

Board of Directors

Dr. Audrey Gift,
Ph.D., RN, FAAN
President

Bill Green, *Rev*
Vice-President

Jerry Sinn,
Treasurer

Richard McMenamin,
JD, CPA
Secretary

James Castell

Patricia Guthrie

Patty Lebowitz

Richard E. Newman

Margaret Preston,
Capt. USPHS (ret)

Dave Salmon

Staff

Pamela Leonard-Ray
Executive Director

Rose Gibbs, RN
MHA/MPA, CNAA
Clinic Director

Kip Tulin, MD
Medical Director

Larry Germain, ARNP
Chronic Healthcare Clinic

Marian Needham,
Administrative Assist

Pennie Robinson,
*Wellness Program
Coordinator*

Sandy Hutter,
*Volunteer Coordinator
& Clinic Support Assistant*

Dian Woodle
*Prescription Assistant
Program*

Dan Stimbert
IT Manager

Clinic Director's Report

By Rose Gibbs, RN,
MHA/MPA, CNAA

This has been a very interesting year. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has had an impact on our clinic, as well as the other 32 free clinics in this state. The number of visits through our Evening Urgent Care has declined by about 34% for the year. Most of the State's free clinics reported declines of 25-30%. According to a recent survey "most clinics are now seeing a return of patients" that many previously had helped to enroll in insurance options.

Our Chronic Healthcare Clinic (CHC) has experienced a decline of about 28% for the year. Approximately 65 of our local clients have enrolled in health coverage since January 2014. A little over half of these were being managed through CHC. Most have found primary care providers; however, in recent months, they have been placed on waiting lists or scheduled for a first appointment in nine months. We continue to provide services to them as a safety net, while they wait to be established with a primary. Without a primary care provider, an urgent care clinic or emergency department has

no place to send the person for follow up. Our clinic becomes the only viable option. We serve as a safety net and create an access point for some of Washington's most vulnerable populations.

In addition, we are being sought by those who received partial subsidies and catastrophic plans and are now finding it prohibitive to afford copays and deductibles. In our area, all clients are having difficulty finding a primary care provider, including the Apple Health subscribers who joined the health care market through the ACA. The statewide free clinic association believes that "with decreasing reimbursement rates and a statewide healthcare provider shortage, particularly in rural communities, this is unlikely to improve". Of course, there are still those who do not qualify for the ACA.

Dental care continues to be a real concern. Medicaid clients now have coverage. Most dentists do not accept Medicaid and the only local agency that does is overwhelmed. Other insurances, including Medicare, do not provide dental services. Most find the additional monthly premium for dental insurance prohibitive. We limit our

dental support to those who qualify to be seen in our medical clinic. Through the generosity of our local dentists and support from the Olympic Medical Center and other grants and donations, we were able to help over 100 individuals obtain dental care for dental emergencies in 2014.

Through the Prescription Assistance Program, we have been able to secure expensive medications for our chronic care clients directly from the manufacturer. Four volunteers coordinate this program for about 110 clients (drop from 160 in 2013). These prescriptions corresponded to an expense value of \$147,232. Without this program a majority of our
(continued on page 2)

In 2014 Dungeness Valley Health & Wellness Clinic had 1386 Patient Visits.

The value of health services to the community was \$426,241.

**\$165,414 cash revenue
\$153,616 cash expense**

**For each dollar raised,
\$2.58 worth of service
was provided.**

clients would not be able to purchase essential medications, such as insulin, respiratory inhalers, cardiac medications and so forth, that are required to manage their chronic illness.

Free Clinics base their services on the particular needs and resources of the local community. DVWHC could not be successful without the tremendous support of and partnering with the Olympic Medical Center. Low-cost facility use fees and a generous in-kind contribution for basic diagnostic lab tests and imaging services for clinic patients have allowed us to provide required treatment, medical management and needed care. Many patients who are seeking care at the Free Clinic have previously had to forego needed health care, some for several years, and often multiple health issues are revealed in their first visit. Basic Urgent Care is not basic—in fact, one of our founding physicians said that the patients she sees in the evening clinic are some of the most challenging that she encounters.

Over 75 clinic volunteers donate their skills and expertise, including medical providers, nursing professionals, clerical and general support staff. Most have joined the clinic after completing their own careers and have brought their vast experience and life wisdom to support others in their community. They are the foundation of our clinic and a priceless resource to our community.

Numerous specialty providers, many associated with the Olympic Medical Center, have generously provided consultation when referrals were needed for the expertise of their specialties. During 2014 there were over 90 formal referrals with 11 of them going to health systems beyond the

Olympic Peninsula. Through the generosity of three community providers, several clients received vision exams at no cost. Also, nine individuals received dermatology exams and treatment at no charge from a local dermatologist.

