

Mercy PERSPECTIVES

MISSION OF MERCY
Healing through Love

Mission of Mercy Mobile Medical Clinic-Arizona

Mission of Mercy is poised to expand its no cost mobile medical services to more uninsured families in desperate need of primary health care and life-saving medications. With a 20 percent increase in patient visits in 2009, we know we will be supporting more patients than ever in 2010.

"Our goal is to mobilize our community, strengthen our volunteer base and maximize our resources so no one is turned away due to lack of resources," says Catherine Amiot, M.O.M.-AZ Executive Director. "We have been blessed by generous donors and volunteers who have made this expansion possible; it's truly inspiring."

Due to the visionary leadership and generosity of the **Thunderbird Charities** and the **Foster and Lynn Friess Family Foundation**, M.O.M.-AZ will be purchasing a second mobile medical van

in 2010. This additional van is a key component to extending services into the Far West Valley, an area that has experienced the highest percentage of newly unemployed individuals, home repossessions and unmet medical needs in Maricopa County.

In preparation for this expansion to meet existing and future demand for services, M.O.M.-AZ has hired a new Assistant Medical Director, Jill Utley, M.D., who will be working alongside Dr. Brad Smith, M.O.M.-AZ Medical Director, to "bring the doctor to the people" throughout Maricopa County.

Dr. Utley comes from Lincoln, Ill., where she worked with a rural group practice in pediatrics and internal medicine. She has been active in medical missionary work through the Christian Medical and Dental Association, where she visited countries in Africa and most recently returned from a trip to Cambodia. During that 14-day experience, Dr. Utley said her team treated 300 to 400 a patients a day for all types of ailments ranging from ear infections to gastrointestinal bleeding.

The strong interpersonal and clinical skills she has honed while working in environments with limited medical technology will help Dr. Utley in the M.O.M. clinic, which embraces a holistic approach to treating patients. "I like the compassion and the love I feel at the clinic; there is a strong personal connection with the patients," says Dr. Utley. "I feel very blessed to be here."



Dr. Jill Utley, left, talks with a patient with the assistance of volunteer interpreter, Ana Berlanga-Nabozny, far right.

BRIDGING THE GAP



Our Mission

Mission of Mercy Arizona is a non-profit, non-sectarian mobile medical outreach program serving Maricopa County. We provide access to health care to the most vulnerable in our community - the sick, poor, and uninsured - by making quality primary health care and prescriptions available at no charge. Mission of Mercy seeks to restore dignity to all people by being an instrument of "healing through Love," and by the reciprocal sharing of God's mercy with those we serve.

Clinic Locations & Schedules

M.O.M.-AZ serves patients at four sites in the Valley. Hours are 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on the following days and locations:

- Maryvale - Church of the Nazarene, 3201 N. 51st Ave. Phoenix 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays
- South Phoenix - St. Catherine of Siena, 6600 S. Central Ave. Phoenix 2nd & 4th Tuesdays
- Phoenix - Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church 1500 W. Maryland Ave. Phoenix Every Wednesday
- Mesa - Christ the King Community Center 1616 E. Broadway, Mesa Every Thursday

APPOINTMENTS:

602.486.7798

Bilingual Telephone Hours:

Tuesday 1 pm - 6 pm

Thursday 9 am - 2 pm

For additional information or clinic directions visit our web site at www.aMissionOfMercy.org

Executive Director's Message

"United we stand...Stand and deliver...Together we stand."

We are inspired by these phrases but do you know what it means to take a stand? When was the last time you took a stand for something life-affirming for yourself and others?

Recently our government passed a sweeping health care reform bill, one that will affect every family in the United States. While there has been great division on this legislation, it is hard to argue from a human perspective that something is needed to fix our broken health care system. For some, it was time to take a stand.

