



# Florida Association of Free Clinics Newsletter

Issue: # 4

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## Mission:

To provide support, mentoring, networking opportunities and advocacy through a network that initiates collaboration and the sharing of best practices to improve access to health care for the uninsured in the state of Florida.

**FAFC Website  
coming soon!**

**An Initiative  
of the**



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## Greetings from the Health Council of South Florida

Dear Community Partners,

I would like to thank all of the participants who made the strategic planning meeting held on June 4, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Orlando, successful and dynamic. With 56 attendees representing more than 35 clinics statewide, this meeting afforded a unique opportunity for clinic members to meet and network among themselves, potential funders and other key community partners. The event provided an invaluable opportunity for participants to discuss and share needs and challenges faced by their clinics. The results from the discussion will guide the Association in the process to identify its goals and objectives.

Please know that your time and participation are very much appreciated, as they contribute to the ongoing development of the Florida Association of Free Clinics. Your unwavering dedication and passion to provide services to needy and vulnerable populations is impressive and admirable. Although we are faced with a difficult economic situation and the uncertainty of Health Care Reform, your commitment to serving the community is commendable. I look forward to working with you to enhance the sustainability of Florida's Free Clinics through advocacy, capacity building and the sharing of best practices.

Peace,

Marisel Losa, MHSA  
President & CEO  
Health Council of South Florida



FAFC Strategic Planning Meeting

## Membership is Open!

Membership to the Florida Association of Free Clinics (FAFC) is currently open with no membership dues. It is open to independent, private, non-profit, community-based organizations that operate a volunteer-driven health care clinic providing primarily free service to the low-income and uninsured in Florida.

Potential FAFC members are required to complete the membership application form ([click here](#)) and the Free Clinics Nationwide Survey, which can be accessed at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BRXRCTW>.

Upon completion of the survey, membership application and approval by the FAFC Executive Committee, members will receive a welcome letter and will be assigned a member ID number. The member ID is necessary to access donated or discounted pharmaceutical and medical supplies as well as other valuable resources that the Association has to offer. [Click here](#) for current benefits.

Please note that there are no membership dues at this time; however, for the purposes of sustainability, future membership fees may apply.

To apply, please click the link above or contact Manivone Douangdara by phone at (305) 592-1452 ext. 120 or via email at [manie@healthcouncil.org](mailto:manie@healthcouncil.org).

## Free Clinic Spotlight

### Good Samaritan Clinic



Good Samaritan Clinic is a faith based primary care clinic located at 312 West, New York Avenue in DeLand, Florida. The clinic has been focused on expanding patient care since opening in October 2007. The clinic provides free primary care, and has 8 different specialists that patients can see at the Good Samaritan Clinic or the specialists' offices. Since its inception, the clinic has had 3,289 patient visits, with more than 900 patients. The hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

In addition to the primary care clinic, Good Samaritan Dental Clinic is a faith based dental facility located at 1245 S. Volusia Avenue in Orange City, Florida. The clinic opened its doors on September 14, 2009, and has experienced an overwhelming demand for dental services. The dental clinic is a full service facility, offering extractions, fillings, cleanings, and x-rays on a regular basis. The hours of operation are Monday and Wednesday 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. to noon. For more information on Good Samaritan Clinics including eligibility requirements, please [click here](#).

## FAFC News and Happenings

### FAFC Web Portal is Coming Soon!

The FAFC team continues to work with the Director of Program Management for FIU's Health Information Technology Initiative, to develop an informative and dynamic FAFC Web Portal. The FAFC Web Portal will be available to members and interested groups shortly. It is expected to increase communication, resource development and collaborative opportunities for Free Clinic members and interested groups.

In the meantime, you can visit the informative FAFC webpage on the HCSF's website: <http://www.healthcouncil.org/freeclinics.asp>. The following are items available on the current FAFC webpage: an archive of FAFC newsletters, news, publications, Free Clinic related links, special offers, grant opportunities as well as FAFC membership information and application.

### **Expansion of FTCA Free Clinic Coverage**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced that expansion of the Federal Torts Claim Act (FTCA) Free Clinics Program now covers Free Clinic staff, board and other specified individuals. HRSA offered a FTCA technical assistance call on June 29, 2010 to explain coverage and the application process.

The call is available for replays through September 29, 2010. To access the replay, please call 866-415-2341 (Toll Free) or 1-203-269-0686 (Toll Number) and provide the passcode: 4986. The slide presentation for the technical assistance call, as well as other technical assistance materials are available at: <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/policy/pal1008/ta/>. Applications for such coverage must be submitted electronically to [freeclinicsFTCA@hrsa.gov](mailto:freeclinicsFTCA@hrsa.gov).

