



*BRINGING
CARE TO OUR
NEIGHBORS*



ONE PATIENT'S JOURNEY TO HEALTH AND HOPE

Page 5.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

DEAR FRIENDS OF MISSION OF MERCY,

As our country experiences fluctuation within the healthcare system, Mission of Mercy remains a constant. Since 1994, Mission of Mercy has been restoring dignity and healing through LOVE by delivering free medical care, free dental care and free prescription medications to the marginalized of our society – those individuals who “fall through the cracks” of our healthcare system.

During these 23 years, Mission of Mercy has served more than 41,000 medical and dental patients during 200,000 patients visits and dispensed more than 700,000 prescription medications – all free and without government support! In fact, research by MobileHealthMap.org reveals that for every dollar our donors contribute, Mission of Mercy produces a \$12 return on investment to the community.

Mission of Mercy also collaborates with local Medical and Dental Task Forces to stay abreast of community services and needs. Through our Community Connections Program, we invite other service providers – such as Health Departments, Goodwill, the food banks, Workforce Services and the YWCA, to have a presence at our clinic sites so our patients may access other community services to improve their health and well-being.

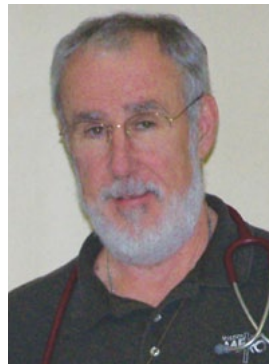
Mission of Mercy is also teaming up with local hospitals. For the past four years, we have worked with Frederick Memorial Hospital through a Shared Patient Program. This formal arrangement enables Mission of Mercy to receive mutually agreed upon patients who have gone to FMH's emergency room for services or who have been discharged from the hospital after surgery. These are patients who are unable to receive follow-up care or afford their healthcare, but who can find a medical home with us.

The impact of our work can be summed up by the story of one of our patients. “I knew I wasn't feeling well,” she recalled. “Dr. Sullivan ordered lab work and discovered that I had an autoimmune disorder. Mission of Mercy saved my life!”

Through the generosity of our hospitals, community partners, foundations, corporations, churches, civic groups and individuals, we will continue to be a part of the healthcare solution for the communities that we serve. We appreciate each one of you and sincerely thank you for all of your support.

Gratefully,

LINDA M. RYAN
Executive Director



HEALING THROUGH LOVE

DEAR FRIENDS,

Most of those who read this are either those who have already answered the call to be a part of the Mission of Mercy family or who are now being invited to be part of that family. But do we all fully appreciate what Mission of Mercy means and is?

The word “mission” comes from the Latin *missio*, a sending. In a secular sense it could mean either a purposeful task itself or a group being sent to perform such a task. It could be for good or evil; it could be done with selflessness or selfishness. From a spiritual sense, it could mean a task or group going forth to effect some beneficial change in favor of those with needs: physical, psychosocial, spiritual, financial, etc.

The word “mercy” comes from the Latin *merces*, to pity or show compassion, especially to an offender or to one subject to one's power. From a secular sense, it seems to imply the handing down from the “haves” to the “have nots.” From the spiritual sense, it could imply kindness and/or forgiveness and a ready willingness to help anyone in need. In the most perfect sense, mercy is God's Love in action.

In our Mission of Mercy family, we try to link the talents, time and treasure of all of our family members with the healing of all those we serve through God's most merciful Love. Although those talents, the time and the treasure of so many may be exceptional and very generous, they are still limited and finite. However, it so often seems that the needs of those we serve, those with whom we share, are infinite, or at least overwhelming. But so, too, is God's Merciful Love infinite!

We were uncertain in 2009 what changes, what benefits and deficiencies the Affordable Care Act would bring; and now again we watch and await what its repeal and replacement will bring to our nation. However, regardless of the design and implementation that comes forth, it can only be most effective and comprehensive if it is driven by Mercy, God's Love in action, fueled by prayer.

Mission of Mercy hopes to continue to be a small, bright light providing an example to the medical and secular world of just what can happen when little, ordinary people tap into God's infinite healing power.

