



70% OF MISSION OF MERCY'S PATIENTS HAVE  
A CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITION AND CAN'T  
AFFORD THE TREATMENT THEY NEED

## DESPITE HEALTH CARE REFORM, MANY STILL NEED HELP

Sometimes changes made do not result in better outcomes as quickly as we'd like. Such is the case with our health care system. As the one-year anniversary of the health care reform legislation enacted by Congress in 2010 approaches, it is clear that our nation is still struggling with how to "fix" our health care system.

Take away the rhetoric, budget numbers and debate on both sides of the aisle, and one reality remains: those who are uninsured and ineligible for medical benefits are still struggling to receive the medical care they need. This is particularly true for the nation's "working poor," who pay taxes but do not qualify for government medical assistance and cannot afford the ever-rising costs of health care on their own. If

a patient has a chronic medical condition, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma or clinical depression, the problem is even more entrenched. Just because they can't afford the care doesn't mean they don't deserve it.

### SERVING THE NEEDS OF THE NEEDIEST

Mission of Mercy serves the needs of those deserving people. In fact, approximately 70% of Mission of Mercy's patients have a chronic medical condition and can't afford the treatment they need. Mission of Mercy provides patients with a medical home, meaning that our patients can schedule regular appointments with our physicians, just like they would at a private practitioner's office. In this way, their conditions can

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## OUR MISSION

Mission of Mercy, a non-profit organization, 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.

Founded in 1994, Mission of Mercy is an independent nonprofit 501 (c)(3), nonsectarian community-based organization. Services provided include medical care for both acute and chronic conditions, oral health care, and pharmaceuticals. All services are provided free, regardless of race, color, creed, national origin or religion. All funding is derived from private donations, including individuals, community groups, churches and foundations.

## M.O.M. ONLINE

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To receive this newsletter online, please send your e-mail address to: [jwhite@aMissionofMercy.org](mailto:jwhite@aMissionofMercy.org).

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Hello again!

Has it really been a year since I became a part of this amazing organization? I am continually amazed at the work done by Mission of Mercy around the country, and truly humbled to be a part of this.

I have met many patients who have shared their stories with me. I have also felt their pain as well as feeling their joy, when their medical needs were receiving the respectful care they so deserve.

As part of my responsibilities as Associate Director of Mission of Mercy, I find absolute joy in bringing awareness to our mission. The individuals throughout the Frederick community who previously were not aware of Mission of Mercy and the patients we serve, now have a newfound respect and appreciation for what we accomplish at our medical clinics.

We could not accomplish any of these wonderful things without the sincere dedication and support of our fantastic medical and non-medical volunteers. Not to mention the donors who continue to support us financially so that the doors of the clinics can remain open. These donors understand the need and the love of community.

As I enter into my second year of lifting up the mission, I look forward to continuing the awareness campaign and developing wonderful relationships with our donors as well as creating brand new friends and supporters for Mission of Mercy.

May God continue to shine His blessings on you and yours.

In His Word,

Denice Brooks-Cutts  
Associate Director  
Mission of Mercy

## DESPITE HEALTH CARE REFORM, MANY STILL NEED HELP

{ continued from pg 1 }

be monitored, they can receive necessary maintenance medications, and they can learn more about how to manage their condition through healthy practices at home. All of these preventive measures improve a patient's overall health, and help reduce a patient's risk of medical emergencies.

### WE'RE HERE FOR THEM

Each clinic location has a consistent group of volunteer physicians and nurses that develop a relationship with the individual patient. Without Mission of Mercy, these patients might otherwise suffer disproportionately from the lack of these benefits, as was shown by a study of the uninsured conducted by the Cambridge Health Alliance, published in the American Journal of Public Health in 2009. The study stated that a lack of insurance coverage "translates into nearly 45,000 deaths each year among working-age Americans." By providing uninsured patients with the continuity of care that comes from a medical home, Mission of Mercy helps prevent these tragic events.

### HELPING ONE HELPS MANY

Having the resources to help individuals whose health would otherwise continue to decline is obviously good news for our patients, and even better news for our community at large. Programs similar to Mission of Mercy's have been shown to be enormously cost-effective. In 2009, Harvard Medical School's Family Van was shown to have an average return on investment of 20:1. That is, for every dollar invested, the program saved the broader health care community \$20 in costs, such as for uncompensated emergency room visits. By providing 9,000 to 9,500 free medical and dental visits per year in Baltimore, Carroll and Frederick counties in Maryland, and Gettysburg and Harrisburg in Pennsylvania, Mission of Mercy anticipates saving the health care system—and the taxpayers and insurance companies who support it—more than \$19.5 million.



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"I was really in pain and you all took your time to help me with no pay. In this world, it's hard to find people that will give of themselves. You are all points of light for God." – HEATHER W.

Heather is part of an amazing community of people Mission of Mercy serves. More than 70% of our patients have a chronic—and often life-threatening—illness, such as heart disease, asthma, diabetes and clinical depression.

