# Fall 2022 CFC Newsletter Volume 2, Issue 1

Our mission is to provide free quality health care and pharmaceuticals with compassion and dignity to individuals between the ages of 12 and 64.

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### A Slow Journey to Normal

The past two years presented many challenges for the Clemson Free Clinic. CFC met each one head on and continued to fulfill its mission of providing free quality health care and medicines to our underserved population.

As Covid-19 became a serious threat in early spring of 2020, CFC staff, volunteers and doctors rapidly established and implemented protocols to keep everyone as safe as possible and lower exposure. Patients and staff wore masks at all times in the clinic. Hand sanitizers sprung up all over: the waiting area, the main office, the pharmacy, exam rooms and bathrooms. Surfaces were sanitized frequently.

The clinic would not have been able to continue without generous donations of hard-to-find items from the community. Masks were made and donated by local church groups. Individuals delivered paper towels, disinfecting wipes, toilet paper and bottled water. Thankfully now that the situation has eased those items are available once again. We do request that our clients wear masks in the clinic. Covid is still out there and so is the flu. We hope this will help our clients remain healthy during this season.

During the last two years patients remained in their cars until they were screened. Then they were escorted to an exam room to be seen by their physician. If all rooms were occupied, clients waited in their car until a room was vacated and disinfected. One of our student volunteers would escort them from car to exam room. Thank goodness, our waiting room is open again and we are adding new patients as the Covid threat lessens.

Pharmacy refills continued with some changes. Before Covid, clients called the pharmacy line and entered through the side entrance to a dedicated waiting room. They picked up meds in person and could speak directly with the pharmacist if there was a problem. However, during Covid, they were asked to wait in their vehicle and call the main office to notify us they were at the clinic. Our great student volunteers became runners between the pharmacy and the client. Our student volunteers are the best. They are compassionate, dedicated, eager to learn, and never wavered at the worst of times.

Produce RX continues strong under the guidance of Dr. Beth Kunkel. In spite of the challenges of the last two years, this program ensured that its subscribers received fresh vegetables every two weeks and included nutritious recipes to prepare them.

While not completely back to normal yet, CFC continues strong. This clinic is very lucky to be part of a dedicated and caring community.

## **Contact Us**

Clemson Free Clinic 1200-2 Tiger Blvd Clemson, SC 29631 (864) 654-8277

Business Address
P. O. Box 941
Clemson, SC 29633

### **Operating Hours**

Patient Eligibility Screening Mondays 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Clinic Hours
Wednesdays 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Serving Clemson, Pendleton, Six Mile & Central

Certified by the SC Free Clinic Association

Newsletter Editor Lib Crockett

#### Director's Corner

Dear CFC Friends,

It's that time of the year again, TRIO 22, our major fundraiser jointly held by Clemson Community Care and the Free Clinic on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6PM at Holy Trinity Church. It's wine and beer tasting served with heavy hors d'oeuvres, and fabulous raffle/auction experiences. Join us for a celebration of two local non-profits that provide safety net services, healthcare as well as food and utilities to uninsured, low-income individuals and families in our community. We cannot do this work without you!

What we do to put our patients first:

Provide Free Primary Healthcare

Manage on-site Licensed Pharmacy with Free Pharmaceuticals Provide Produce Rx--free vegetables and nutritional counseling for Diabetic and Hypertensive Patients

Provide Laboratory/Imaging Services through AnMed Health Provide Psychological and Counseling Services

Offer Women's Health Care in collaboration with CU Sullivan Center Offer Influenza Vaccines

Make Specialty Referrals through Access Health

Connect patients to resources

Provide Prescription Assistance Program Applications

For 15 years your support of CFC has fueled our work. With the help of generous donors, volunteers, staff, and partners we continue to grow. We can do all this because of people like you. Thank you for your continued support in creating a healthier community for all of us. I'm looking forward to seeing you at TRIO 22.

---Warm wishes, Sandy

Holy Trinity Episcopal Ch Pre-paid Tickets availab	nurch, Clemson
Donatio	on Summary
Number	Amount
<b>Donation for CFC Operations</b>	
TRIO Tickets \$50/pp	X =
Or	
4 TRIO Txs @\$175	X=
Total Donation	
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