God bless you! Thank you for being a part of our family!

MICHAEL T. SULLIVAN, MD
Medical Director

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OUR MISSION

The Maryland/Pennsylvania Program of Mission of Mercy seeks “to restore dignity and healing through Love” by offering free primary healthcare, dental care and prescription medications to the uninsured and underinsured working poor through our mobile medical clinics.

Mission of Mercy is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that began serving patients in 1994. With the support of more than 220 volunteer medical and administrative professionals, Mission of Mercy has served more than 41,000 patients through 206,928 patient visits in the past 23 years. In addition, the Maryland/Pennsylvania program has dispensed more than 391,300 free prescription medications.

Mission of Mercy **is not a recipient of government funding and relies solely on donations from individuals, civic and faith-based organizations, corporations, foundations and several major fundraisers** for its charitable services. For more information, call 301-682-5683.

M.O.M. ONLINE

Visit our website for our clinic schedule and information on our events and happenings!
www.aMissionofMercy.org/Maryland-Pennsylvania
Give online at mercy.world



follow us on facebook:
facebook.com/missionofmercy



follow us on twitter:
[@missionofmercy](https://twitter.com/missionofmercy)

To receive our e-newsletters and latest news, please send your email address to:
main@amissionofmercy.org

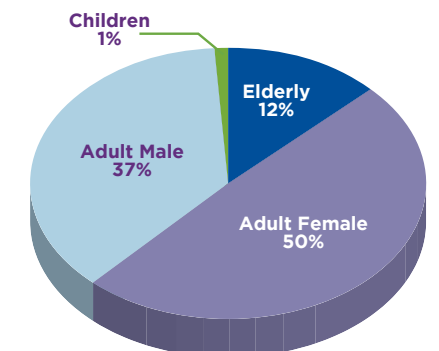
Mission of Mercy Maryland/Pennsylvania Mobile Clinics Summary of Services (as of December 31, 2016)

MEDICAL PATIENTS			
Maryland/Pennsylvania Clinics:	Cumulative Patients	Cumulative Visits	Visits
			1/1/2016-12/31/2016
Brunswick, MD	3,251	26,088	1,059
Carroll County Clinics	8,619	54,183	545
Reisterstown, MD	3,350	23,900	971
Frederick, MD	8,129	47,071	1,823
Harrisburg, PA	3,791	18,871	1,143
Gettysburg, PA	3,950	19,560	553
TOTAL*	31,090	189,673	6,094
* Free Prescriptions Dispensed: Cumulative: 391,329			
Last 12 months: 8,154			

DENTAL PATIENTS			
Maryland/Pennsylvania Clinics:	Cumulative Patients	Cumulative Visits	Visits
			1/1/2016-12/31/2016
Brunswick, MD	1,494	2,324	113
Carroll County Clinics	2,864	5,247	65
Reisterstown, MD	1,250	2,083	110
Frederick, MD	2,699	3,943	167
Harrisburg, PA	1,199	1,620	0
Gettysburg, PA	1,290	2,038	10
TOTAL*	10,796	17,255	465
**Dental Procedures Performed Cumulative: 73,087			
Last 12 months: 2,555			

patient PROFILE

(Active Patients)



HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

Throughout Mission of Mercy's 23-year history, we have found that many of our patients, as well as numerous volunteers and supporters, have found their way to us through their churches or service groups. That is why we always welcome the opportunity to speak to church congregations, social clubs and civic organizations to share information about our services and our organizational structure. It also provides us with an opportunity to reiterate that Mission of Mercy relies solely on donations from individuals, foundations, businesses and organizations and does NOT accept government funding.

If you know of any groups who may be interested in learning more about Mission of Mercy, either as patients or by supporting our work through contributions of time, talents and resources, please let us know. The more opportunities we have to spread the word about what we do, the more opportunities we have to impact people's lives.

