

Dear Friends;

All of us at Dungeness Valley Health & Wellness Clinic appreciate your continued support of our healthcare safety net for the uninsured. While the demand for Clinic services has increased at an alarming rate in recent years, you and many other community members have opened your hearts to provide financial support so that we might deliver medical care for our clients.

As we enter the second quarter of 2011, we would like to update you on a few Clinic activities. As of last October 15th our Clinic had been in existence for nine years. Consequently, we find ourselves heading inexorably toward a tenth anniversary. A committee is busy planning an October celebration of this milestone and we'll keep you informed as the details are finalized.

We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join us for these other fun events:

- On Saturday, June 18, from 5 to 7 pm, the Sequim Prairie Grange will host its annual Ice Cream Social benefitting the Clinic.
- The 9th Annual Clinic Fun Walk takes place on Saturday, September 17th. By popular demand, we have arranged for Trinity United Methodist Church to serve as the event headquarters again this year.

The week of April 18 to 24 marks National Volunteer Recognition Week. I'd like to tell you about two Clinic volunteers whose work would otherwise remain hidden: Karen Epler, RN, and Dan Stimbert. It may not be unfair to single out two of the seventy-plus heroes who do so much on our behalf, but there's not enough room to describe what they all do.

Karen has managed our Prescription Assistance Program for four years. Pharmaceutical companies offer these assistance programs to help qualified patients obtain medicines at reduced prices, but accessing those programs is not for the faint of heart. If you find federal income tax forms simple and transparent then you could possibly (but not necessarily) do what Karen does *for more than a hundred of our clients!* We estimate that she saves them about \$150,000 per year, an average of \$1,500 per patient, for life preserving medications. Her dedication, persistence, and medical experience have been a major blessing for our Clinic.

Dan, who retired from the Information Technology (IT) department at Olympic Medical Center a few years ago, serves as the Clinic's one-man IT department on a volunteer basis. He ensures that the telephone system, our internet access, our computers, and the server that sits at the center of our network are updated and working well. He also supplies security and proper back-ups for our network.

Finally, I am extremely pleased to report that community support for our work grew from 2007 through 2010. Remarkably, even as the wheels started to fall off the general economy in 2008, the Clinic received increased revenue through your individual contributions and other funding sources. So, thank you again for sharing our commitment to healthcare access, and for continuing to invest in our community's free clinic.

Sincerely,



John E. Beitzel
Executive Director