SUMMER | VOLUME 1 | 2018

In Touch

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE BODY OF CHRIST COMMUNITY CLINIC, BELTON, TEXAS

5th Annual Fund Raiser Held at UMHB

Banquet: "A Success"

The Body of Christ Community Clinic held its 5th annual banquet fundraiser, "Together We Heal," on May 1st at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor. Board Chairman Jerry Wickwire said, "It was a very successful event," and he thanked the community for their support.

The featured speaker for the event was Pastor Omar C. Garcia. He is the Missions Pastor of Kingsland Baptist Church. Among other things Rev. Garcia spoke of his experiences in India serving at one of Mother Teresa's medical clinics and how God's call for him to serve had changed his life.

As the major fund raiser for the Clinic the banquet grossed $51,793.03 from donations. The Silent Auction raised an additional $4,790.00. Expenses related to the banquet were just under $8,000.00. The net dollars raised represents about 20% of the total 2018 Clinic budget.

Executive Director Donna said, "The support that the communities of Belton, Salado and Temple give us is awe inspiring. We simply can't thank everyone enough for the support given to us!"

Keynote speaker Omar C. Garcia speaks at the "Together We Heal" banquet.
(Photo by Richard Creed)

This was the fifth fundraising banquet for the Clinic. The first three banquets were known as the "Building Smiles" banquet, as the Clinic was attempting to raise funds to build the dental clinic. Since 2017 the banquet has been known as the "Together We Heal" banquet and the funds are used for overall Clinic operations.

From the Desk of the Chairman: Jerry Wickwire

I received an email today with the subject line, "We were made for community." The word "community" is a part of the name of the clinic. And we are a community in so many ways.

There are those individuals and churches in our community who support the clinic with their prayers and finances. There are those professionals who volunteer to help relieve the suffering of people in need. And there are all those folks who live near the clinic who are part of our community.

Part of being a community is recognizing and caring for the people around us. Jesus spoke about caring for the community. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34).

Caring for our community helps so many people in our service area. Patients come to us in need and our volunteers help them feel better. Caring for one another is a great part of a community.

There are also benefits to each of our volunteers because they volunteer. Studies have shown that volunteering or giving back to the community actually helps extend life, improve health, and creates happiness.

Hanging in the medical clinic is a poster about the volunteer appreciation banquet we recently had. It shows a jigsaw of puzzle pieces fitting together, illustrating how each person who volunteers has their unique place of service. We are all important. We all have a place of service.

John Donne was an English poet and clergyman in the Church of England during the 17th century. He reminds us that no man is an island. We are all connected. His poem ends like this:

Any man's death diminishes me,
Because I am involved in mankind,
And therefore never send to

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Donna's Den: Donna Dunn, Executive Director

When I began writing this article, the Holy Spirit brought to mind an old hymn by Fanny Crosby. "To God be the glory, great things he has done."

Now I have not heard that song in years but it was an awesome reminder to me of what HE has done and will continue to do in the story of the Body of Christ Community Clinic.

June 10 marked the 8th anniversary of this clinic. We have served thousands of people in our community who otherwise would not have received medical or dental care. Churches have come together to pray and to help fund this mission. Volunteers are here each week to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our neighbors. We have a need and HE provides. "Great things he has done"!

"To God be the glory, great things he has done."

We recently held our 5th Annual "Together We Heal" Banquet. Our guest speaker, Omar Garcia, told stories of "how working together we can demonstrate that loving and selflessly serving others is an indispensable component of our biblical worldview and a hallmark of what it means to be followers of Christ." His quote from Mother Teresa, "I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world", reminded me that we can all be used by God to show HIS love in our community. Thank YOU for being a part of that story!

Volunteer Banquet Held

The Body of Christ Clinic honored about 65 volunteers in attendance at its annual Volunteer Banquet. This year the banquet was held on April 7th at the Belton Church of Christ. The feature speaker was Dr. David Mosser, pastor of the Salado United Methodist Church.

Various awards were presented by Executive Director Donna Dunn. Receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award was Debbie Lewis, who volunteers as a Lab Tech for the Clinic. Debbie has been a faithful volunteer since August of 2010.

A patient, Heather Hall, spoke to those assembled and related her appreciation for what the Clinic has done for her and the importance of the Clinic in the community.

Photo of Debbie Lewis receiving her award from Donna Dunn (Photo by Richard Creed)

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Focus on the Banquets

Top left: Omar Garcia speaks at the "Together We Heal Banquet," *Top right*: Dr. David Mosser speaks at the Volunteer Banquet; *Middle left*: Silent Auction; *Middle right*: Volunteer Banquet Committee, *Left*: Father Jim Kim gives the benediction at "Together We Heal Banquet," *Right*: Donna Dunn presents award to Dr. Erik Foisy.

All photos courtesy of Richard Creed. Thank you Richard!

From the Desk of the Chairman

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know for whom the bell tolls;
It tolls for thee.

We are all part of a community. My email this morning was correct: We are made for community.

Volunteer Banquet

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Also honored was Dr. Erik Foisy who has volunteered as a dentist at the Clinic. He recently separated from the Army and has relocated to Virginia.

The Volunteer Banquet is an annual event for the Clinic. It is an effort to thank the 150 volunteers who serve the Clinic.

July 4th: Clinic to have a float in the annual 4th of July Parade in Belton.

September 1st: 6th Annual "Labors of Love" 5K Fun Run in Belton. This event will be on a Saturday morning beginning at 9:00 AM at Confederate Park. Address is 700 Confederate Drive, Belton. All proceeds will go to the support of the Body of Christ Community Clinic.

October: (Date yet to be determined) 2nd annual Body of Christ Community Clinic Golf Classic at Wildflower Country Club in Temple.

Unsolicited Patient Letter

"I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity this institution has provided my son to be immediately seen. Thank you for the great job you are doing for the Belton Community. In the name of Jesus Christ we thank you! Amen!"

DO YOU KNOW?

Jerry Wickwire

1975: Jerry graduated from Southern Nazarene University
1975: Married his wife Beth
1983: Graduated with a Masters in Missions from Nazarene Theological University
1998: Became the Associate Pastor of the Belton Nazarene Church
2015: Joined the Board of the Body of Christ Community Clinic
2018: Became BOCCC Board Chairman

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ECFA ACCREDITED

United Way of Central Texas