

The Raphael Visitor

RAPHAEL COMMUNITY FREE CLINIC
serves the uninsured populations of a six-county area in the TX Hill Country, offering non-emergency medical care in a clinical setting.

Patients must meet financial eligibility and residency requirements.

Raphael Clinic accepts no funding from Federal, state or city governments relying on the generosity of donations from charitable organizations and private donors like YOU!

If you have been blessed with medical care or medical insurance for yourself or your family, please consider "sharing the wealth" with your neighbors.

RAPHAEL COMMUNITY FREE CLINIC
1807 WATER STREET
KERRVILLE, TX 78028
830-895-4201

“Raphael Clinic celebrates 15th Anniversary”

On October 5th, 2012, the Raphael Community Free Clinic community met to celebrate their 15th year anniversary as a “lifeline” for those without medical insurance in the Hill Country area. Volunteers and staff shared memories and games over dinner, then recognized those who have played a special role in the clinic’s operations over the years.

Co-founder and clinic administrator Sister Mary Ann Giardina has been involved in the creation, growth, and ongoing operations of the Raphael Clinic since 1996. All who have ever come in contact with her over the years have experienced her warmth, understanding and compassion. Her competence in personal relationships and financial affairs has assisted the smooth operations of the Raphael Clinic running smoothly throughout its history.



On October 30, 2012 Sister Mary Ann headed back to her Dominican Sisters’ Motherhouse in Houston, Texas. While her physical absence is felt, her spirit lives on in each of us as we continue the work of the clinic. We all wish her Godspeed and God’s love as she enjoys some well-deserved personal time and continues to follow God’s call.

WISH LIST

- Carpet Cleaner
- Copy paper
- Sticky note pads
- Volunteer window washer
- Paper shredder (heavy duty)
- Washer/Dryer
- Prayers – Financial Support

Can you help?



Building a Healthy America
One Patient at a Time
Support Free and Charitable Clinics
Where Medical Care
for the Underserved
Isn't a Dream, It's Reality.

Then ... and now ...

	<u>1997</u>	<u>2012</u>
<u>Clinic Hours:</u>	One day/week – 4 hours	Four days/week – 32 hours
<u>Patient Visits:</u>	764 (5 mos.)	2,383 (9 mos.)
<u>Staff:</u>	Volunteers!	2 FT/6 PT employees + volunteers
<u>Services Schedule:</u>	First-come, first-served	Appointment only
<u>Fee for Services:</u>	\$0	\$0

“Your donation at work” ...



Here’s how your gift helps:

- \$25..** 2- to 4-week supply of glucose test strips for one diabetic patient
- \$100..** Antibiotic stock for 16 patients with infections
- \$1,000..** 25 doses of preventative Tetanus vaccines for adult patients
- \$5,000..** 6-month supply of cholesterol tests for new and return patients
- \$10,000..** Weekly supply of insulin for 150 diabetic patients

Raphael Community Free Clinic is a 501(c)(3) charity and your donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you for your generous support!

“Director’s Corner”



Message from Sister Marge

Dear Friends of Raphael Clinic,

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead (Anthropologist 1901-1978).

Eight of our “Star” Volunteers recognized for their ongoing service to Raphael Clinic since 1997:

- ✪ **BILL COPLEN,**
Handyman, Jack of all trades
- ✪ **KARL HAGEMEIERS, M.D.,**
Medical Director
- ✪ **YVONNE LORICK, RN,**
Educator for diabetic & hepatitis patients
- ✪ **LOIS PRITCHARD,**
Front Desk Volunteer
- ✪ **LISA ROUSE, M.D.,**
OB Consultant
- ✪ **LOU SMITH,**
Office Volunteer
- ✪ **NELLIE VAN DE NAKKER, RN,**
Drug Room Volunteer
- ✪ **KEN ZYSKO,**
President, Board of Directors



An “All-Star” Employee recognized for 10 years of dedicated service:



SYLVIA MENDEZ,
Medical Assistant

*And our **Business Partners**, honored at the recent 15th Anniversary celebration for their generosity in assisting the Clinic’s operations over the years in countless ways:*

Culligan

The Medicine Stop Pharmacy

Raphael Community Free Clinic has had the privilege of serving the community of Kerrville and surrounding counties for the past 15 years. On October 5th, the Board of Directors of the Raphael Clinic and the Clinic Endowment Board celebrated this anniversary and honored its staff and volunteers with an evening of shared conversation and food and special recognition for those who have been with the Clinic from its conception.

Committed volunteers, assisting our competent staff of eight, are the heart of what makes the Clinic “tick.” They have worked faithfully to serve over 3,000 patients this past year, filling over 750 prescriptions each and every week to distribute to the Clinic’s patients.

Diabetes is now the #1 medical diagnosis facing the majority of the Clinic’s patients. New and return patients are also treated for hypertension, elevated cholesterol, pregnancy, well women’s exams, and headaches, allergies, depression, and general aches and pains.

I now have the honor and privilege of thanking you for your faithfulness to the Clinic. You have been most generous in your prayers and your financial support for the past 15 years. However, our work is not yet done. The needs of the uninsured are rising, and clinic volunteers and staff look these needs in the face each and every day. With your help, Raphael Clinic will meet as many of these needs as possible ... we are counting on your continued generosity of time, talents, expertise, prayers, and financial support.

As we come to the close of another year, please take a few moments to appreciate the blessings you have received this year – your family, friends, faith, and employment or retirement status. If there has been abundance for you this year, we thank God for that. If your heart is so moved to share your abundance with others in need, please consider reaching out to your neighbors, your church members or to Raphael Clinic’s patients.

May God bless you this Christmas season and surprise you in 2013 with good things to come!

Sister Marge Novak, Clinic Director/Administrator

Excerpt from a 1997 Raphael Clinic brochure:

“Medical resources for the poor are limited, continue to be on the decline, and in Kerr County, Texas, this is no exception. People are continually looking to the churches for help with resources to meet their basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. In an attempt to answer this need and to bring the healing power of God into people’s lives, a free-standing health clinic was proposed.”

- Raphael Community Free Clinic History

Fifteen years later, 2012:

*Raphael Community Free Clinic remains **the community’s response to health care needs in our “Hill Country” service area.***

