

N.E.W. Community Clinic Newsletter **Caring & Sharing**

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Exceptional Oral Health Care

Our Mission:
To provide access to quality, comprehensive and compassionate health care to the underserved in our community.

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Access to dental care is a benefit that many individuals take for granted but accessing preventive or restorative dental services can be a challenge for low income or Medicaid patients. Although services are available for veterans, the developmentally disabled and AIDS patients finding care for the low income and Medicaid clients can be a challenge. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services reports that just over 20 percent of Brown County Medicaid members received a dental service in 2008 down from 24 percent in 2004. There are many reasons for the drop in rendered services for these individuals. In 2008 Northeast Wisconsin Technical College addressed the issue by opening a small dental clinic using grant funding from U.S. Oil and the Brown Door Kewaunee Dental Society.



Front Row left to right: Dr. Gretchen Evenson DDS, Paula Hart RDH & Dr. Mark Domrois DDS. Back Row left to right: Renee Elm, Heather Hager, Erica Aerts, Michelle La Blonde, Catherine Therrien, Julie Fermanich, Sandra Stade

Almost immediately it was apparent that the need for dental services was far greater than anyone had anticipated. Logistically it was determined that NWTC was a good fit for clinic operation as it gave dental hygiene and dental assistant students the opportunity to provide the needed services while gaining the experience they require to complete their education. NWTC collaborated with N.E.W. Community Clinic making the clinic its administrator of the dental clinic. It was clear that without charitable support, it would not be financially feasible to provide services. With reimbursement rates for Medicaid at less than 30 percent of charges it was impossible to be self-supporting. With such a great demand for services NWTC and N.E.W. Community Clinic determined that long range there was a need to provide a six chair dental clinic.

In 2012, a community health needs assessment was conducted by the Brown County and De Pere health departments, Bellin Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center and St. Vincent Hospital. Oral Health was identified as one of the top three community health issues, and St. Mary's/ St. Vincent were asked to lead a community action group. This provided a forum for NWTC, N.E.W. Community Clinic and St. Mary's/ St. Vincent to discuss adult restorative services and to see if together they could provide a six chair clinic.

Through the generous donation of funds from St. Mary's Hospital and St. Vincent Hospital and space provided by NWTC the 6 chair dental operatory became a reality in February 2013. With all work completed by May 2013 the doors opened to a dental clinic for Medicaid and uninsured / homeless patients. The staff consists of 1 full time and 1 part time dentist, 1 full time dental hygienist, 4 dental assistants, 2 receptionists and 1 clinic coordinator.

This clinic will be able to provide as many as 6,000 patients with a dental visit annually providing them with a community resource, where before hospital emergency departments were one of their only options.

Thank you to Heidi Selberg, vice president of advocacy and community benefit for the Hospital Sisters Health System-Eastern Wisconsin that operates St. Mary's and St. Vincent hospitals and Board of Director Member for N.E.W. Community Clinic for sharing information that is included in this article.



Brown County United Way
**We are a Brown County
 United Way Agency**

Amazing Nurse

Karen Sanchez, Family Nurse Practitioner, at N.E.W. Community Clinic – Outreach Health Care Clinic has recently been submitted for recognition as an “Amazing Nurse” through Johnson and Johnson. Major Donna Radcliff MSN, RN, CDE, a friend and colleague of Karen’s submitted an essay detailing why she felt Karen should receive this prestigious recognition. Below is the essay written by Donna that highlights Karen’s contributions to the health care profession.

“While many US policy makers talk about health care reform, Karen Sanchez is a nurse leader who is busy transforming health care by creating real and workable solutions. Karen Sanchez MSN, RN provides primary care and medical case management to homeless men, women and children at the N.E.W. Community Clinic in Green Bay, WI. Karen, who is an avid runner, became fluent in Spanish as an adult, and has a long history of being a patient advocate and health care translator even before graduating with her nursing degree from Bellin College of Nursing in 1997. She recognizes that health care resources are not limitless, and her commitment to providing high quality, cost effective care has been realized by becoming a Nurse Practitioner. In 2012 her clinic began the process to become a Patient Centered Medical Home, and now in 2013 Karen Sanchez continues to lead the nation by caring for families, promoting health and managing disease. Her clinic cares for over 2500 patients annually, many who are citizens who no longer have access to health care insurance. Karen Sanchez’s patients are struggling to build a life where they can contribute to their communities in a meaningful way. She educates patients about lifestyle changes in a way which is realistic and easily understood by her patients, often in their own language, and with measurable results. Her compassionate approach to nursing makes her a much sought after Preceptor by Professors teaching community health to nursing students. Karen’s tireless nursing efforts provide a blueprint for real and measurable health care solutions. When she is not running marathons, role modeling wellness for her patients, Karen Sanchez is a nurse leader who truly “walks the talk” and she is worthy of consideration for the very prestigious Johnson & Johnson “Amazing Nurse” recognition.”



The N.E.W. Community Clinic would like to congratulate Karen on this nomination and express our appreciation for her dedication to the clinic and helping it attain its mission of providing access to quality, comprehensive and compassionate health care to the underserved in our community.

“Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength.”

–Arnold Schwarzenegger



For the second year Bellin Health selected N.E.W. Community Clinic as an official fundraising partner of the 2013 Bellin Run. Individuals had the opportunity to make a donation directly to the N.E.W. Community Clinic via the Bellin Run website

whether or not they participated in the run. Corporations could adopt N.E.W. Community Clinic and fundraise for the clinic via corporate teams. Thank you to Bellin Health for their continued support in helping N.E.W. Community Clinic attain its mission of providing quality, comprehensive and compassionate health care to the underserved in our community.

The Wisconsin WIC Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program

Its farmers’ market time once again and in Wisconsin WIC families will receive checks to purchase fresh produce. For the past fifteen years WIC participants have received checks that enable them to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and fresh cut herbs at approved farmers’ markets.



Again this year each family will receive \$17.00 beginning June 1st and will continue through September 30th. In addition, WIC participants receive nutrition education related to increasing their fruit and vegetable consumption, information as to which foods are grown locally and different ways to prepare fresh fruits and vegetables. We also provide recipes and other written materials to help educate families and promote healthier eating habits. Our WIC participants enjoy receiving these checks and enjoy being given the opportunity to go and purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at local farmer’s markets.

Fruit Salsa & Cinnamon Chips

- 2 peeled diced kiwi
- 2 peeled cored diced golden delicious apples
- 8 oz. raspberries
- 1 lb. strawberries
- 2 T. sugar
- 1 T. brown sugar
- 1/2 cup any flavor fruit preserves
- 10 (8 in.) tortilla shells
- 1/4-1/2 cup cinnamon sugar
- Butter flavored cooking spray



In a large bowl, combine kiwi, apples, raspberries, strawberries, white sugar, brown sugar and fruit preserves; mix well. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat one side of each tortilla shell with butter flavor cooking spray. Cut into wedges and arrange in a single layer on a large baking sheet. Sprinkle the wedges with desired amount of cinnamon sugar. Coat again with cooking spray. Bake in preheated oven for 8-10 minutes. Repeat with any remaining tortilla wedges. Allow to cool.