

Villa Therese Catholic Clinic

Serving Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico Since 1937

Issue 43

Winter 2011



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From the Executive Director's Desk

Dear Friends of Villa Therese Catholic Clinic:

The coming of fall and winter always serves to remind us that it is time to get a flu shot, particularly if you find yourself in a high risk group because of age, medical condition, or if you have small children at home or you are around infants and children. Each year the Clinic purchases 100 doses of adult flu vaccine as part of our health service to the community for individuals 19 years of age and older. Flu vaccine for our child patients is provided to us free of charge by the New Mexico Department of Health's Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program to be utilized by children 6 months to 18 years of age.

Providing age appropriate childhood immunizations is a critical component of the Clinic and one that requires significant reporting to the State and other entities, including foundations that provide funding for this service. Why does the Clinic provide needed immunizations? Each time I write a grant to seek funds for program operations, I am reminded of the fact that the immunizations we provide contribute greatly to maintaining the eradication of infectious diseases such as smallpox, whooping cough, and measles.

Recent news of a whooping cough outbreak in Bernalillo County this year speaks of the importance that age appropriate childhood immunizations has on the health status of the community. Tell parents about our services and help keep the community healthy.

And if you follow state, national and global health news, you will come to realize that an influenza strain can return at any time as a pandemic. Such was the case in 1918 with the outbreak of the Spanish Flu. Even more compelling is the fact that flu vaccine was not licensed for public use until 1945. Each year, the contents of the flu vaccine is determined by a previous year or current strain to assure the best vaccine possible to keep you healthy. If you have not been immunized against the flu this year, call us to make an appointment..

Best Wishes For A Healthy Fall And Winter Season,

Joann V. Salazar, MSW

Executive Director

Wishing You A Merry Christmas &

Happy New Year!

From the Board of Directors, Staff,

Volunteers, & Patients





2011 Annual Holiday Fundraiser Slated For December 4, 2011

The Clinic's annual holiday fundraiser will be held on **Sunday, December 4th, at the Hotel Santa Fe**, starting at **6:00 p.m.** This annual event has been an important source of support for the Clinic, as well as a tremendous source of holiday fun and chances to win cash prizes for all who purchase tickets! In addition to hearty appetizers and luscious desserts, and live music by Ray and Helen Quintana, we will continue the popular **silent auction** for those who want to do holiday shopping for themselves and others! You will be able to bid on gift certificates, jewelry, art, and other items. Also, our fundraising efforts are greatly enhanced by individuals and businesses who sponsor the Holiday party. At the time of this newsletter, we wish to thank the following **sponsors**:

Angels (\$1000)

- Archdiocese of Santa Fe
- Catholic Health Initiatives
- Xerox Corporation
- Santa Maria de la Paz Catholic Community
- First National Bank of Santa Fe

Shepherds (\$500)

- The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi
- Thornburg Investment
- Los Alamos National Bank
- Guadalupe Credit Union
- Otero Consulting
- Dr. Anthony & Jackie Reeve
- Other: New Mexico Bank & Trust

Health Care Volunteers Needed

If you or someone you know is a licensed health care practitioner in the State of New Mexico and would like to volunteer at the Clinic, please contact Joann at 505-983-8561 or by e-mail @ vtcc@cnsf.com. The Clinic is looking for additional ophthalmologists, dentists, pediatricians, nurse practitioners and family practice physicians.

Volunteer health care practitioner medical malpractice coverage can be provided by the Federal Health Resource Services Administration. Once credentialed by our contractor, you can be added to this coverage. Be a dear and volunteer!



We will recognize by name all of our volunteers and donors for the 2011 calendar year in the spring/summer 2012 newsletter. Thank you for all you do!

\$20.00 Challenge to 2,000 Households!

What if every household receiving this newsletter were to make a \$20.00 tax deductible donation to the Villa Therese Catholic Clinic by December 31, 2011? 2,000 households can generate \$40,000 to help us meet our operational costs for 3 months.