To arrange a speaking engagement, please contact Mission of Mercy's Executive Director, Linda Ryan, at 301-682-5683 ext. 202.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY & mission of mercy



BY ELIZABETH Y. DAY,
President and CEO,
The Community Foundation
of Frederick County

In 2005, The Community Foundation of Frederick County provided the first unrestricted grants to Mission of Mercy in support of its free healthcare, dental care, and prescription drug programs. Since then, more than \$225,000 has been granted from a variety of funds for general health care access, dental care, prescription drugs, chronic care for men, diabetes care, and direct care for depression as well as seizure and bi-polar disorders.

Why has the Community Foundation supported Mission of Mercy's programs? "Mission of Mercy shares the Community Foundation's strategic goal and focus on providing affordable health care, especially for people who are uninsured or underinsured," said Barbara Walker, CPA, Grants Committee Chair. "Often, people without the financial means to pay forego critical medical care, and

Mission of Mercy provides many of these services at no cost. Its programs demonstrate how much they care about our community."

The Community Foundation Grants Committee carries out a daunting task during its grant application cycles each year. Every application is reviewed carefully and thoroughly by multiple committee members. Organizations applying for grants must meet specific criteria, provide a budget, disclose other sources of funding, and be in good standing

and if the outcomes are sustainable. The Grants Committee discusses each application and its merits and comes to a consensus about approving or rejecting the request.

In exchange for the grant, the Community Foundation expects a great return on its investment! Mission of Mercy has demonstrated excellent stewardship over the years, as evidenced through its grant reporting. The Community Foundation's detailed grant reporting shows our donors that their generous donations are being used wisely and where most needed.

"Mission of Mercy has demonstrated excellent stewardship over the years."



THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of FREDERICK COUNTY
For Good. Forever. For Frederick County.

with the IRS. A key component of the grant application is explaining the positive impact that the program will have within the community: how many people it will serve, what outcomes are expected as a result,

We are proud to partner with Mission of Mercy. By working together with organizations in the community who are dedicated to helping others, we can both positively impact the future of Frederick County.

A LASTING PARTNERSHIP



BY THOMAS A. KLEINHANZL
President & CEO, Frederick
Regional Health System

For many years, Frederick Memorial Hospital has invited the physicians at Mission of Mercy to send patients to us for X-rays, MRIs and other forms of specialty testing, including mammograms. This is part of our commitment to serving

our friends and neighbors who are sick and in pain. This partnership is

"Over the last three years, we have expanded our partnership with Mission of Mercy even further with the Shared Patient Program."

THOMAS A. KLEINHANZL

the embodiment of our mission to contribute to the health and well-being of the community we serve.

Over the last three years, we have expanded our partnership with

Mission of Mercy even further with the Shared Patient Program. Through

this collaboration, designated nurses at FMH work with Dr. Michael Sullivan, Mission of Mercy's medical director, to identify patients who could utilize Mission of Mercy's services.

This has resulted in fewer visits to our Emergency Department for non-emergency care and embodies our commitment to provide patients with the right care, at the right place. This creates a better patient experience and also lowers healthcare costs. It makes much more sense to have a patient who needs their stitches removed, or their blood pressure re-checked and medication adjusted, to visit Mission of Mercy rather than coming back to the hospital Emergency Department.

When Dr. Sullivan and the team of outstanding professionals and

volunteers at Mission of Mercy can see these patients, they free up our ED staff to deal with true emergencies. It also gives those in our community who do not have health insurance, are underinsured or cannot afford their premiums and prescription drug costs, a means of managing their chronic healthcare needs before they spiral out of control and truly warrant a trip to the Emergency Department.

FMH also provides financial support to Mission of Mercy through cash donations and sponsorship of the

annual gala and golf tournament fundraising events. Our support of Mission of Mercy and the important work it does has continued to grow over the years. In 2016, we committed to provide \$20,000 per year over a three-year period to support the Shared Patient Program and other important healthcare work.

FHM recognizes that Mission of Mercy is truly a gift to our community and we are honored to work together with them to address the healthcare needs of all Frederick County residents.

ONE PATIENT'S JOURNEY TO HEALTH AND HOPE

Cindy B. knows the darkest depths of physical and emotional pain. Following an injury 16 years ago, she became addicted to the prescription medications her doctor had prescribed to address her pain.

