



CommunityHealth

F R E E C L I N I C

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

March 2009

Dear Friends of the Clinic,

Every week I take the opportunity to sit down and read the notes and letters that we receive from people that have been touched in some way by the Community Health Free Clinic. There are so many different situations but the message is always the same – how the Clinic has made a difference in their lives.

With your gifts, the Community Health Free Clinic (CHFC) will provide more than 40,000 patient services this year. I am not sure if any of us could have envisioned this when we first opened the door! But, even with this growth, the needs continue to be greater. Throughout 2009, we will continue to do our best to expand the dental and eye care emergency services.

Impact from last year's flooding, job losses and the general decline in the economy seems to affect the lower income population hardest. The poor are getting poorer and some of the working middle class are now the new poor. We see this everyday – the number of new patients continues to grow monthly and we now have 24,000 active patient charts! 87% of the patients coming to the Clinic have no access to medical insurance. The majority of services provided are to people earning less than \$25,000 per year. So many families rely on the clinic for their health care and we would not be here without the amazing generosity of the community.

As I mentioned earlier, even with all the positive activities happening at the Clinic, the need for free health care continues to increase and we are asking for your help today. Please consider making a gift to CHFC. In the past fiscal year, the Community Health Free Clinic delivered \$11 of health care for every \$1 disbursed. Just imagine the impact you can make with a gift of \$100 or even \$10!!! Enclosed you will find an envelope for your convenience. Your gift, at any level, makes an immediate difference in a person's life.

In the next several months, the Clinic will be announcing a new planned giving program. If you have included the Community Health Free Clinic in your estate planning or are interested in getting information to do so, please contact me at 319-363-0416. We would like the opportunity to acknowledge your interest and support of the Clinic.

In Friendship,

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