### **National Association of Free Clinics Summit**

The NAFC's Fifth Annual Summit will be held on October 18-20, 2010, at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, in Cleveland, Ohio. On October 20th, the NAFC will be offering sessions only on health care reform and free clinics! The agenda will include informative sessions on health care reform, resource development, clinical, management and leadership issues and more. For a full agenda, registration and hotel information [click here](#).

### **Volunteers in Medicine Free Clinic to Open in Palm Bay**

Indian River Volunteers in Medicine, a Free Clinic in Brevard County, has a new home for their executive offices and classrooms thanks to Dr. Mitchell Greenberg, Director of Injury Treatment Solutions in Melbourne, Florida. Dr. Greenberg recently donated over 2,000 sq. ft. of professional office space, to the newly formed clinic, located at 1747 Evans Road, just west of the Melbourne Square Mall. Paul Ringenberger, the Executive Director of Indian River Volunteers in Medicine, said that they are looking very closely at several possibilities in Palm Bay, where they plan on locating the clinic to provide primary health care and dental services to the working poor and the uninsured. All services will be provided free of charge. The clinic is expected to open in February 2011. Please [click here](#) to read more.

### **New Survey Finds Free Clinics Heavily Burdened**

A recent study of 764 Free Clinics published in the June issue of the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, was conducted by Julie S. Darnell, PhD, MHA, of the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The survey revealed that the Free Clinics operate an average of 3 days a week, for a total of 18 hours a week, on a mean budget of \$287,810. The results also showed that 58.7% of the clinics do not receive any government funds, and 26% of clinics receive less than 1/4 of their budget from any government source. In addition, 97.7% of the clinics surveyed have at least some volunteer staff, culminating to an average of 4,237 volunteer hours per clinic. Please [click here](#) to read more.

## Resources



A Passion to Help. The Ability to Deliver.

### **AmeriCares**

AmeriCares is a nonprofit disaster relief and humanitarian aid organization that provides immediate response to emergency medical needs and supports long-term humanitarian assistance programs around the world. In the United States, AmeriCares provides medications, medical supplies and other relief on an ongoing basis to healthcare clinics serving the poor and uninsured. AmeriCares aims to help healthcare partners deliver quality care by filling critical resource gaps, including essential products that are unavailable or financially inaccessible.

Currently, AmeriCares is conducting a research study to identify the most pressing resource needs among U.S. clinics. Please take a few minutes to voice your challenges by completing a 10 minute clinic resource survey by [clicking here](#).

All clinics completing this important AmeriCares survey will be entered into a drawing to receive 1 of 10 free laptops or free airfare. Survey results will be disseminated to clinics, resource providers and donors with the aim of increasing resource access.

### **The Florida Vaccines for Children Program**

The Florida Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program is federally administered and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), through the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases to provide vaccines to children at no cost to the parent/guardian. The VFC Program purchases the vaccines under contract with the Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization, and supplies them to enrolled VFC providers at no cost. Enrolled VFC providers are able to order vaccines through their state VFC Program and receive routine vaccines at no cost. This allows providers to make routine immunizations available to eligible children without high out-of-pocket costs. For more information please [click here](#).

### **Help Children Receive Eye Exams & Glasses**

Florida's Vision Quest, a not-for-profit (501c3) public children's charity, permanently impacts children's lives by providing free children's eye exams and quality new eyeglasses for Florida's most vulnerable children who can't see clearly enough to read and can't afford suitable eye care. For more information please [click here](#).

### **Discounted and/or Donated Medical/Pharmaceutical Products**

Steede Medical has partnered with FAFC to provide high quality consumable supplies to Free Clinics at very reasonable costs. Steede Medical is a distributor/wholesaler for about 90% of the disposable medical supplies in the market. Through membership with the FAFC, access is granted to a range of products including free glucose meters and subsidized low cost, quality test strips. Please [click here](#) to see the list of additional free medical supplies available to members. For more information about Steede Medical, please visit their website at [www.steedemedical.com](http://www.steedemedical.com) or call (305) 597-0607.