So she turned to Mission of Mercy.

"I heard about their dental services so I went to their Harrisburg clinic but I couldn't be seen that day because of the waiting list," she



CINDY B.
Mission of Mercy Patient

"She eventually beat her addiction, but the yearning for the drugs stayed with her, as did the fears and scars of the detox experience. So when a bad toothache left her searching for relief, Cindy did not know where to turn."

painkillers was so awful that I really think I would have turned to much worse."

She eventually made the choice to end that addiction, not realizing, however, how difficult that process would be. Cindy entered a detox center but while in the midst of the worst of her withdrawal there, she began having seizures and ended up in her local hospital's intensive care unit for 14 days.

recalled. So Cindy returned on the next clinic day, rising before the sun so she could be among the first to be seen.

Not only did Cindy get the dental care she needed that day, but she was also referred to the medical staff, who recognized that she was suffering from significant anxiety and depression.

She eventually beat her addiction, but the yearning for the drugs stayed with her, as did the fears and scars of the detox experience. So when a bad toothache left her searching for relief, Cindy did not know where to turn. She couldn't—and wouldn't—return to prescription drugs.

"The medications they gave me have helped tremendously, because I'm sure that without them, I would have ended up on the streets," Cindy said. "And I do mean the streets. I never did street drugs but the emotional and physical withdrawal from the

For Cindy, Mission of Mercy has become a place of physical and emotional healing. "I never feel judged by anyone at Mission of Mercy," she said. "To be able to sit there and talk about my experiences has helped restore my spiritual health, especially when I see how God has worked in my life. Through all of the mess I've been through, He put Mission of Mercy in front of me."

Like many Americans, Cindy is unemployed and her access to quality health care is tenuous. Mission of Mercy has become a safety net for her. "It's probably one of the biggest reasons I never thought about trying to address my pain on my own again," she said.

"Mission of Mercy has been a life saver for me," she said through her tears.

behind the scenes

VOLUNTEERS OF MISSION OF MERCY

Talk about power in numbers!

Every time our mobile medical van pulls into one of our clinic sites to set up for the day, a large cadre of volunteers follows close behind. Within minutes, they are scurrying about like busy bees, setting up medical equipment, pulling records, setting up the registration table and screening areas, etc. The faces may be different from week to week, but the care they deliver never changes. Our patients know they will always find compassion, dignity and healing at Mission of Mercy.

Our thanks once again to all these amazing and selfless people who make this happen! We will feature our other sites in our next issue.



THE GETTYSBURG TEAM



THE TANEYTOWN TEAM



THE REISTERSTOWN TEAM

can you help?

Volunteers are a critical part of our service delivery teams, providing everything from nursing and medical expertise to administrative and organizational services. Right now, we are in critical need of help one or two full days per month with:

- Registration at the Frederick and Reisterstown clinics
- Data entry at the Reisterstown clinic
- Dentists for the Harrisburg and Gettysburg clinics
- Physicians for the Reisterstown clinic
- Spanish and French interpreters
- Specialists who will accept one or two patients in their offices, including neurologists, dermatologists, podiatrists and oral surgeons.

Please call us at 301-682-5683 ext. 211 to learn more. If you are unable to help us at this time, we hope you will spread the word among your friends, family and church communities about our needs and encourage people to contact us for more information.

mark your calendars

FOR LOTS OF FUN WITH M.O.M.!

M*A*S*H BASH

Saturday, March 25, 2017

Officers' Club Admission 6 p.m.

Swamp Admission 7 p.m.

William R. Talley Rec Center

121 N. Bentz St., Frederick

Laughter is the best medicine, so please join us for an evening of great food, an open bar, and lots of games, contests, a silent auction and other silly fun. Make the staff of the 4077th proud and come dressed as your favorite character from the long-running hit series—perhaps Radar, Hot Lips Houlihan or the ever-colorful Klinger.

All guests will enjoy an open bar and plentiful themed food stations from three caterers. Officers' Club tickets are \$95/pp and include early admission at 6 p.m. for passed hors-d'oeuvres and a special bar beverage as well as a goody bag. Tickets to The Swamp, which opens at 7 p.m., are \$65 pp. There will be a costume contest, so theme dress is encouraged!

