

A COMMUNITY TOGETHER

TRAVERSE HEALTH CLINIC

The Traverse Health Clinic Sets Records

The Traverse Health Clinic has seen record numbers of people and provided record numbers of services to patients in 2008!

The volunteer physicians who began our story with the Community Health Clinic 35 years ago chuckle when they recount that they served those in need "out of a box!"

Today, our facility is quite a bit larger than that, and our services are compounded. When the Community Health Clinic merged with the Grand Traverse Regional Health Care Coalition in 2007, they became an even stronger force together, providing access to health care services for those in need in our community.

The Traverse Health Clinic access programs and on-site clinic have helped over 4,500

uninsured people just since 2005.

Our calls in for assistance increased by 21% in the last quarter of 2008, and we expect that number to continue to grow significantly throughout 2009. Your continued support will be crucial for us as we strive to meet the growing need for our services.

At our on-site clinic last year, we had 6,000 office visits for 1,800 patients. Additionally, 500 patients were seen by private primary care providers who volunteered their services out of their offices.

Through these and other off-site providers at Munson Health-care, private medical offices, optometrists, dentists and pharmaceutical companies, our patients received a total of

Traverse Health Clinic



because everyone deserves good health

\$5,635,332 worth of *donated* health services and medicines in fiscal year 2008! We are so grateful for this extraordinary outpouring of generosity from our community, for we can only provide the services we do because of this collaboration.

Our "we" is you.

A sincere *thank you* to all of those who were involved in this outpouring. We are only here because of the generosity of this community.

Special points of interest:

- Find out what our champions did for us in Swingshift and the Stars
- We love to share the wonderful results we see happening in our patients' lives. Meet one of the families directly affected by the care our community has been able to provide
- Volunteerism is at the heart of our organization. Meet one of our many assets

Inside this issue:

Swingshift and the Stars Dance-off for Charity	2
Have you ever wondered what we do and how we do it?	2
Traverse Health Clinic Receives Grant for Give Kids A Smile	2
Spotlight on a patient	3
NMC Students Partner Up for Creative Campaign	3
Our Wish List	3
Meet one of our volunteers!	4

A Note From Our Executive Director

Welcome to the first issue of our Traverse Health Clinic Newsletter—"A Community Together!"

Being that communication is vital to our organization and its partners, we have recently been able to add a Development Director to our staff. I am pleased to introduce and welcome Sherri Fenton, who brings a wealth of marketing experience and energy to the THClinic. She has accepted the responsibility to ensure we keep you and the community informed, along with

her other development duties.

I thank you, our supporters, for your generosity, your faithfulness and your kindness. We had the best year end appeal ever, adding substantially to our donor base. With increasing demand, our need for even stronger community support is growing. And, as we all have come to realize, it is highly unlikely that this need will slow down any time soon.

We appreciate the opportunity to say *thank you* and bring to

you what we hope will be some good information about who we are and what we are accomplishing for the community. I would welcome the opportunity to give you a tour or to talk with you about our mission, services, or any aspects of our growing organization. My door is always open.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

Best Regards,

~Arlene Brennan

Swingshift and the Stars Dance-Off for Charity



Dan Edson, Board President, with Brenda and Tom at the first Swingshift event.

Thank you to all contributors!

Swingshift and the Stars Dance-Off For Charity was a wonderful event! Brenda Biederman, community philanthropist, teamed up with Tom Morrell, owner of Ballet Etc. and Northwest Michigan Ballet Theatre to dance their hearts out for the benefit of the Traverse Health Clinic!

The first competition was held on August 30, with the Grand Finale four events and four months later on New Year's Eve. Not only were Brenda and Tom the most elegant dancers in our eyes, they also brought in

the most money for a non-profit, with \$11,676 total in donations for the Traverse Health Clinic!

Thank you Brenda and Tom for your selfless sacrifice of your time to prepare for 5 grueling competitions—you are our stars! We cannot thank you enough for your efforts to raise money so that we can provide high quality, comprehensive service to our patients. So, we will let Nick P., one of our patients and recipients of your generosity, thank you: "The Traverse Health Clinic saved my life. I've never had anybody care so

much. I walk in here and everybody treats me like family."

For those of you who attended and supported the event, we thank you for contributing to us. We were not given names, but suspect that many of those generous donors are reading this now!

We feel blessed to have been a part of this fun and unique fundraising idea. Thank you Brenda, for choosing us! Thank you to *all* responsible for the successful outcome.