Show your support for the Clinic and make a \$20.00 tax deductible donation today. Please use the enclosed remittance envelope or visit us on our website @www.vtccsf.org.

Think... Spring!

It's winter now, but spring will return soon and will bring with it our 21st annual geranium sale to benefit the Clinic. Please keep the Clinic in mind for your spring and summer landscaping needs, confident that your purchase of the vibrant, locally grown plants will enhance your garden and support the Clinic. Watch your mail for order forms! Visit our website for more information coming this spring.





A Salute To A Special Volunteer

**VTCC is blessed to have people all across the country supporting us.
This is a story of one of these people.**



Since 1980 a box arrives at 219 Cathedral Place from North Bend, Oregon about every two or three months. Inside are handmade clothes for children in a range of sizes. Shirts, pants, dresses – some with lace or a contrasting piping on the collar. All lovingly made by Nardina.

Nardina (who prefers that we do not give her last name) started sewing when she was 14 years old. After taking a sewing class at school and with guidance from her mother who was an accomplished seamstress, Nardina began making her own clothes. "That's one of the gifts God gave me and I love to sew," she said. And she continues to share that gift today over 65 years after picking up that first needle and thread.

Nardina learned about the VTCC through her mother who also donated handmade clothing to the clinic until she passed away in 1982. Because of her love of sewing and helping people — especially children— Nardina began making and sending clothes to the clinic from her home in Oregon.

"The clothes that are lovingly sewn are greatly appreciated by the patients," stated Joann Salazar, executive director. "So many of our families benefit from Nardina's work, which is a testament to patience, kindness, love and faith . May God Bless You for helping those in need."

Thank You to Our Pack-to-School Donors

Thanks to many generous donors, VTCC provided new backpacks filled with grade-appropriate school supplies to **120** happy children in grades K-8 in August. Families also received a \$40 gift card from JC Penney to help purchase school clothes and local hair stylists provided back-to-school haircuts for the children. Preparing our Clinic children for the school year has been a priority for many years. We extend a special thanks to all of our wonderful donors and volunteers who each year make the Pack-to-School such a great, fun success! We especially want to thank the following foundations and organizations:

LANL Foundation, Arizona Foundation for Educational Advancement, Santa Maria de la Paz Catholic Community, The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, the Kappa Delta Foundation, and an anonymous foundation.



Health Tips To Avoid the Flu

From Centers for Disease Control

- Get your seasonal flu shot.
- Cover your sneezes and coughs (e.g., use tissue or sneeze into your arm, not your hand).
- Discard used tissues in the trash, then wash your hands.
- Wash your hands often using soap and water or alcohol-based hand cleaners.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Stay home if you are sick and limit contact with others. Keep sick children home.
- Have a plan for helping to care for sick family members. Stock up on household, health, and emergency supplies, such as water, Tylenol, and non-perishable foods.
- Take action to stay healthy: Avoid contact with sick persons, clean eating utensils thoroughly, and find healthy ways to deal with stress and anxiety.

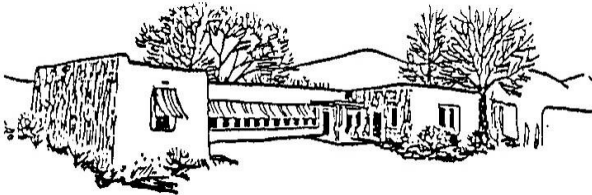


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1937—2011



Villa Therese Catholic Clinic Mission Statement

The Villa Therese Catholic Clinic is a private organization under religious auspices offering its services to the poor of Santa Fe, regardless of age, race, creed, gender, ethnicity or national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.

Our mission is to promote the healing ministry of Jesus among His poor through programs designed to meet basic medical and social well-being needs...the main outreach being toward children.

We commit ourselves to: respect individuals and their human dignity; to provide caring service for each individual; to support and promote life; to witness Christian values; to strive for competence in performance of services; and to work in cooperation with other helping agencies.

