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## Community of Hope Continues to Grow

When opened in 2008, the Community of Hope Health Clinic served as an urgent care facility and operated one night per week. That first year, around 400 patients were seen by the clinic with hardly any publicity.

For the fiscal year running from October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016, the Community of Hope Health Clinic saw 1,656 patients. While this number was down from the previous year, the decrease can be attributed not to a lessening of the need, but rather a lack of medically trained personnel in the form of volunteers.

Still, the clinic continued to show growth in the form of

the Latino/Hispanic population which was helped by the adding of Medical Interpreters who were seeking experience in order to gain a professional



**Candace Wason leads a group of Hispanic Patients with Diabetes Education**

certification through former volunteer Kenton Myers.

All in all, CHHC reported the following numbers (total visits)

to Shelby County:  
 Caucasian-544  
 Latino/Hispanic-860  
 African American-211  
 Other Ethnicities-41  
 Total Visits-1,656

Because nearly 52% of the total patient visits in 2016 were Latino/Hispanic, education classes were held for the diabetic population in Spanish because of the high propensity for patients to have diabetes within that particular community. Plans are in the works to continue this line of education and also to add English speaking ones as well.

The goal for 2017 is to see as many as 1,900 visits for the year, which is very attainable, especially when full staffed.

## Call for Providers/Medical Personnel

The Community of Hope Health Clinic saw nearly 1,700 visits from patients for the last fiscal year (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016). With more patients seen, more volunteers are needed.

Currently, we have one opening on Monday morning for a provider and possibly some openings on Tuesday morning as well. Space is

limited during our day clinics because we have to utilize the space the clinic rents from the Health Department.

On Thursday evenings, CHHC could use a number of providers as the number of medical professionals seeing patients on Thursday evenings in the past year has decreased by half a dozen.

Nurses for both day and evening clinics are at a premium as well. If you know of someone who might be interested, please have them contact Justin at [chhc.executivedirector@gmail.com](mailto:chhc.executivedirector@gmail.com) or 205-685-4149.

# CHHC Fundraiser Changes in 2017



Steve Shaw, Coordinator of SEC Football Officials will serve as the Guest Speaker at the 2017 CHHC Fundraiser

*“Executive Director, Justin R. Johnston has also been meeting at the United Way of Central Alabama for more than a year now to increase visibility with the organization through the Health Action Partnership’s Access to Care Work Group.”*

In the past, the Community of Hope Health Clinic has utilized a Spring Fundraising Breakfast.

After speaking with the Board of Directors and taking into consideration the logistics of a fundraising event, Justin R. Johnston, Executive Director of the Clinic has decided to go in a different direction.

“I believe that based on the timing in which people go to work and get off work and the proximity to their places

of employment, it might be easier to host a fundraising dinner rather than a breakfast,” Johnston said. “We hope that changing things up and bringing in a high profile guest speaker will help with our fundraising efforts.”

Steve Shaw, Coordinator of SEC Football Officials has agreed to be the guest speaker for the event which has a tentative date for May.

“We are currently looking for

a sponsor and venue for the event, but we have a few places in mind on both accounts,” Johnston said.

The event will not have a plate cost associated with it and Johnston hopes to raise more money than the Clinic has ever raised before.

If you would like to help with the event, please contact Justin at [chhc.executivedirector@gmail.com](mailto:chhc.executivedirector@gmail.com) or 205-685-4149.

## CHHC in the Community

Do you ever wonder how the Community of Hope interacts with the rest of the community?

Currently, CHHC is involved with the Alabama Association of Free and Charitable Clinics, the SANE Program through Shelby County and Safe House, The Shelby County Drug Free Coalition, The Coordinated Community Response Meetings through

the Shelby County Sherriff’s Office, The Patient Access to Care program through the Jefferson County Medical Society, and the Shelby County Roundtable.

Recently, CHHC became involved with the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program and with hopes that in 2017, the clinic will become a station for the Shelby County RSVP.

Executive Director, Justin R. Johnston has also been meeting at the United Way of Central Alabama for more than a year now to increase visibility with the organization through the Health Action Partnership’s Access to Care Work Group. Although focused on Jefferson County, the UWCA hopes to implement a Health Action Partnership in all counties it covers, including Shelby.

## From the Executive Director



Justin R. Johnston, Executive Director

Greetings!

I hope that you enjoy having a newsletter that brings you up-to-date with what’s going on at the Community of Hope Health Clinic.

2017 will be a pivotal year for the Clinic. Currently, we are

seeing more patients than ever and with an increase in patient load, we need more volunteers, specifically those who have medical experience.

I know that you, the volunteers and donors, are spread thin as it is, but remember the services we offer here at the Community of Hope Health Clinic.

Remember that those who normally would not be able to receive medical care are now receiving it because of YOU!