What We Do

Have you ever wondered just exactly what do we do?

We are here to serve adult residents of Benzie, Grand Traverse and Leelanau counties who do not have health care insurance and are in financial need. The eligibility guidelines for our program are the same as Munson Medical Center uses for its uncompensated care. Applicants must be adult residents and meet certain income and asset criteria to qualify for our assistance.

While the majority of our patients are seen at our on-site clinic, approximately 500 are assigned to private primary care offices in one of the three counties we serve.

Patients receive help in many disciplines, such as specialty referrals, dental and vision services, mental health services, HIV counseling, prescription assistance and outpatient services at Munson facilities.

In addition to the donated services, we are able to obtain

very low cost eyewear and dental services for our patients.

We attempt to provide a regular source of care, "a primary care home" for people who have never experienced this sort of care before in their lives. This includes management of chronic diseases and preventive services.

We have seen firsthand that our efforts have helped restore individual and family lives. *We couldn't do it without your help.* Thank you.



Mary Ann Hoogerhyde, one of our nurse volunteers, takes the blood pressure of a clinic patient.

Clinic Receives Special Grant for Give Kids A Smile Program



Dr. Don Piche, volunteering his time to give oral screenings at one of our area schools.

According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control, dental decay is one of the most common chronic, infectious diseases among American children, although it is preventable.

The Traverse Health Clinic is in its second year of a federal grant which has allowed us to offer oral health classroom education to 4,000, and oral

health screenings to 1,500 elementary aged children each year.

From December- February, children received age-specific education on nutrition and oral care, and all took home a bag with dental floss, toothbrush and toothpaste.

Oral screenings were performed by volunteer dentists and

hygienists. Twenty-five percent of these children had obvious needs. Unfortunately, we have found that parent response to our "report cards" can be meager, so we have followed up with offers to help connect parents with access to free services that are available for their children. Our goal is to help more children receive the oral health care they need.

Making a difference for one patient, one family

If you spend much time around the clinic, you will find that you have the opportunity to be touched in many ways.

I would like to introduce you to Amy and Ron, as they shared their story with me. They are both managers at their workplaces, Ron in building products and Amy in retail. Despite their good positions, their jobs do not offer any kind of health care and they make a little too much to receive Medicaid.

When Ron began having diabetic symptoms, he and Amy knew that something was very wrong. For four months Ron resisted going to see a doctor, because they could not afford an office visit and he refused to put their family in debt. You see, they have two young

children for whom they are building a future.

By the time they found out about us and came in to apply for our Coalition Health Access Program (CHAP), Ron was in great need of care. He needed two days of hospitalization to get his blood sugar levels under control, and at Munson he was told by physicians that he wouldn't have lived much longer had he not been treated.

"We were desperate and had nowhere else to turn," said Amy. Financially, they could not have afforded doctor visits nor the monthly supplies needed to keep the diabetes under control.

They did qualify for enrollment in our CHAP program, and Ron

has been able to receive specialty care, the costly monthly diabetic supplies, and medications through the programs offered by CHAP. Our diabetic clinic and Munson have been educating them on living with diabetes. Amy too, is thankful to have had some of her own health concerns addressed.

"We now have a place to go, and someone to call. This family would no longer be together if it weren't for CHAP. It's keeping our family healthy and happy and whole."

And when you look into the eyes of their sweet little children, you can quickly see that the value of services they received was priceless.



"This family would no longer be together if it weren't for CHAP. It's keeping our family healthy and happy and whole."

~Amy

NMC Students partner up for creative campaign

Every year, the faculty at the Northwestern Michigan College Visual Arts and Communication Department ask area non-profits if they would like to submit a proposal for a project in which students can receive 'real life' experience, while at the same time benefitting the

community as a whole.

We jumped on this offer and our proposal was approved!

We have been paired up with three enthusiastic students who are working with us on an upcoming campaign featuring some of our donors, volunteers

and our patients!

Look for us in (donated) print publications and listen for our public service announcement spots on local radio stations beginning in May!

Thank you to NMC for this opportunity!

Our "Wish List"

There are times when we find needs which fall outside of our budget or scope of services which we will share with you.

We have 3 *immediate* patient needs for durable medical equipment. When physician providers call us with these type of needs, we have very limited funding to help, and they are costly. We are seeking donors to build our **Special Needs Fund** so that we are better equipped

to meet these patient needs as they arise.

