

# Free Clinic

OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA

## Surgery Center Contributes \$1 million to Virginia's Free Clinics

### Charity Care Condition Provides Welcome Support

The Surgery Center of Lynchburg made history with a recent contribution of more than \$1 million to the Virginia Association of Free & Charitable Clinics (VAFCC). This represents the largest single charity care contribution in both the Surgery Center's and the Association's history and will fund the provision of health care services (medical, dental, mental health, and pharmaceutical) to uninsured and medically underserved patients.

The vast majority of this funding will go to the Center's local clinic, the Free Clinic of Central Virginia. Twelve free clinics in the state will also receive a portion of the funding. **"The Surgery Center has long been a strong partner of the Free Clinic. This very generous charity care contribution, shared with the other free clinics in our region, is a real game-changer for our neighbors who need the high-quality healthcare provided by free clinics,"** says Christina Delzingaro, CEO of the Free Clinic. "At a time when the Free Clinic of Central Virginia is taking care of more patients than ever, support from the Surgery Center will make it possible for us to serve even more—especially as we are getting ready to embark on a renovation to our Main Street location. A gift of this magnitude will make a huge difference."

"These clinics are a lifesaving investment and play an important role in safeguarding our region's sickest, most vulnerable, and voiceless," reports Tim Courville, who serves on the Board of Managers of the Surgery Center along with Drew Kiernan, Peter Caprise, Jay Burks, and Chris Thomson. **"We are pleased to support clinics that allow vulnerable individuals to regain their health so they can care for their families and continue to contribute to our community."**



*The Surgery Center of Lynchburg  
(Photo Credit: Jamerson-Lewis Construction)*

The VAFCC, in addition to the Virginia Health Care Foundation and the Virginia Community Healthcare Association, benefits from the charity care condition attached to Virginia's Certificate of Public Need (COPN) which encourages COPN recipients to provide direct in-kind care to indigent populations or comparable financial assistance to safety net providers who provide that care.

"We are extremely grateful for this generous contribution which will enable these clinics to give the gift of quality health care to those in need," reports VAFCC CEO, Rufus Phillips. "The funding we receive as a result of the charity care condition attached to COPN is a vital sustaining resource for Virginia's network of free and charitable clinics." The VAFCC is dedicated to supporting, strengthening, and advocating for Virginia's free and charitable clinics as they deliver quality healthcare to Virginia's underserved residents.

## Leading the Way Luncheon to Benefit the Free Clinic March 10, 2020 at Randolph College

The Free Clinic's annual Leading the Way Luncheon will be held at noon on Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> at Randolph College. This event is a great way to learn more about the Free Clinic. There is no cost to attend the luncheon, but guests will be provided the opportunity to make a financial contribution to our work. Contact Jill Collier at [jcollier@freeclinicva.org](mailto:jcollier@freeclinicva.org) to reserve your seat!



*Free Clinic Supporters enjoying the 2019 Leading the Way Luncheon*

## Community Support

We are grateful for the broad-based community support we receive, including:

**Centra Health** supports our behavioral health services, in addition to providing in-kind laboratory services and IT infrastructure for the Free Clinic.

**The Beverly W. and Hampton O. Powell Foundation** is supporting our efforts to improve health outcomes for patients in Altavista, Evington and Lynch Station, especially those with hypertension or diabetes.

Continued generous support from **MDM Networking** strengthens our breast health programming and our supportive services for women with or at high risk of breast cancer.

**The Plymale Foundation** provides key funding to cover the cost of medications for our patients.

**THANK YOU**

## Main Street Renewal Continues; Downtown Still Open for Business

Started in September 2019, this project will last for two years. Patients who drive to the Free Clinic will continue to have access to our parking lot. There will be at least one lane open for "local traffic" which will get them into and out of our parking lot.

