



Clinic with a
HEART®

The Pulse Newsletter

February 2013



2012 in Review

I don't know that a DNA test could prove it, but I believe I am 3/4ths nerd. What that means is that I love this time of year when we summarize our data. I find a pie chart to be exhilarating!

Numbers are one of the ways we can tell our story.

As we go into our 10th year of service, the numbers tell a story of slow, steady growth. In fact, my best estimate is that in the last 10 years volunteer mission teams have provided over 17,000 visits to patients! We'll have a special addition of our annual report in May which will celebrate our 10 years.

Now, let's take a look at 2012:

- ♥ **714** volunteers donated **11,994** hours of service to care for patients.
- ♥ **3,157** visits were provided to **2,862** patients during the year at clinics sponsored by **11** mission team sponsors.
- ♥ **94%** of our patients did not have insurance.
- ♥ **38%** of our patients are employed, **62%** are unemployed.
- ♥ **71%** of our patients have household incomes of less than \$16,000 a year.
- ♥ If they had not been able to visit Clinic with a Heart, **43%** of our patients said they would likely have gotten their care in the emergency room.
- ♥ **81%** of the patients we saw were between the ages of 18 to 65 years old. **12%** were under the age of 18.
- ♥ **74%** of our patients spoke English as their primary language. **15%** spoke Spanish. Patients spoke over **20** other languages. **6%** of our patients could not speak English at all.

- ♥ A conservative estimate is that for every dollar donated to Clinic with a Heart there was a return on investment of **588%**. This includes replacement care costs and the community savings achieved by reducing visits to the emergency department.

Oral Health and Overall Health

From the Oral Cancer Foundation, "Approximately 42,000 Americans will be newly diagnosed with oral cancer in 2013. When found early oral cancers have an 80% survival rate. Unfortunately the majority are found as late stage cancers, and this accounts for the very high death rate of about 45% at five years from diagnosis. It doesn't have to be this way. Regular dental visits are the first line of defense though the process of early discovery."

The first Dental clinic of the new-year at Clinic with a Heart was a pretty regular evening when we saw 16 patients. We referred to the appropriate places as we usually do. That evening two of the patients came in with pain emanating from lesions on the tongue. The patients were examined at the clinic by the Dentists on duty. He found each of the lesions involved the border of the tongue and were determined by the dentists to need attention soon by an oral pathologist. Clinic with a Heart does not have a regular way to deal with this referral but has a great relationship with the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry. There, the oral pathologist agreed to see both patients. It was determined that both had Stage IV oral cancer. Both are in the process of getting treatment.

This is just one of the unique opportunities our volunteers provide to those in need. The profound impact of finding serious dental conditions in our own backyard to help those in need really does

happen. It is truly a blessing to these patients and rewarding to our dental community to have all the volunteers of Clinic with a Heart each and every clinic night. – Roger Fisher, All Smiles Dentistry, Clinic with a Heart Dental Director

Prayer and Praise

Recently we added a Prayer and Praise Box to our patient Waiting Room. Patients and Volunteers are welcome to add their special prayers and praise to the box. Prayers are taken from the box after each clinic and right away a volunteer begins the praying process. He also posts the prayers on a website where members of the community can pray too. Identifying information is removed from the public posting.

These requests are one of the ways we connect and build community. They give us a deeper look into the burdens those around us may be carrying. Here are a few of the prayers:

“My niece is on hospice and I care for her and now I am very ill. Please pray with me.”

“I would like to pray that things that I did bad from the past, please God forgive me. And I’m sorry for what I have done. I wish I pass and have my dream and become my Parents sweet & useful girl. Also for everybody. I really wish and I thank you God.”

If you wish to participate in this prayer ministry, please contact Teresa Harms
(Teresa@clinicwithaheart.org)

Clinic with a Heart @ Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach and Cornhusker Place

In the last few years we have developed some outreach clinics to connect with potential patients and begin to build trust. We also provide much needed services. Once a month, two Clinic with a

Heart nurse volunteers are at Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach. They do blood sugar screenings, blood pressure screenings and vision screenings.

The Star City Lions Club is assisting us with providing vision screenings at Cornhusker Place every other month. This helps patients in treatment at Cornhusker Place get much needed assistance while allowing us to screen more patients at our regular vision clinic.

10th Year Celebration – a Special Rx for Hope

Our next Rx for Hope event will celebrate 10 years of service! This fun event takes place the evening of Friday, April 26, 2013 at the County Club of Lincoln (3200 S. 24th Street)

The night will include a silent auction, purse and neck-tie raffles, live auction and a program. We have some exciting items for our auctions including a 3-night stay at a beautiful vacation home in the North Carolina resort village of Blowing Rock. The Tucked Inn sleeps 6 and features a spacious, open Great-room and twelve-foot deck with views of the Appalachians. We also have a fun-filled Southeast Nebraska Winery Trail Tour (transportation provided), a \$1,000 gift certificate towards shingling your home, items to dress up your gardens/decks, jewelry, art glass...and so much more!

The Save the Date postcards have gone out and the invites will be in the mail early March. Please consider attending and helping Clinic with a Heart celebrate 10 years! If you have questions, would like to attend, buy a table or donate an item, etc., please call Jan at (402) 404-0454 or email her at Jan@clinicwithaheart.org.

“In most vital organizations, there is a common bond of interdependence, mutual interest, interlocking contributions, and simple joy.” -- Max DePree

Clinic with a Heart
1701 S. 17th Street, Suite 4G
Lincoln, NE 68502
402-421-2924 www.clinicwithaheart.org