



CommunityHealth

FREE CLINIC

Mission: To provide Medical and Dental care to the uninsured and under-served of East Central Iowa through model Community Partnerships.

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Dear Friends of the Community Health Free Clinic:

We have all heard or read about the need for healthcare reform. More than 47 million Americans are uninsured. If you are like me, the solution to this crisis can be overwhelming. But... today, here and now, you and I can make a difference. By supporting the Community Health Free Clinic, you are helping individuals in our community receive quality primary healthcare.

Since 1992, the volunteers and staff of the Community Health Free Clinic have provided more than 197,500 services to 26,000+ individual patients. During the past 12 months, a record 46,207 services were performed. That includes medical, dental, vision, medication and counseling services.

The needs continues. In the past year, more than 4,335 new patients have come to the Clinic. These new patients include not only the "poor" but many of the "working class" who are becoming uninsured. In many cases, these individuals are working more than one job. They have no healthcare benefits and cannot afford the cost of a doctor or dentist visit. I cannot even begin to count all the times that I have heard patients say "I never thought that I would need to go to a free clinic..."

Who benefits from your support: a single mother with a three-year-old daughter recently came to the clinic with a "skin spot." We referred her to a volunteer dermatologist who performed a biopsy. While fortunately not malignant, additional treatment was necessary. If Community Health Free Clinic had not been available to this mother, she most likely would not have received the treatment needed and the outcome might not have been as positive.

Today, I am asking you to take time away from your busy summer schedule and make an investment that will provide free healthcare that helps so many in our community.

In Friendship,

Darlene Schmidt
CEO / Clinic Executive Director