## Wish List

Monetary Donations

iPads (4) - for medical histories

Tissues, disinfectant wipes and spray, wet wipes

New, unopened toothbrushes, dental floss and toothpaste

New, unopened personal care items (shampoo, bars of soap, deodorant)

Unopened, packaged snacks, drinks and k-cups (for diabetic patients and volunteer providers)

Manual can openers (for patients)

**Call our Development Office** if you would like to help purchase equipment.

## Volunteering & Giving Opportunities

**Volunteers** Join the more than 850 volunteers improving the health of our community! We need volunteers with the following expertise:

**Primary Care** — Nurse Practitioners, RNs, LPNs, Physician Assistants, Primary Care Physicians, Specialty Care Physicians

**Dentistry** — Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Dental Assistants

**Rehabilitative Health** — Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists

**Nutrition** — Nutritionists, Dieticians

**Patient Navigation and Linkages**—Social Workers, Case Managers

**Pharmacy**—Pharmacists

**For more information, visit [www.freeclinicva.org](http://www.freeclinicva.org) or call the Development Office at 434-847-5866 x 23.**

## Expanding to Better Serve ALICE

What is ALICE? ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living. The United Way of Central Virginia participated in a national data project, ALICE, which provides a comprehensive measure of financial hardship across our region. Data from the 2018 ALICE report shows a family of four would need to earn \$66,096 per year to cover basic living costs. Over 32,500 households in our region earn less than the basic cost of living.

The Free Clinic recognizes that costs, especially medical costs, have risen faster than wages for most people. At the same time, more and more small businesses are finding it hard to afford insurance premiums for their employees and have had to discontinue this important benefit. To ensure that every member of our community receives high-quality, compassionate and comprehensive healthcare, the Free Clinic will now be serving adults with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level. This change increases the amount of income a family of four can earn to \$64,375, and the amount of income a single adult can earn to \$31,225.

In the coming months, the Free Clinic will be engaged in focused outreach efforts to local small businesses, individuals employed in the hospitality industry, and adults enrolled in higher education. We will be developing enrollment programs specifically to encourage those who might earn too much to be eligible for Medicaid, but not enough to afford costly medical care. We are excited to extend the care of our volunteers to more families.

## Free Clinic Board Adopts New Strategic Plan

The Free Clinic of Central Virginia has adopted a new strategic plan to inform the operations of the clinic through 2025. As part of the planning process, the Board updated the Free Clinic’s mission and vision statements to highlight our focus on providing comprehensive, patient-centered care, as well as our role within the overall healthcare system of our community.



**Our new vision statement:** Our vision is that everyone has a medical home that provides for optimal individual and community wellness.

**Our updated mission statement:** The mission of the Free Clinic of Central Virginia is to ensure high-quality, compassionate and comprehensive healthcare for every member of our community. We fulfill this mission by providing high-quality medical, dental, pharmacy, behavioral health and health education services to those in Central Virginia who do not have the resources to obtain these essential healthcare services.

Key strategic initiatives in the new plan include identifying and filling gaps in access to care, even with Medicaid expansion, expanding patient education programs, and improving our facility at 1016 Main Street.



*RSVP now! Our 2nd Annual Leading the Way Luncheon will be held on March 10, 2020 at Randolph College.*

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## A Fond Farewell



*Caroline Hudson*

It is with great sadness that we report that Caroline Hudson, our Director of Development, passed away unexpectedly in December 2019. Caroline was very dedicated to the mission of the Free Clinic, and was tireless in her work to create the resources we need to fulfill it. She was a friend to so many in the non-profit community in Lynchburg and was loved by all of her co-workers here at the Free Clinic.

Caroline's efforts have truly made our city a better place. Please keep Caroline's family and friends in your hearts, with the hope that they find peace and healing in the coming months.

Our June 28-29 CME conference will be dedicated to Caroline. Caroline's work continues through many generous contributions made to the Free Clinic in her memory.

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*The Free Clinic of Central Virginia envisions a community where everyone has a medical home that provides for optimal individual and community wellness. Our mission is to ensure high-quality, compassionate and comprehensive healthcare for every member of our community. We fulfill this mission by providing high-quality medical, dental, pharmacy, behavioral health and health education services to those in Central Virginia who do not have the resources to obtain these essential healthcare services.*