I am privileged to be part of such a marvelous community endeavor. 2015 will be another year of transition. One day these services may no longer be required. Until that day, Dungeness Valley Health & Wellness Clinic will continue to be 'a beacon of health and a beacon of hope' for the underserved in the Sequim Community.

Survey information from the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics

- 88% of free clinics report that the largest challenge for their patients is the high cost of insurance
- 83% of patients at free clinics come from a working household
- 80% of free clinic patients report that the high cost of medication remains a challenge
- 70% of free clinics report having newly insured patients returning to the clinic due to high costs of medication, premium or lack of access
- 58% of clinics are reporting an increase in patient demand for primary care services

"Free clinics remain a vital part of the healthcare safety net and a critical resource for our many underserved communities."

Comments from our clients:

"You deserve immense thanks for the treatment of my foot and knee malady. The swelling is gone in my knee and I am back to doing my distance walking. Thanks once again and the Lord bless you" JS

"I wanted to thank you and let you know how much I really appreciate the existence of the clinic and am grateful for the time that the volunteers contribute to the clinic to keep it running. I just wanted to let you know about how glad I am that the clinic is available to the community" LS

"I want to express my gratitude, not only for the wonderful work you do and the services provided me via the DVH&WC of the past 11 years, but for the kindness you showed in a simple conversation... I am happy to report that as of today, I am one week post op from a hysterectomy. The excruciating pain I experienced time and time again is now just a memory. I will always remember this life changing event started with an act of kindness from you." SP

"Thank you all for taking such good care of me and helping me get established with someone who will take my insurance. Of great importance to me was the way you all treated me with respect and dignity. I had insurance but could not be seen for a very long time and my need was urgent. Following me through the Chronic Clinic until I could get an appointment with my new doctor really started me on the road to recovery. Through your help I was able to regain strength in my legs, especially after the swelling was reduced and really improved my ability to walk and care for myself. Thank you for being there when I was in desperate need." PH

Thank You to our 2014 Clinic Volunteers
in recognition of the service of our 2014 volunteers

Providers

Kim DePrati, PA-C
Larry Germain, ARNP
Gary Henriksen, MD
Ed Hopfner, MD
Larri Ann Mishko, MD
Kari Olsen, MD
Kathy Shannon, ARNP
Charles D. Sullivan, MD
Kip Tulin, MD
Marianne Ude, MD
Carl Weber, MD

Nurse Managers (RNs)

Kitty Dissing
Nancy Dolansky
Ardis Erickson
Brooke Fitzsimmons
Linda Fortney
Lyell Fox
Jamie Goodwin
Patricia Gordon
Callie Higgs
Renee Jones
Mary Lenard
Kelly McKillip
Donna Pairadee
Betty Pollard
Wendy Shultz
Christine Straker
Shelley Stratton
Elois Wallace

Assessment

Stefanie Anderson
Travis Anderson

Sandra Boudrou
Lorika Erbenich
Louise Holmes
Jack Hueter
Steve McElroy
Monica Ostrom
Barbara Parse
Dottie Robinson
Jared Romberg
Debra Smith
Elizabeth Tomisato

Reception

Betty Archer
Madelin Barclay
Betty Barnard
Joy Beaver
Sue Brock
Randi Cooper
Irene Greene
Bev Horan
Carrie Kalina
Sonia Killian
Georgia Lee
Gloria Miller
Arlene Weed
Jolie Will

Interpreters

Carrie Cobb
Maria Dryke
Maria Hall
Lilli Dodd
Michael Garcia
Carmen Pitkin

Prescription Assistance Program

Dian Woodle, PAP Coordinator
Eileen Collins, RN
Arlene Cox, RN
Penny Pfeffer, RN

Data Entry/Clerical Support

Carol Babcock

Hazel Blake
Marilyn Freeman
Eva Lundstrom
Debi Maguire

Specialty/Technical

Kitty Dissing, CDE
Sue Sorenson, RN (Diabetes Educator)
Daniel Stimbirt, IT Manager
Grace Lambert, Social Media
Matt Wilson, Social Media

Volunteer Coordinator

Sandy Hutter

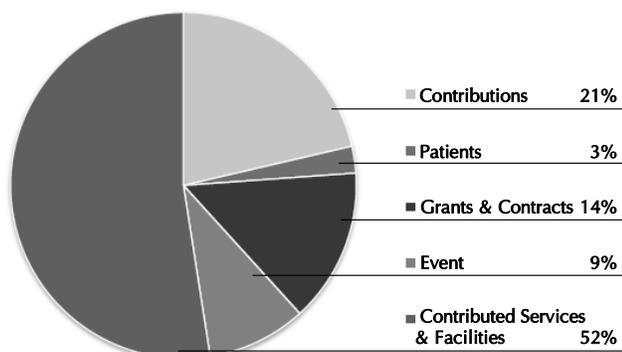


The Clinic Fun Walk Team with the most walkers and contributed the most money - Dungeness Valley Lutheran Church.