I hope you all had a Happy New Year and I look forward to the year to come.

# Volunteer Spotlight-Volunteer Banquet



Sean Bowman (left) poses with Howard Mullis as he receives the Howard Mullis Non-Medical Volunteer of the Year Award

departure of long-time Board Member, Howard Mullis, who had been a member of the Board during the planning stages of the clinic before the clinic had filed for tax exemption. Executive Director, Justin Johnston honored Mullis by renaming the "Non-Medical Volunteer of the Year Award" to the "Howard Mullis Non-Medical Volunteer of the Year Award."

Andretta Willis, Nurse; John Buckingham, MD; Carlos Martinez, Interpreter.

The Corporate Volunteer of the Year Award was awarded to Cheryl Smith at Princeton Hospital. Ms. Smith has been the contact for CHHC and has helped with surgeries and other needs through the Continuity Clinic.

The Community of Hope held its annual Volunteer Banquet on November 7, 2016 at Meadow Brook Baptist Church. The event was well attended as more than 70 volunteers and their guests attended this event.

Due to his dependability, interpreter Sean Bowman holds the distinction of being the first recipient of the award.

The Community of Hope Medical Volunteer of the Year Award went to Nurse Practitioner, Lanette Sherrill because of her dedication to not only see patients on a weekly basis, but her willingness to donate to her fellow volunteers.

Announced at the event was the

Other individuals honored with certificates for service to the clinic included: Ron Garza, Interpreter;

### CHHC Staff

Justin R. Johnston  
Executive Director

Mandy Maldonado  
Clinic Coordinator

Maria Alejandra Duran  
Clinic Coordinator

Karen Stough  
Office Manager

## CHHC Calendar

### Clinic Holidays (Closed)

- January 2
- January 16
- February 10

### Clinic Open-Wednesday

- January 4
- January 18
- February 22

Does your Church, Civic, or Fraternal Group want to help out with Thursday evening Meals?

### Thursday Meals Open

- April 20
- May 18
- June 8, 15, 22

- July 20
- August 17, 24
- September 14, 21
- October 12, 19
- November 6

## CHHC in the Hispanic Community

The Community of Hope Health Clinic sees more Hispanic patients than any other ethnicity. Because of this, the Clinic hopes to be involved more with the community in 2017.

After appearing on Alabama TV and also Latino News, the staff at CHHC has plans for the spring to help bring more awareness to the Latino/Hispanic Community, particularly its business.

For the first time ever, the staff at CHHC is planning a family event to help spread awareness but also serve as a fundraiser. The event is in the planning stages now, but as more information is available, the public will be informed in one way or another.

Do you have a special relationship with the Latino/Hispanic Community? You can contact

Mandy at [communityofhopeclinic.mandy@gmail.com](mailto:communityofhopeclinic.mandy@gmail.com) or Maria Alejandra at [communityofhopeclinic.maria@gmail.com](mailto:communityofhopeclinic.maria@gmail.com) or by calling the main office number at 205-685-4154 to help out.

Raul Trujillo of Alabama TV interviews Justin, Mandy and Maria Alejandra



COMMUNITY OF HOPE HEALTH CLINIC



**Community of Hope Health Clinic  
Volunteers in Medicine**

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**Helping those less fortunate obtain  
free, quality healthcare.**

**The Community of Hope Health  
Clinic is a Volunteers in Medicine  
health clinic for uninsured residents  
of Shelby County, Alabama.  
The Community of Hope Health  
Clinic (CHHC) is a medical mission  
that provides non-emergent medical  
care to Shelby County adults ages  
19 – 64 and have no health insur-  
ance and whose household income  
is at or below 200% of the poverty  
level.**



## 2016 Community of Hope Donors

Millennium Level (\$1,000-up)

Edwin and Linda Caldwell  
Pelham Eye Care  
Meadow Brook Baptist  
Church  
Asbury United Methodist  
Church  
Walmart Super Center-  
Pelham  
The Grainger Foundation  
The Caring Foundation

Hope Level (\$500-999)

William K. Dunham, MD  
Fred Frengel

Howard and Susan Mullis

Walmart Neighborhood  
Market-Alabaster

Community Level (\$250-499)

Linda Pugh  
Candace Wason  
Rojo Birmingham  
Lucy and Charles Thompson  
Roger and Sheron Foster

Century Level (\$100-249)

David and Kelly Drake  
James Elrod  
Lanette Sherrill

SW and Barbara Teague

April Clouser  
Michael and Pamela Northrup  
Tim and Vicki Cumuze  
Susan Staniszewski  
Edwina Taylor  
Frank and Melissa Lumpkin  
John Davis  
Raymond G. and Fiona Watts  
Danielle Brown  
Mitch Shelton

Reba Brannon  
Sherry and Jeff Loper  
Charles Morgan  
Highland Dentistry