On the development side of things, we would love to find an **underwriter** for a \$3,000 two page ad in *My North Giving Guide*, an insert in the holiday issue of *Traverse Magazine*. The purpose of being in this issue would be to increase our visibility among charitable-minded individuals as we strive to increase our partnerships. If

your business or office would like to partner with us in this, we would feature your business ad on one of the two pages.

If you have **print production** capabilities, we are looking for a business or person to donate printing of 2,000 color promotional brochures (value \$700).

Call Sherri at 231-935-0412 or sfenton@traversehcc.org if you are able to help with any of these requests. Thank you!

Clinic Volunteers on T.V! Watch for us Sunday and Monday nights during March at 7 p.m. on TV2 during the United Way show, "Giving Back: Northwest Michigan Style," and hear a few of our volunteers tell their "why"



(mailing address)

**Our Mission:
To Provide Access To Affordable Health
Services Through Community
Collaboration To People In Need**

Meet one of our volunteers, Maria Danek

All in a six month period of time in 2004, Maria Danek retired, married her childhood friend, and moved to Traverse City from Rochester, N.Y!

Having worked as a Nurse Practitioner with diabetic patients at the University of Rochester her whole working adult life, we were blessed when she read an article about our clinic and thought, "I can do that!"

Since she found her house could not get any cleaner, she called us and began to do work which she had always wanted to do: to volunteer in a free clinic.

"I felt I had something to offer," she says, and the time in her life was just right.

Today Maria spends about two days a month volunteering at our diabetic clinic. Stressing that there is so much that needs to be addressed when one is a

diabetic, she is a wonderful resource for our diabetic patients as she draws upon her years of experience in Rochester.

Also volunteering at the Cadillac free clinic, she has a heart for helping others that exemplifies all of our volunteers who donate so many hours to our patients.

In 2008, our volunteers logged in 4,200 hours! We are so grateful for you! And we always welcome new clinical and non-clinical volunteers into our organization.

In fact, we currently have increasing needs for volunteer nurses, nurse practitioners or physicians. People in need of care are lining up outside our clinic well before opening hours.

You can volunteer at our offices anytime, seeing patients or helping behind the scenes in either our clinic or CHAP office.

If you are a provider not wishing to travel to us, you can volunteer out of your office and we'll do all the paperwork for you. We will work with you on what works best for you.

What we acknowledge, is that without our many volunteers, we would not be here. We need you and are very grateful for you.

Give Meg a call at 231- 935-0810 if the time is right for you!



Volunteers Maria Danek, Cathi Walker and Joan Jackson "reading up" at a volunteer gathering in February.

Our Together Story continued...

<i>Mr. and Mrs. Komrska</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. David Mann</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Don Randall</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Leo Stallman, Jr.</i>
<i>Mr. Jeff Kroeger</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. P. Michael May</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Eric Raymond</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Ferris Steinhauer</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kuipers</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McGurn</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Rhoads</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stone</i>
<i>Ms. Laura LaCoste</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Cyril McMaster</i>	<i>Mr. David Riddle</i>	<i>Ms. Judy Strickland</i>
<i>Ms. Lynn Larson</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Allen McSweeney</i>	<i>Ms. Virginia Roosevelt</i>	<i>Ms. Carol Sullivan</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lawrence</i>	<i>Dr. Ken Musson</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Pug Rundio</i>	<i>Ms. Helen Sullivan</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. David Lean</i>	<i>Dr. and Mrs. Todd Myers</i>	<i>Ms. Ann Schoelles</i>	<i>The Toski Family</i>
<i>Ms. Ruth Ann Leppala and Mr. Francis Butz</i>	<i>Mr. T. Nelson & Ms. N. Johnson</i>	<i>Mr. J. Schwantes & Ms. J. Reinhardt</i>	<i>Thompson Pharmacy</i>
<i>Ms. Patricia Lesley</i>	<i>Mr. Lawrence Norwood</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shirilla</i>	<i>Big Boy Restaurant</i>
<i>Mrs. Elizabeth Lorenz</i>	<i>Dr. Karin Olson</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Don Sibery</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Price Watts</i>
<i>Mr. Peter Low</i>	<i>Mr. Jon Palmitier</i>	<i>Ms. Rita Smith</i>	<i>Ms. Susan White</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lowe</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pierson</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Steven Smith</i>	

In addition to our annual donations, we have individuals who support us monthly. Thank you for this continued support.