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## AZ

### A MISSION BLESSED, SO THAT WE MAY BLESS OTHERS

While Arizona lawmakers are poised to make severe cutbacks to health care insurance for hundreds of thousands of individuals, Mission of Mercy supporters continue to step up and bless us with their gifts of love, talent and financial support.

This was most evident at the Arizona program's 4th annual *"Mercy in the Morning"* fundraising breakfast held Dec. 3, 2010. Many new partners attended and 19 new individuals and organizations stepped forward to join our *"Healing through Love"* multi-year giving society by making a five-year financial commitment to our work.

"We are blessed to have such amazing supporters and community partners who understand the plight of so many in our community who are struggling to access primary health care," said Catherine Amiot, Executive Director, M.O.M.-AZ.

The breakfast culminated an exciting year for the Arizona program, including a successful clinic expansion into the far western region of Maricopa County. This fifth clinic site in the city of Avondale will serve an area hit hard by the economic fallout. Other milestones achieved in 2010 were the addition of new Assistant

Medical Director, Dr. Jill Utley, and the purchase and retrofit of a second mobile medical clinic.

M.O.M.-AZ is poised to respond to a projected 20% increase in its patient visits in 2011. Plans also are under way to broaden its scope of services through a "Community Connections" program. The goals of this comprehensive outreach effort will include engaging additional community partners to bolster its network of services, and to provide on-site resources and information to patients and their families.

## TX

### SERVING THE TEXAS COMMUNITY

The Mission of Mercy Texas Program continues to serve patients at five South Texas locations. The Texas program provided 2,795 free patient visits in 2010 along with 2,849 free prescription medications. Since its first clinic day on Sept. 17, 2007, the Texas program has treated 2,087 individual patients and provided 8,246 free patient visits and 9,593 free prescription medications.

In October, our medical director, Dr. Coleen Madigan, left Mission of Mercy and has since been replaced by a team of three physicians:

- Dr. Richard Porter will serve as medical director for clinic sites in Corpus Christi;
- Dr. Kent Tompkins will serve as medical director for clinic sites in Bishop, Orange Grove, and Robstown, and;
- Dr. John Navar will serve as administrative medical director for all of Texas Mission of Mercy clinic sites.

The Texas program held its second *"Mercy in the Morning"* fundraising breakfast on October 28. More than 440 people attended the event and helped Mission of Mercy exceed its goals in donations and pledges.

The Texas program ended the year with some good news in regard to grants when the Spohn Foundation announced that the Texas program was the recipient of a \$50,000 grant.

The program's new mobile unit is scheduled for deliver in March. The mobile clinic was paid for with funds from a \$201,000 grant from the Charity League of Corpus Christi. Work to add storage units to the new unit are under way. Plans are in the works to christen the new vehicle once it arrives, and work has begun on preparations for the Third Annual M.O.M. Invitational Golf Tournament scheduled for May.



# COFFEE WITH M.O.M. CLINIC TOURS



Imagine the compassion felt by those who receive services offered by Mission of Mercy. Their visit may only last one short hour, but the impact is long-lasting. We invite you to take just one hour out of your busy schedule to visit us during one of our clinic days in Frederick or Westminster so you can see for yourself the compassionate care provided by Mission of Mercy's medical and non-medical volunteers. Enjoy light refreshments and tour our mobile medical van to see our prescription for bringing good health and hope to those in need of "healing through love."

**WHAT** COFFEE WITH M.O.M. TOURS

**WHEN** 10:00 — 11:00 A.M.

## UPCOMING TOUR DATES

### FREDERICK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

201 Fairview Ave. (off Rosemont Avenue near Hood College)

March 28 • April 18 • May 9 & 23 • June 6 & 27

### WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

23 North Court St. (off of Route 40)

April 6 & 20 • May 18

*Please e-mail Marcie Handrich at [mhandrich@amissionofmercy.org](mailto:mhandrich@amissionofmercy.org) or call 301-682-5683 for more information.*

# MERCY IS "MISSION CRITICAL"

Mission of Mercy's work is more than a "nice service" offered – it is a critical offering that meets a serious need. Health care is not an option, it is a necessity. We serve as volunteers for our patients and the community in which they live.

In all of our work, we address the six main objectives of the mission:

- 1 To restore dignity to the sick, poor, and homeless by providing free medical, dental and pharmaceutical services and by acting as an instrument of "healing through love."
- 2 To serve as a catalyst for change in the health care community and to inspire others to improve the way they serve.
- 3 To teach our patients about health care and to empower them to care for themselves.
- 4 To provide free health care, including medical and prescription medications, to the uninsured working poor so they can remain healthy, self-sufficient, and able to work.
- 5 To provide health care to those moving off the welfare system and into work.
- 6 To provide health care to the economically disadvantaged that are in transition from being recently unemployed to seeking new employment.