### **Donations of New/Used Medical Equipment and Supplies**

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supplies. If you have any medical equipment or supplies that you are not utilizing, whether new or used, we would like to put them to good use with our Free Clinic members. Your donation will directly benefit someone who desperately needs it: patients with limited or no insurance coverage. If you have any medical equipment or supplies that you would like to donate, please contact Manivone Douangdara at (305) 592-1452 ext. 120 or via email at [manie@healthcouncil.org](mailto:manie@healthcouncil.org).

#### **Financial Aid/Guidance for Patients with Breast Cancer**

The Gift of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation provides financial support to low-income women with breast cancer by assisting them with monthly bills such as electric, gas, phone and groceries, during their course of treatment. Information about offered financial assistance may be obtained by contacting the Gift of Hope at: Gift of Hope, 9858 Clint Moore Road, C 111 #249, Boca Raton, FL 33496, or calling 561-271-9955. They can also be contacted via email at [help@forthegettofhope.org](mailto:help@forthegettofhope.org)

### **Grant Opportunities**

#### **The Department of Health and Human Resources (HHS) is offering grant opportunities to free clinics with a deadline of July 19, 2010. HRSA-10-282 Affordable Care Act (ACA): Nurse Managed Health Clinics**

HHS announced a \$250 million investment to strengthen the primary health care workforce. This investment (HRSA 10-282, CFDA #93.515) includes awarding \$15 million for the development and operation of nurse-managed health clinics to (1) improve access to primary health care, disease prevention and health promotion in underserved areas, (2) enhance nursing practice by increasing the number of structured clinical teaching sites for undergraduate and graduate nurses, and (3) enhance electronic processes for establishing effective patient and workforce data collection systems. The focus would support the training and practice development site for nurse practitioners to build the capacity of the primary health care provider workforce. For more information please [click here](#).

#### **Health Foundation of South Florida**

Health Foundation invites you to apply for a grant if you have a project that is focused on improving the health status of underserved populations in Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. Categories include: Healthy Lifestyles, Preventive Health Measures, Primary Care, and Oral Health.

Preliminary grant proposals are due by **Monday, August 2nd**. Invitations for full proposals will be sent by Friday, August 20th. Full proposals are due by Friday, September 24th. Health Foundation's preliminary proposal form is available at [www.hfsf.org](http://www.hfsf.org)

#### **Allegany Franciscan Ministries**

Allegany Franciscan Ministries announced the availability of 2010 Tau Grant funding for nonprofit organizations working to increase access to health care and create healthier communities in the Miami-Dade region. Tau grants support services for persons who are marginalized, economically poor, or have limited access to health care and health information. Funding is available to support innovative and creative programs, or aspects of programs that promote healthy behavior, help create healthy environments, and enhance health care delivery. Grants may be requested up to \$5,000. Complete Tau grant applications must be received by 12:00 PM **October 8, 2010**. For more information, please [click here](#).

**Gifts In-Kind International's Charity Members Have Access to \$750 Million in New Product Donations Each Year.**

Gifts In Kind is the largest charity in the world that focuses on new product donations from corporations. Gifts In Kind then provides these new products to 150,000 community charities in America and throughout the world. Gifts In Kind partners with thousands of companies, including nearly half of the Fortune 100 consumer and retail product corporations. IBM, Mattel, Gap, Avon, Office Depot, HP, Adobe, Bed Bath & Beyond, Dell, Nike, RadioShack, Hanesbrands, and Talbots. Many more leading corporations make their in-kind donations through Gifts In Kind International. For more information please [click here](#).

**Cruise Industry Charitable Foundation**

The Foundation actively supports programs that meet the needs of economically disadvantaged populations. Proposals that incorporate partnerships with community groups and local organizations are encouraged. The Foundation assists public health facilities that provide patient treatment or support services for patients and their families. It also supports medical research projects aimed at disease prevention. For more information please [click here](#).

**RGK Foundation**

The Foundation's programmatic areas of interest have broadened over the years to include: Education, Community, and Health/Medicine. The Foundation supports formal K-12 education, literacy, and higher education. Community programs focused on human services, community improvement, abuse prevention, and youth development/educational enrichment are welcomed by the Foundation. Within Health/Medicine, programs that promote the health and well-being of children and families, that promote access to health services, or on a more limited basis, medical research programs, can receive funding from the Foundation. Since 1966, the Foundation has awarded over 2,570 grants totaling over \$81 million. For more information on the Foundation's grant program and specific areas of interests, please [click here](#).

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

*The HCSF and FAFC work diligently to ensure that messages are professional and visually appealing. Please be advised that formatting (font, color, alignment) may appear altered or distorted due to display options from your email provider / software.*