<i>Ms. Kathie Alford</i>	<i>Ms. Kathi Boyd</i>	<i>Ms. Jacqueline Hoenscheid</i>	<i>Ms. Deborah L. Sears</i>
<i>Ms. Dianna Anderson</i>	<i>Ms. Michelle Courval</i>	<i>Dr. Robert E. Lefebvre</i>	<i>Mr. Fred Taghon</i>
<i>Ms. Karen Bartone</i>	<i>Mr. Richard Dormitzer</i>	<i>Mr. William J. Musser</i>	<i>Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Webster</i>
<i>Ms. Kathryn D. Bechtold</i>	<i>Ms. Jane Dinnen</i>	<i>Ms. Jodi L. Radtke</i>	

Staff: Working together with you, because everyone deserves good health.

Administration:

Arlene Brennan, Executive Director
Sherri Fenton, Development Director
Gail Heath, Finance Manager

Clinic:

Patty Bauer, F.N.P., Nurse Practitioner
Dr. Flora Biancalana, Medical Director
Michelle Burfield, Administrative Assistant
Karen Comella, R.N., Office Nurse
Christina Fechner, HIV Technician
Penny Fourné, R.N., Office Nurse
Brooke Gray, W.H.N.P., Nurse Practitioner
Flint Horton, HIV Data Specialist
Meg Lancucki, Clinic Director
Barb Law, R.N., Office Nurse
Tami Livingood, F.N.P., Nurse Practitioner
Renae Preston, F.N.P., Nurse Practitioner
Linda Rasmussen, A.N.P., Nurse Practitioner
Rick Sanok, PhD., Psychological Services Coordinator
Brian Simerson, HIV Counselor
Carolyn Taratuta, M.S.W., Psychological Services Counselor
Kymerly Taylor, Administrative Assistant & Billing Specialist
Joseph Welch, HIV Counselor
Clinic Volunteers

Dental:

Rene Louchart, RDH, BS Dental Health Director
Sue Adkins, Dental Access Program Assistant

Medication Access Program:

Amanda Carpenter, Medication Access Specialist
Becky Grace, R.N., Medication Access Nurse
Jeff Sanborn, Medication Access Specialist
Sara Waddell, Medication Access Specialist

Programs:

Gail Ashley, Lead Provider Services Representative
Stephanie Dommer, Lead Financial Counselor
Renee Gilbride, Member Services Representative
Lori Tartaglia, Member Services Representative
Yesenia Martinez, Receptionist
Sue Murchie, Programs Director
Laura Salvatore, Provider Services Representative
Karen Verschuren, Provider Services Representative
Sharon Werner, Lead Member Services Representative
CHAP Volunteers

Special Gifts 2008: You Are Our "Together"

President's Club (\$10,000 +)

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Edson
Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Smith

Benefactors (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Mr. and Mrs. Leith Butler
Mrs. Sally Hanley
Wm. E. Slaughter, Jr. Foundation

Patrons Circle(\$1,000-\$4,999)

Dr. and Mrs. Carl Benner
Mr. and Mrs. Ross Biederman
Les and Anne Biederman Foundation
Cardiothoracic Surgeons of G.T.
Ms. Laura Herman
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Israel
Mr. and Mrs. T. Michael Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Magoun
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Marsh, Sr.
Dr. and Mrs. Curt Mikulski
The Perkins Family Fund
Traverse Anesthesia Associates
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young

Partners Circle(\$500-\$999)

Alcotec Wire Corporation
Mr. and Mrs. J. Kermit Campbell
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Cline
Dr. and Mrs. Mike Collins
First Presbyterian Church
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Griner
Dr. David and Dr. Leslie Heimbürger
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Janis
Mr. Randall Kiessel
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Koneiczny
Dr. and Mrs. Joe McGraw
Mr. and Mrs. Karl Neumann
Ms. Helen Riordan
Tom's Food Markets, Inc.
Dr. Beverly Toomey, Ph.D.
Mr. and Mrs. Kent Walton
Dr. Paul Williams and Dr. Judy Yates

Friends Circle (\$100-\$499)

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Anable
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Angove
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Appel
Baird Foundation, Inc.
Dr. Robert Barron
Ms. Jean Barto
Mr. and Mrs. John Bay
Dr. and Mrs. Steve Beeker