But for those of us at Mission of Mercy, it was time to take a stand over a decade ago. Since opening our first clinic site in Maricopa County in October 1997, we have provided more than 112,000 patient visits and 160,000 prescriptions at no cost to the uninsured and working poor who have no where else to turn for help. **And, as always, we do it without a penny of government funding.** Our work continues to expand due to God's sustaining grace and people just like you and organizations just like yours.

I was recently privileged to attend a two-day workshop, "Fundraising from the Heart," inspiringly led by philanthropist Lynn Twist, a world renowned social profit leader, co-founder of The Hunger Project and author of *The Soul of Money*. Here are Lynn's thoughts on taking a stand: "Taking a stand creates space where all positions are heard and respected and truth has room to be expressed. As Archimedes said, 'Give me a place to stand and I will move the world.'"

What are you taking a stand for today? What motivates you to move the world? If you are a M.O.M. volunteer or supporter in any capacity, you already have taken a stand for "healing through Love and the restoration of dignity" by making quality medical care accessible to those who need it, regardless of their economic status or ability to pay. Think of Mission of Mercy as health care reform in action in Maricopa County.

In closing, I thank each of you for standing with us as we continue to offer healing and hope to our fellow brothers and sisters. With your support, we will never stand alone and neither will our patients!



Catherine L. Amiot,
Executive Director



Come for Coffee

Lynda Bowman, Director of Sustainable Funding

**"Amazing...Much-Needed...God's Work...
Inspirational...Life-Changing"**

These are the words that our Coffee with M.O.M. clinic tour guests share at the end of their one hour tour. Coffee with M.O.M. tours are held every other Wednesday at 10 a.m. at our Shepherd of the Valley clinic in central Phoenix. Tours feature inspirational stories and testimonials from M.O.M. volunteer doctors, nurses, bi-lingual interpreters and even current and former patients. Guests get to see health care reform in action "right here and right now" and tell us their tour was the most inspirational hour of their day.

In these uncertain economic times, all four of M.O.M.'s medical clinics have experienced a huge increase in new patients, while still serving our existing patients. Approximately 60 percent of our patients struggle with chronic illnesses such as diabetes, heart disease, asthma and high blood pressure.

Many of our tour guests are so inspired by the tours that they offer to volunteer their time to support our work either in the clinic or in other ways (for example, being a Table Captain at our annual FREE community breakfast "Mercy in the Morning"). We are proud to share our mission with others and we are grateful for their commitment to share their talents with us. If you are looking for an inspirational hour of "good news," please contact us at 602.861.2233 and reserve your seat on a future tour or visit us at www.amissionofmercy.org. Come be inspired by seeing God's healing work in action. *Tour schedule on back page.*



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Mission of Mercy Arizona Leadership Team

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Program Coordinator

Carmen Mones
Administrative Assistant

Mission of Mercy Arizona Medical Team

Brad Smith, N.M.D.
Medical Director

Jill Utley, M.D.
Assistant Medical Director

Jeanne Karnell, R.N.
Nursing Director

Debi Lynch, R.N.
Asst. Nursing Director

Arizona Leadership Council Members

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Susan Connor
Alice Ehmann
Tony Ehmann
Kim Fleurquin
Sara Gordon
Larry Hall
Richard Hannon
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Col. Mike Lynch, USAF (Ret.)
Rachel Oesterle, M.S.R.
Mary Schneider

Advisors to Leadership Council

Earl J. Baker, M.D.
Claudia Critchfield
Marisue Garganta
Judy Walruff, Ph.D.

Volunteer Dixie Melby Honored at Rock 'N' Roll Ball

If you were fortunate enough to catch her speaking at the Mercy in the Morning Breakfast in December, you already know what a special lady Dixie Melby is and why we're lucky to call her part of our volunteer team.

At age 90, we like to think of Dixie as our most 'seasoned' volunteer; a woman of tremendous compassion and love for our patients. In recognition of her outstanding contributions, Dixie was the guest of honor at the 6th Annual Rock 'n' Roll Ball, held on April 16th at the beautiful Camelback Golf Club in Paradise Valley.

