

Loudoun Free Clinic Receives Major Gift From Kaiser

January 12, 2012

The Loudoun Free Clinic, Leesburg, VA, is the recipient of a significant gift-in-kind and cash donation from Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States. Kaiser's contribution came in the form of an addition to the clinic's staff—through funding of a fulltime physician assistant, and a \$20,000 cash donation. The financial donation includes a \$15,000 as a year-end gift and \$5,000 contribution as a sponsor of the clinic's fall fundraiser. Kaiser has previously supported the clinic with a year-end gift as well as contributing to the annual fundraising event.

"We are elated over Kaiser's generosity to the work of our clinic," said Executive Director Debra Townsend, who added that this type of "collabative partnership represents tremendous value for community residents needing access to health care services." Townsend noted that Kaiser's support through its Community Ambassador Program comes at a time when the not-for-profit clinic documented an increase in patient volumes by 57 percent. Kaiser's cash gift will be used toward general operating expenses.

Kaiser's Community Ambassador Program matches skilled Kaiser Permanente clinicians, including nurse practitioners and physician assistants, with selected safety net health clinics throughout the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. Following training, the program then matched 39 of Kaiser Permanente's nurse practitioners and physician assistants with 17 area health clinics. Patricia Nicholson, PA, is the Loudoun Free Clinic's new physician assistant.

"These passionate community ambassadors are an extension of Kaiser Permanente's commitment to building healthy communities," said Mindy Rubin, director of safety net partnerships, Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States. "Their work with partnering safety net health clinics will improve access to quality health care and expand the clinics' treatment capacity for the vulnerable communities we serve." The program aims to serve vulnerable populations, make measurable improvements in community health, and serve as a long-term, sustainable collaboration between Kaiser Permanente and safety net clinics – providing clinics with additional resources such as training, education, and grants; and ultimately improving community health through evidence-based care. Ambassador-clinic relationships will also identify, implement, and evaluate health outcomes in targeted areas of clinical focus.



Doug Brown, Staff PA-C, and Pati Nicholson, PA-C and Kaiser Community Ambassador

In continuous operation since 2002 as a project of the Catoctin Foundation, the Free Clinic delivers quality medical care at no charge, serving uninsured residents of Loudoun County, between the ages of 18 and 64. Governed by an all-volunteer board of directors and supported by the volunteer services of area physicians, healthcare organizations, businesses and individuals, the Clinic's mission is to improve access to healthcare services for the uninsured, thereby improving the overall health status of this segment of Loudoun's population. For additional information, call the Free Clinic at 703-779-5418 or visit www.loudounfreeclinic.org.