

Our Lives Teach Us Who We Are



“Thank you for your excellent work and your undying belief in the goodness of man. Many thanks.”

Those words came to us in a greeting card, along with a check from a donor. It was just one of the many gifts of support and encouragement we receive when we least expect it. Financial gifts, such as the substantial check we recently received from the estate of an elderly woman we barely knew, are a humbling reminder that The Source behind the Marian Clinic’s mission is ultimately in charge.

That woman felt moved to bequeath her estate for the purpose of helping others. She was probably thinking of the immediate relief of suffering her funds would provide to the nearly 5,000 patients the Clinic’s staff and volunteers treat every year. However it is much more than that. If she knew how far the reach of her gift will really extend, I feel certain she would be pleased.

Consider that every patient who receives compassion and healing here will in turn influence many others throughout the course of his or her life. Most will return to a productive, stable life, raise a family, hold down a job, and participate in various ways in a building a community. Most will carry the compassion that he or she has received and pass it along to others in ways large and small. It’s a staggering multiplier effect!

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“The Ultimate Concert” September 11th

fourth annual “The Ultimate Concert,” again featuring the 31-piece, award-winning **Fountain City Brass Band** (www.fccb.net). This popular, crowd-engaging band is the 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 North American Brass Band Champions; the 2007, 2008, and 2009 U.S. Open Brass Band Champions; and the 2009 Scottish Open Brass Band Champions. **No admission is charged and no tickets are needed.** A free-will offering will support the Marian Clinic’s mission of providing healthier lives for the uninsured.



Fountain City Brass Band

You’re invited to join us on **Sunday, September 11th at 3:00 p.m.** at White Concert Hall, Washburn University for our

Thank you to our sponsors B. A. Designs, LLC; Logan Business Machines; Newbery, Ungerer & Hickert, LLP; Parrish Hotels; Donald and Mary Patterson; Pfizer Foundation; Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System; Security Benefit; Taggart & Associates; and Wendling, Noe, Nelson & Johnson.

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Not all will do so, of course. Many come back to us again and again because their needs are great and their abilities to cope with life are few. These are the patients, who, because of the nature of their illness and circumstances, may be uncooperative, refuse to take their medicine or keep their appointments, or may be hostile. Sometimes there is mental illness and great instability. These are the patients who require even greater tenderness and care. While we do our best to benefit many, we realize that not everyone can be healed of their physical and mental afflictions.

That is where your gifts of prayer come in. The uplifting that you give on the Clinic's behalf and on our patients' behalf is a huge factor in the lives of many. Thank you for your support and for recognizing that every life's journey is precious. No one, not one of us, is outside the scope of God's healing love. And that's the ultimate multiplier.

Blessings,

Ruth Maus

Development Director



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Urgent Need For Diabetic Supplies

The Marian Clinic is in urgent need of diabetic supplies for its patients. According to **Dr. April Harris, Medical Director**, the Clinic's 605 diabetic patients need to test their blood sugar levels several times a day to properly manage their illness. Failure to know a diabetic's blood sugar level can lead to severe health consequences and even death. Patients can administer the test themselves at home if they have a small apparatus called a glucometer and test strips which measure the results. The same glucometer can be used many times, but each test requires a new test strip.

Normally pharmaceutical companies donate diabetic test supplies to the Marian Clinic, which the Clinic then passes along to patients *at no*

charge. However, due to the economy those companies have stopped donating diabetic supplies for the rest of the year, leaving many in crisis.

"It is vital to the health of our diabetic patients that they test their blood sugar often," stated Harris. "But with an average retail cost of \$100 or more per month, our patients, who already live beneath the federal poverty guidelines, simply cannot afford it. That's why the Marian Clinic distributes these free to our diabetic patients; it is part of our mission of reflecting God's healing love to the uninsured who live in poverty."

