTH & RESTORING LIVES • FALL 2008

A Note from the Executive Director

by Gary Plooster

This is the Clinic's first quarterly news publication. It's not elaborate but we hope you find it informative and interesting - anticipate it during the third month of each Quarter. There will be Clinic stats each publication and other news regarding the Clinic's ministry. Please offer your comments and suggestions.



As you might imagine, the economy is impacting all ministries. Our prayers go to those financially pressed and we trust God will provide. The Clinic is financially sound; however, we too are affected with lower donation levels. Simultaneously, we are faced with increased patient visits and our "turn-aways" are approximately 160 per month. We appreciate your continued prayers and thank each one of you in advance for thinking of us while making year end giving decisions.

The Voice of the Clinic

Another way to help is to tell others, i.e. be a "voice" of the Clinic. Tell us of someone who should receive this quarterly publication by calling 602.254.0445 or sending a note to gplooster@tnccclinic.org. Or, visit our website to enter their information under the "Contact" link.

I hope your holidays are blessed. I trust each of you will take time to give God thanks and I pray you enter the Christmas Season with a sense of joy and anticipation for the great things he has planned for 2009.

Note from the Medical Director

by Dr. Paul Lorentsen

Hundreds of patients pour into the clinic on a monthly basis, seeking medical care, prescription refills, and general medical advice. Many of our patients struggle with complex medical problems, and require monthly or even weekly visits. Some patients walk-in without appointments, hoping that we can see them for new urgent medical problems.

Meeting the Need

Two weeks ago, a family came to our clinic only to find our front door closed and the windows dark. Undeterred, they carried their daughter around to the side of the building and knocked on the door, requesting help. The young girl was bleeding from a deep foot laceration that she had sustained only a few minutes prior to her arrival. I was leaving for the day, but I realized that if we turned her away, she would face a long evening in the ER and expensive bill. Realizing that treating her would be a great service to the family and build trust within our community, we agreed to see and proceeded to repair the laceration.

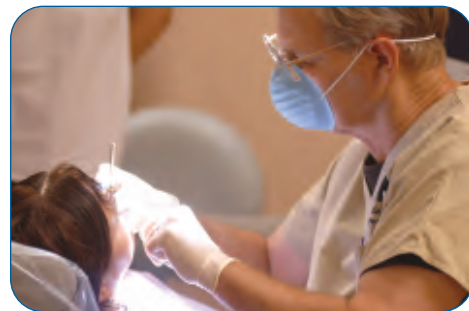
Within a short time period, she had a clean, repaired wound, a tetanus shot, an antibiotic, and crutches. The family couldn't thank us enough as they walked out the door, and they continued to thank us when they followed up a week later. The minor inconvenience that I experienced was nothing compared to the satisfaction I received from being used by God to meet their need. As always, God has shown us that we are blessed when we give.

Stats of the Clinic (1/1-10/31)

2007 Total Patients Seen	5,200
2008 Total Patients Seen	5,793
Dental	
2007 Patients Seen	1,129
2008 Patients Seen	1,302
Oct. Volunteer Hours	477

Pray with Patients!?

by Dr. Joe Lindner



God's word instructs us to pray. But how or why should we include prayer with our patients? At TNCC we share Christ's love by including spiritual care along with physical care.

Here's an example from one of our providers. At the conclusion of an appointment the provider asked the patient how we might be able to pray for her. She shared that she was victim to physical abuse from her husband and that it was necessary to move out of the house. After discussion and prayer the patient kissed the provider's hand. Humbling? Yes! The patient clearly appreciated the special time that someone spent with her. More importantly, this was time spent with our loving Father. The Great Commandment of loving God and neighbor was demonstrated.

TNCC is not only dedicated to providing quality medical/dental care but is also dedicated to sharing the love of Christ with patients and equipping volunteers to do the same.

Dental Department Update

Join us in welcoming Gina Thorley, our new staff dentist. Gina is active in her church, Arizona Community Church and helps serve the needy in our clinic. She is married and has 2 children.

2009 Dental Expansion Budget \$185,000
Received to Date \$ 95,000



**The Neighborhood
Christian Clinic**

Restoring Health • Restoring Lives

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