"It's a powerful testament to how one person can truly make a difference in the lives of so many. Dixie is an example to all of us. We are so grateful to have her in the M.O.M. family," said Catherine Amiot, Executive Director, M.O.M.-AZ.

Dixie has volunteered for the past ten years as a bi-lingual interpreter at the Shepherd of the Valley clinic. She says of all the volunteer work she is involved in, Mission of Mercy is the most satisfying.

"I get to help so many who have so little and yet they are so grateful. They come in scared and worried and we heal them, love them and make sure they are treated with the dignity and respect that each of them deserves," says Dixie. "I am honored to be part of an organization that can change and impact so many lives." And, we're pretty proud to have you in the MOM family, too, Dixie!



Time, Talent & Treasures

Community Connections

Mission of Mercy was pleased to be the recipient of two grants which will greatly impact its efforts to provide lifesaving medical treatment for the uninsured and working poor.

Fry's Food Stores donated \$10,000 to M.O.M.-AZ through its "Giving Hope a Hand" campaign. These funds are part of the company's local initiative to support organizations providing services related to breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.

"What makes this campaign so special is that all of the funds raised are spent in the communities where our customers and associates live, work and raise their families," says Pam Giannonatti, Fry's Consumer/Community Relations Manager, whose mother and mother-in-law are both breast cancer survivors. "With this program there is a direct tie back to the community, which is so vital to our neighbors and customers served by Mission of Mercy."

Shortly after this unexpected announcement, the Phoenix affiliate of the **Susan G. Komen for the Cure** generously granted M.O.M.-AZ \$100,000 for its breast cancer partnership program with St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center. This is the third year that M.O.M.-AZ has received this maximum community grant amount from the Komen Foundation. We are grateful for the growing support from our community that allows us to continue to expand our services to our patients.

MOM Wins "Spirit of Collaboration" Award

AZ LeaderForce awarded Mission of Mercy Arizona its **2009 Spirit of Collaboration Award** as non-profit of the year for project results achieved during the course of its one-year mentorship program.

AZ LeaderForce is an initiative of the Collaboration for a New Century (founded by community leader Jerry Colangelo) which pairs non-profit human service organizations with business experts and community leaders to improve and expand an agency's programs, services and impact.



Mission of Mercy team proudly accepts "Spirit of Collaboration Award" at annual AZ LeaderForce Luncheon.

from each other, built heartfelt relationships and, through a spirit of collaboration, were able to produce a product that will allow Mission of Mercy to expand," said Ms. Howard. "I personally felt called to volunteer and was amazed at God's perfect timing in creating our team who shared their unique gifts for a greater good and purpose in this world."

Through the talented resources of the AZ LeaderForce team, M.O.M.-AZ developed a comprehensive volunteer management program which will be piloted in 2010.

Mary Howard, AZ LeaderForce team mentor, said she found her experience as a coach for M.O.M.-AZ to be very rewarding.

"We learned and grew



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If you prefer to receive an e-mail alert when the newsletter is posted online, please e-mail the MOM-AZ office at cmones@amissionofmercy.org or call 602.861.2233.



Grace Returns.

12.02.10

Healing through Love. Restoring Dignity.
 Be there.

**You Are Invited To Attend
 A “Coffee with M.O.M.”
 Clinic Tour**

Come and see for yourself!

**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
 1500 W. Maryland Ave., Phoenix, AZ**
 (Located on the NW Corner of 15th Ave. and Maryland Ave.)

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

2010 Remaining Tour Dates

May 5	September 8
May 19	September 22
June 2	October 13
June 16	October 27
June 30	November 3
July 14	November 10
July 28	November 17
August 11	December 8
August 25	December 15

Please RSVP to Carmen Mones at
 602.861.2233 or cmones@amissionofmercy.org
www.aMissionofMercy.org