COFFEE WITH M.O.M. TOURS

STEP INSIDE  
THE MISSION OF  
MERCY MOBILE  
MEDICAL CLINIC



## M.O.M. STAFF MEMBER JENNIFER WHITE HONORED AS “HOMETOWN HERO”



Jennifer White, longtime Office Manager of Mission of Mercy, will be one of 13 people in Frederick County being honored by The American Red Cross as a “Hometown Hero” on March 25, 2011, at Ceresville Mansion in Frederick.

When Jennifer first began working at Mission of Mercy more than 15 years ago, she was one of only two staff members. Since that time she has ceaselessly given of her time

and talents working countless extra hours and weekends simply because she loves what she does and enjoys making a meaningful difference in the quality of people’s lives.

“We think it is a privilege to honor those who have given so selflessly to our community here in Frederick County,” said John Falin, Executive Director of the Frederick Red Cross. Congratulations, Jennifer! You’ve always been a hero to us!

## PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

We understand that many conditions require more than a visit to a health care professional. Treatment continues at home with healthy choices, and sometimes medication is necessary.

Mission of Mercy’s mobile pharmacy contains more than 225 types of generic medications, provided free on the premises immediately after clinic treatment. If a patient needs a name-brand medication, clinic workers help the patient obtain their medications free of charge through pharmaceutical companies’ indigent drug programs. In 2010, we obtained over \$257,000 in medications from the Pharmacy Assistance Programs, free of charge for our patients, including \$23,125 in pulmonary medications such as inhalers. The care we give our patients does not stop at the clinic doors. We work hard to ensure their health care needs are met.

### 70% OF OUR PATIENTS

have a chronic, potentially life-threatening illness, such as heart disease, diabetes, asthma or clinical depression.

### ACCORDING TO A STUDY

published by the American Journal of Public Health in 2009, lack of insurance is responsible for nearly 45,000 deaths each year among working-age Americans.



do you know of  
someone who  
needs our prayers?

The Mission of Mercy family invites you to add the name of someone you know who is in need of prayers and support to Our Lady's Prayer Scroll. Intentions placed on the confidential scroll remain there indefinitely, where our army of 800+ prayer warriors will include them in their daily prayers.

If you would like to add an intention to the Prayer Scroll, please send a note with the individual's name and a brief description of the prayer request to:

Our Lady's Prayer Scroll  
M.O.M.'s Family  
P.O. Box 102  
Fairfield, PA 17320

Or e-mail your request to: [prayerscroll@amissionofmercy.org](mailto:prayerscroll@amissionofmercy.org)

## HOW CAN YOU HELP M.O.M.'S MISSION?

| YOUR<br>DONATION | WHAT IT PROVIDES<br>TO M.O.M. PATIENTS                          |
|------------------|---|
| \$50             | 1 year of medication<br>for a struggling diabetic               |
| \$500            | provides healing and hope to<br>eight medical patients          |
| \$1000           | provide the needed prescription<br>medications for 250 patients |



## DID YOU KNOW

that Mission of Mercy has performed more than 54,800 dental procedures in the Maryland/ Pennsylvania region?

Let us touch the dying, the poor, the lonely and the unwanted according to the graces we have received and let us not be ashamed or slow to do the humble work.

—Mother Teresa



**MD/PA Program** Mission of Mercy  
22 South Market Street, Suite 6D  
Frederick, MD 21701-5572  
TAX ID# 86-0704883



## SPRING INTO A SEASON FULL OF FUN

Make plans for M.O.M.'s Spring and Summer 2011 events

The weather is warming up and so it's time to have some fun with Mission of Mercy!  
Mark your calendar today for Mission of Mercy's spring and summer events:

### **SATURDAY, MAY 14**

#### **6TH ANNUAL HIGHMARK WALK FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY**

City Island, Harrisburg, PA

The 5K walk and one-mile fun run benefit local non-profits, including Mission of Mercy. For more information and to register, please visit:  
[www.walkforahealthycommunity.org](http://www.walkforahealthycommunity.org)

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 7**

#### **MISSION OF MERCY CHARITY DAY AT BREWER'S ALLEY**

Frederick, MD

Twenty percent of all proceeds from day's sales benefit Mission of Mercy. Please join us!

### **MONDAY, JUNE 20 AT 12 P.M.**

#### **MISSION OF MERCY GOLF CLASSIC**

Holly Hills Country Club • Frederick, MD

Be a part of the fun! Hit the links and make a difference in your community. Mark your calendars for this year's fantastic tournament to benefit Mission of Mercy's mobile medical clinic. Premium gifts include Foot Joy golf shoes fitted for each participant. Enjoy an upscale dining experience with lobster and steak Surf 'n Turf dinner.

For more information on the tournament and how you can participate, contact Denice Brooks-Cutts via e-mail at [dbrooks.cutts@aMissionofMercy.org](mailto:dbrooks.cutts@aMissionofMercy.org) or via phone at 301-682-5683.