

OLHC Patient: "I really feel I owe my life to these people."

When Pat, one of Our Lady of Hope Clinic's uninsured patients, moved to Wisconsin from Illinois to be nearer to her grandchildren this spring, she hadn't had her blood pressure checked in over a year.

"I avoided having it read because I had no way to solve it," she said.

Fortunately, as Pat was preparing to move, her daughter Cory met OLHC physicians Michael Kloess and Anne Volk Johnson, who offered an informational presentation on the clinic at Holy Mother of Consolation Church in Oregon, WI.

Though Pat will be eligible for Medicare next year, she said her blood pressure was so dangerously high that it would be risky to wait that



Our Lady of Hope Clinic Physicians Dr. Anne Volk Johnson and Dr. Michael Kloess

long. Only medication from an old prescription—which was running perilously low—kept her out of danger.

When Pat came in to Our Lady of Hope Clinic, her blood pressure was 200/100. Anything over 160/100 is considered severe hypertension. Dr. Johnson sent her home with a medication prescription that could be filled at local major pharmacies for only \$4 each month, and Pat has been back twice for checkups.

"I would have fallen though the cracks and probably died [without

Our Lady of Hope Clinic]," Pat said, noting that her income put her slightly above the maximum to be eligible for BadgerCare. "I didn't earn enough, but earned too much."

Pat remains grateful to the doctors and to the benefactors and donors who make the clinic's existence possible. "My life was literally saved by the kindness and generosity of others," she said. "I'm not exaggerating....I really feel I owe my life to these people."

For more information on hosting a presentation for your church or community group or on supporting Our Lady of Hope Clinic financially, call Steve Karlen at 608-445-2063 and visit ourladyofhopeclinic.org/.

Partnering to Serve Those in Need

Our Lady of Hope Clinic recognizes Epic Systems Corporation, the Madison West Kiwanis Club, and the Madison Metro Jaycees for their financial support of the clinic's free care for uninsured residents of Southern Wisconsin. Along with the support of our patient-benefactors and donors, these contributions ensure that Our Lady of Hope Clinic is able to provide even more top quality patient visits to those in need!

Our Lady of Hope Clinic

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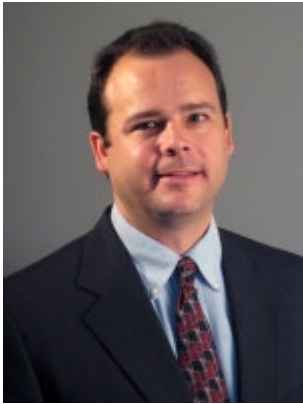
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A Message from Our Lady of Hope Clinic President Dr. Michael Kloess



On June 1, Our Lady of Hope Clinic celebrated its one-year anniversary of providing free care to uninsured members of the community. Of the many milestones we've passed along the way, I think this is the biggest because it means that for the last year, area residents without access to a primary care doctor haven't had to live in fear.

They haven't had to live in fear of how to get a critical prescription refilled when it runs out. They haven't had to live in fear, wondering if their blood sugar is out of control. They haven't had to live in fear of not being able to afford a routine physical examination necessary to get a job or participate in high school athletics.

What has the clinic brought uninsured residents of Southern Wisconsin? In a word we—true to our name—have brought them hope. Hope that their lack of medical insurance does not determine their destiny and that there is a place they can go to take control of their health.

So how are we doing? Since June of 2009, Our Lady of Hope Clinic has provided hundreds of free patient visits to those in need. More importantly, the number of uninsured recipients we see each month is increasing quickly. Late last year, we embarked upon an aggressive outreach campaign to let the poor and near-poor know we're here for them. As a result, May and June have easily been our busiest months yet.

Of course our success can't be measured simply by the number of people we serve. What makes Our Lady of Hope Clinic's work so important is the quality of the care we provide. Our recipients (as well as our benefactors) receive 30 minute appointments to get to the heart of their health concerns. But we recognize that skilled doctors with excellent training and strong medical expertise aren't quite enough to provide hope. It's the compassion, the love and the personal concern that lead our recipients to report "I felt very cared for in your clinic...so loved....I feel privileged to go there," or "I'm so grateful for this clinic. It's amazing!"

As always, none of this would be possible except through the generosity of our patient-benefactors and our donors whose investment in our mission will make it possible for us to provide free primary care for an even greater number of uninsured recipients in year two. Thank you!

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DID YOU KNOW?

As a patient-benefactor, you can conveniently schedule same-day clinic visits from your home computer.