The Marian Clinic has reached out to **Dillon's/Kroger Pharmacy** for

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assistance with part of this crisis and they have responded. Dillon's/Kroger has agreed to donate 90 glucometers to the Clinic at no charge and to reduce the Clinic's cost of purchasing matching diabetic test strips for one patient to roughly \$9 per month. Now the Clinic is appealing to the public for cash donations for this purpose. Approximately \$8,100 is needed to make up the entire shortfall for the year, (which is not in the Clinic's budget!) however a gift of only \$9 will help one diabetic patient for one month.

Those wishing to assist financially may do so through the Marian Clinic's secure website at www.marianclinic.org or by mailing a donation to Marian Clinic, 1001 SW Garfield,

Topeka, Kansas 66604.

Those wishing to donate their own unexpired diabetic supplies may bring them to the Marian Clinic at 1001 SW Garfield Monday – Thursday between 8:30 and noon and 1:00 to 4:30, and on Fridays from 8:30 to noon. Donations of both cash and supplies are tax deductible.

"All gifts are gratefully appreciated and will help a vulnerable person manage a major illness," stated Harris. "Thank you especially to Dillon's/Kroger pharmacy for being such a good neighbor and a compassionate friend to those in need. Your kindness is a blessing to many."

We are not human beings on a spiritual journey. We are spiritual beings on a human journey. - Stephen Covey

Note from a Patient:

"I wish to thank everyone at Marian Clinic and their fellowship of helping hands. You are the light shining in the darkness. Thank you for helping me see the light."
- G. H.

Where your dollars go:

- \$9 provides diabetic test strips to 1 diabetic patient for 1 month
- \$15 provides 1 patient 1 medical visit
- \$25 provides 1 tooth extraction
- \$50 provides 1 pair of eyeglasses
- \$477.50 provides care for 1 patient for 1 year.

Needs List:

- Staff dentist and dentist volunteers
- Volunteer Spanish interpreters
- Medical chart dividers
- First-class stamps
- Cases of photocopy paper
- Kleenex and paper towels
- Patient supplies such as shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, deodorant, hand/body lotion, cough drops, adult diapers, sanitary supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss, toilet paper.
- Prayers for the Clinic, for our many community partners that help us sustain this ministry, and for our patients and their families.

Thank you to Clinic sponsors: *Gold Level:* **B.A. Designs, LLC.; Hallmark Cards, Security Benefit, and Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System;** *Silver Level:* **Core First Bank & Trust, and USBank.**

Marian Clinic
1001 SW Garfield
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If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please contact Ruth at 785/233-9780, ext 327 or rmaus@marianclinic.org.

Mark Your Calendars Now



September 11 "The Ultimate Concert" at Washburn U.
March 10, 2012 "Kansas Barbeque" at Great Overland Station. Detail coming soon!

"Help in My Darkest Hour"

Doug, age 58, has been a Marian Clinic patient for 18 months. He had been self-employed for 15 years when his mother became very ill. Doug had to sell all of his tools, resulting in the loss of his business, because his resources went for the care of his mother. Soon he was faced not only with unemployment, but when his mother passed away he was plunged into depression and anxiety.

"In my darkest hour, I remembered that Marian Clinic is a non-judgmental and sincerely supportive place," he stated. "So I went there for help. I haven't always been fond of Catholics,

because I'm a Lutheran. But I know how much you have helped me through this time. I really appreciate it."

Doug began working with **Dr. April Harris**, who prescribed anti-anxiety medications to control his depression. **Sr. Mary Rosaleen Driscoll**, Patient Advocate and **Charlotte Rinsley**, Social Worker, arranged a referral to Vocational Rehabilitation, where Doug was able to regain the tools he needed to restart his business. Soon he will be able to work again as a lawn care professional, gardener, and tree trimmer. By partnering together, the community has helped restore Doug to health and productivity, offering a helping hand during a difficult time.

Marian Clinic's Mission:

We will, in the spirit of the Sisters of Charity, reveal God's healing love by improving the health of the individuals and communities we serve, especially those who are poor or vulnerable.

Marian Clinic is an affiliate of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System and a 501-C-3 organization. All donations are tax-deductible. Prayers are also appreciated.