Mr. Brett Bell
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Belovich
Dr. Richard Bingham
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bloom
Dr. Harry Blount
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Dr. Raymond Bohrer
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bowerman
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Brennan
Dr. John Bull
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Calcutt
Dr. Frederick Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Carlson
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Carlson
Dr. Kathleen Carpenter
Dr. and Mrs. Kyle Carr
Dr. and Mrs. Bill Cartwright
CDM Mobile Shredding, LLC.
Dr. and Mrs. G. Patrick Claggett
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Cotanche
Dr. Curtis Cummins
Dr. and Mrs. Dan Dall'Olmo
Ms. Shirley Debelack
Mr. G.M. DeGraeve
Mr. and Mrs. William Deneau
Ms. Phyllis Dozier
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Dreier
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Dundon
Mr. and Mrs. Dunn
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dutmers
Ms. Patricia Dutmers
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Eckhoff
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Faller
Dr. Brian Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Fitch
Mr. and Mrs. Len Franseen
Mr. and Mrs. George Freeman
Mrs. Kathy Garthe
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gavitt
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gilbo
Dr. and Mrs. Ward Gillett
Dr. and Mrs. Phil Harmeson
Mr. C.T. Harris & Ms. J.E. Gowing
Ms. Mary Harrison
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hill
Dr. Mark Hoffman
Ms. Myrna Holland
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Huckle
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Jacobson
Dr. and Mrs. Brian Jaffe
Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Kelly
Ms. Suzy Kerndt

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kieft
Mr. and Mrs. John Kilpatrick
Mr. and William Kirschke
Mr. Kenneth Kleinrichert
Mr. and Mrs. John Koschara
Mr. S. Kraft and Ms. C. Burns
Ms. Ann Krantz
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Kuhn
Mrs. Susan Kuras
Mrs. Barb Law
Mr. and Mrs. James MacInnes
Dr. and Mrs. Carl Madion
Mr. and Mrs. T.S. Malone
Mrs. Mary Marois
Dr. and Mrs. Robert McElroy
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McGuire
Dr. Sally Miller
Governor and Mrs. William Milliken
Ms. Ellen Monahan
Ms. Karen Mudgett
National Vacuum Equipment, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Pat Nestor
Neuromuscular & Rehabilitation
Associates of Northern Michigan
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Neyer
Mrs. Marilyn Niebel
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Nowak
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne O'Connell
Dr. and Mrs. William Olsen
Ms. Clarine Olson
Dr. and Mrs. Dave Olson
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Pach
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Paffhouse
Mr. and Mrs. John Paul, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Payne
Mr. Scott Phillips
Dr. Donald Pike
Dr. Paula Prevost-Blank & Mr. John Blank
Ms. Michelle Quinn
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Raney
Ms. Janet Ready & Family
Mr. Bernard Rink
Riverside Canoe Trips
Mrs. Lynda Rogers
Mr. John Ruckrich
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Sanderson
Mr. Arthur Schmuckal
Dr. and Mrs. John Schroeder
Mr. and Mrs. William Shoskey
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Shotwell
Ms. Dena Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stehouwer

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stephanoff
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Stewart
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Stiebel
Dr. David and Dr. Lynn Swan
Mr. Kenneth T'Kindt
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Talbot
Mr. and Mrs. John Teichman
Dr. Pat Tobin
Dr. Lawrence and Dr. Jamie Warbasse
Ms. Patty West
Mr. Chuck Wilbur
Mrs. Judith Williams
Dr. and Mrs. Jim Woodburne
Dr. David Wright and Dr. J. Quinn
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Young
Dr. and Mrs. John Zachman
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Zenn
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Zipser

Neighbors (Up to \$99)

Mr. and Mrs. Max Binkley
Ms. Pamela Bonter
Mr. Arthur Branco
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Buchan
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Burkholder
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Cohen
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Corbin
Mr. William Crawford
Ms. Beverly Cuthbert
Ms. June Danek
Mr. John Dick
Ms. Gae Ellery
Mr. and Mrs. E. Emenheiser
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Fendt
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Fenton
Mr. and Mrs. William Foster
Frankfort Pines
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Gembis
Dr. R. Gerstle & Mrs. M. Rich
Mr. and Mrs. John Glover
GT Area Retired School Personnel
Mr. Pat Green
Ms. Harriet Grueber
Mr. John Halstead
Mr. and Mrs. Don Harmer
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Haynes
Ms. Charlene Heim
Ms. Ann Ivers
Mr. and Mrs. George Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kelly
Mr. Grant Kitchen
Mr. and Mrs. William Kleinheidt
Ms. Ellen Kohler & Mr. Matt Cauchy