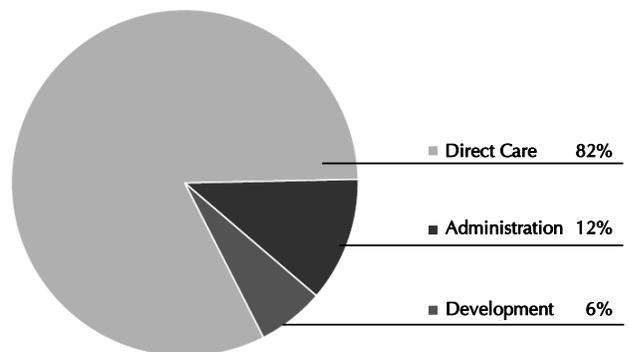
Pictured above, left to right: Audrey Gift, Clinic Board President; Jack Anderson, Pastor of Dungeness Valley Lutheran; Gwyn Wessel, Team Leader from Dungeness Valley Lutheran; Margaret Preston, Clinic Board Member

Financial Report

Revenue for 2014 - \$348,237

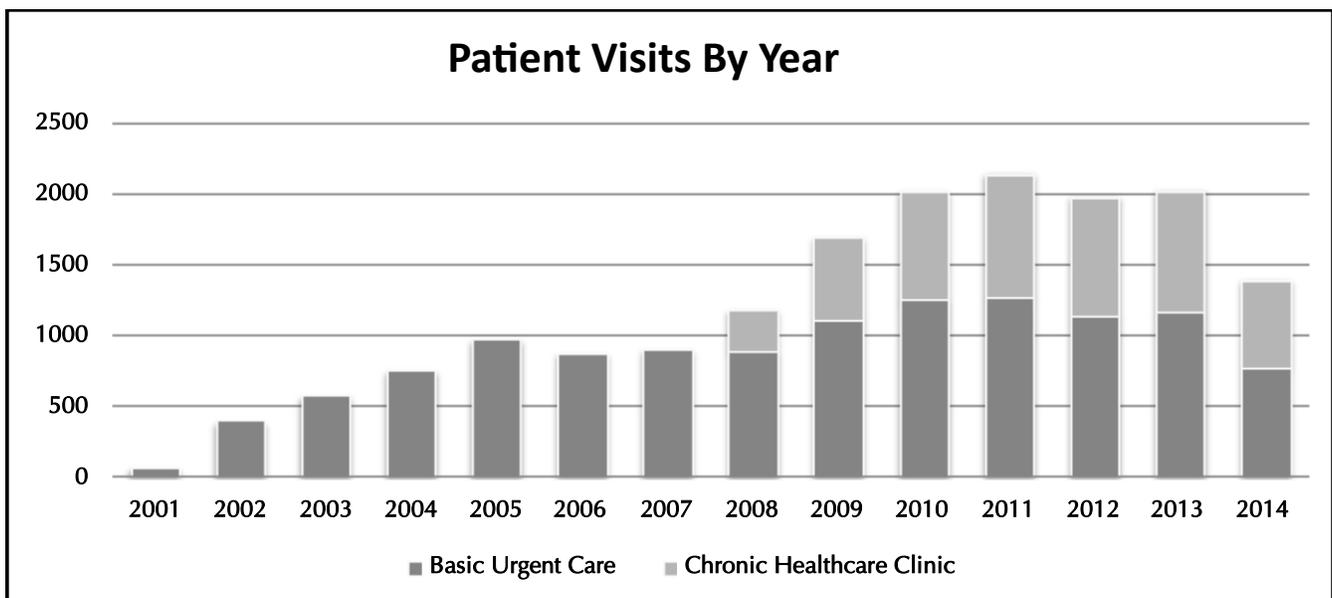


Expense for 2014 - \$336,260



Follow us:
Sequimfreeclinic.org

[Facebook.com/
Pages/Dungeness
Valley Health and
Wellness Clinic](https://www.facebook.com/Pages/Dungeness-Valley-Health-and-Wellness-Clinic)



**Reminders
for 2015:**

Monthly Forums Second Wednesday of each month, 2:30 p.m.
at Trinity United Methodist Church, 100 Blake Ave, Sequim

2015 Clinic Fun Walk Saturday, September 12, 2015, 9-12:30
at Trinity United Methodist Church, 100 Blake Ave, Sequim