Don't wait: get your tickets now at www.mashbash.org or call 301-682-0683 ext. 211. All guests must be 21 to attend.

Special thanks to our Major "Hotlips" Sponsors: Audio Video Group, Frederick Magazine, Frederick News Post and Octavo Designs; and to our Captain "Hawkeye" Sponsor, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield.

2017 M.O.M. Golf Classic

Monday, June 12, 2017

Holly Hills Country Club

5502 Mussetter Road

Ijamsville, MD

Join us for a great day on the links that includes lunch, contests, raffles, auctions, prizes, awards, cocktails, entertainment and a fantastic dinner to cap off the day. Register now, either as a foursome or as an individual who'd like to be paired up with others.

Corporate sponsorships are available. Call Jennifer White at 301-682-5683 x204 for all the details.

Thank you to Leidos Biomedical Research as the Presenting Sponsor for our Golf Classic this year!

HIGHMARK WALK

Saturday, May 20, 2017

Harrisburg Area Community College

1 HACC Drive

Harrisburg, PA

Grab your walking shoes and your friends and sign up for this popular annual event. Thanks to your support, Mission of Mercy received \$10,000 from last year's Walk. Help us top that number in 2017 by walking or sponsoring a walker! Visit www.missionofmercy.org/events to register and download your donation form and *let's get walking!*

another high note

The Highmark Foundation, the private organization dedicated to improving the health, well-being and quality of life for residents of areas served by Highmark Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates, recently awarded Mission of Mercy a \$30,000 grant to continue to support the medical needs of uninsured and underinsured residents in Gettysburg and Harrisburg.

"We are very grateful to the Highmark Foundation for its support of our work in Pennsylvania," said Linda Ryan, Mission of Mercy's executive director. "We serve a critical population in south central Pennsylvania, one that is suffering from gaps in their ability to access and/or afford health care. This grant will enable us to continue to provide important care for these residents."

The Highmark Foundation has identified service delivery systems as one of its priority areas, specifically community health clinics and other programs that provide greater access to prevention programs especially among those who are either underinsured or uninsured.

In addition to this grant, Mission of Mercy participates in Highmark's Annual Walk for a Healthy Community (see registration information above). "We consider our on-going partnership with Highmark to be one of our greatest successes," said Jennifer White, Mission of Mercy's director of development. "We share the same commitment to expanding the availability of quality health care to those most in need."



MD/PA Program of Mission of Mercy
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THANK YOU!

We were delighted by the donations we received at the end of 2016. Our on-line giving surpassed our previous totals. We are humbled and truly grateful for this outpouring of support and will continue to use your gifts wisely and make the most of your generosity by helping those in need of our services.

We'd like to also take this opportunity to remind you that although many people make year-end gifts as part of their holiday traditions, there are numerous opportunities throughout the year to give. You can make a gift to Mission of Mercy to remember someone's birthday or choose to give the gift of Healing through Love on Valentine's Day. You can honor loved ones with a gift in their name on holidays like Mother's Day or Father's Day, on their birthdays or in their memory after they have passed away.

Regardless of how or when you give, we remain grateful for your enduring support.

Got Time for a Cup of Coffee—and a tour—with M.O.M.?

Please join us at the Frederick Church of the Brethren (201 Fairview Ave.) for an inside look at how Mission of Mercy works and how you might be able to help. During our Coffee with M.O.M. tours, you can learn more about how we provide our services, tour our mobile medical clinic and hear inspiring stories from our patients and caregivers. An hour or so of your time will leave you with a lasting impression of our life-saving work at Mission of Mercy.

**Upcoming Coffee with M.O.M. tours at our
site at Church of the Brethren
(201 Fairview Ave.) in Frederick are:**

March 13, 27 May 8, 22
April 10, 24 June 26



Please keep in mind that we are always happy to provide tours at our other clinic sites to groups or organizations that would like to know more about our program. Simply call us at **301-682-LOVE** to arrange a tour time and location.

