

Buncombe County Health Center

Clinicians caring for the uninsured

In addition to the mandated services provided by all county Health Departments in North Carolina, the Buncombe County Health Center provides primary care in a large clinic that's run like a Family Practice office with excellent support services. Along with its own pharmacy and lab, the Health Center also features a Coumadin Clinic, nutrition support services, and two counselors available to help patients access appropriate mental health services.

It sounds busy and complicated, and it is. Many of the patients struggle with poverty, mental illness and substance abuse in addition to multi-system health problems.

A talented group of providers at BCHC are meeting this task head on.

"Our providers have trained at some of the best schools in the country like Duke and Georgetown," said Kathy Robinson, MD. "Many of us have worked in private practices. Some have taught in residency programs and some continue to teach MAHEC residents at the Health Center.

"The underlying motivation for all of us is the desire for the uninsured/underinsured to have access to holistic care in a manner that addresses the multiple challenges of this population."

LONG TERM PROVIDERS

Charles Murray, MD, and Cynthia Yancey, MD, have a combined service to the Health Center of almost 50 years. Dr. Murray started at the Health Center in 1978 straight out of the MAHEC residency program. He has served as a primary care physician and for several years as medical director. He grows Asian maples and gets together with friends weekly to play music.

Dr. Yancey, a former Kentucky farm girl, went into medicine to pursue a career in international health. She began working at the Health Center in 1987 and has found that the international community



Buncombe County Health Center providers, standing from left to right: Steve Swearingen MD, Stan Hamaker, MD, Lynn Rapp, FNP, Kathy Robinson, MD, Jennifer Mullendore, MD, Rick Gloor, DO, and Cynthia Yancey, MD. Seated are Theresa Oursler, FNP, Anita Price, PA, Barbara Newman, PA, and Mary Scott Hayes, MD. Not pictured are Paul Moore, FNP, and Charles Murray, MD.

has come to her. She specializes in Latino women's health and dreams of retiring to her daughter's land in Guinea, West Africa, building a little clinic, and helping the villagers.

NEWEST ON THE SCENE

Steve Swearingen, MD, Medical Director, Stan Hamaker, MD, Jennifer Mullendore, MD, and Theresa Oursler, FNP, have all started working at the Health Center during the last year. Dr. Swearingen worked in private practice for a year and in public health for six years in Anderson, SC, before he became the director of AnMed Community Health Clinics in Anderson where he served for 12 years before moving to Asheville.

Dr. Hamaker worked in a private practice in West Virginia for 18 years, then for Parkway Family Physicians in Asheville for four years before going to work at the Health Center. He is challenged by the wide variety of health issues facing our patients.

After residency training, Dr. Mullendore worked at the Moses Cone Urgent Care Center while she completed a Masters of Science in Public Health degree in Maternal and Child Health from UNC-Chapel Hill. She is a huge

Maryland Terps/ACC fan and enjoys hiking and playing volleyball.

Theresa Oursler worked as a nurse before becoming a nurse practitioner in 2001. Since then she has worked for Asheville Pediatrics, Wellspring Internal Medicine and WNC OB/GYN. She enjoys hiking and hunting for wild mushrooms. In fact, she is the one who poison control calls when they think someone has ingested poisonous mushrooms.

THE REST OF THE TEAM

Kathy Robinson, MD, has practiced at the Health Center for eight years. Before returning to her hometown of Asheville, she taught in the Family Medicine Residency Program at Duke University.

Lynn Rapp, FNP, worked in a private practice for five years and as a wound care consultant for one year before coming to the Health Center two years ago. She runs the Employee Health Clinic providing acute care services to all Buncombe County employees and their families.

Mary Scott Hayes, MD, graduated from the MAHEC residency program and worked at Ravenscroft Family Health Center before coming to the Health

Center three years ago. Her desire is to provide high quality, compassionate healthcare to our county's medically underserved. She likes to mountain bike, read, garden and play with her two young sons.

Paul Moore, FNP, has worked at the Health Center for the past seven years. He feels drawn to working with the uninsured and enjoys the camaraderie of working with like-minded providers. He worked as an ICU nurse for 15 years before becoming a family nurse practitioner.

Anita Price, PA, has been working at the Health Center as a Physician Assistant for the past eight years. Prior to joining the Health Center, she worked at Community Family Practice, Appalachian Hall and Thoms Rehab.

Barbara Newman, PA, worked in a private practice office two years before going to work at the Health Center eight years ago.

Richard Gloor, DO, worked in a private practice for 12 years before moving to Asheville in 2000. He worked in an alternative medicine practice here before starting at the Health Center in 2001. He believes that the Health Center offers an excellent model for caring for an increasingly uninsured population.

Dogwood Update



Observers of the Dogwood Project have probably noted that the skin of the building is going on. First the sheathing went up (yellow), then a spray-on air barrier was applied (green), and now brick is being installed (red and beige). This occurred first in the area adjacent to West Tower, but will soon move to the west face right along the loop road. In December we took delivery of the air handlers (heat and a/c). The crane is scheduled to be leaving soon, and the work will focus on getting the roof and walls "dried-in." Within the building, work continues with the installation of electrical, mechanical and plumbing. Both the 4th and 6th floor are almost ready for sheetrock. Keep watching! Soon the Dogwood Project will look like a real building and not just a shell!

Celebrating Service in January!

35 Years

Barbara M. Byrd Human Resources

30 Years

Margaret L. Goode Laundry Pack Room

25 Years

Lisa M. Barnett Pharmacy
Sharon E. Chandler Radiology Diag.
Linda M. Young General Surgery

20 Years

Terry Cawthorn Operating Room
Amy G. Hogue Neurosciences
Kimberly R. Nelon Human Resources
Julia C. Parker Anesthesia Support
Nancy S. Walker Maternal Fetal Med.

15 Years

Jan M. Bailey CS&D
Jameta Earley Cath Lab Recovery
Catherine A. Hebert CS&D

Jayme D. Jackson
Rebecca H. Ledford
Deborah A. Pettit
Robert S. Robinson
Yvonne T. Stillwell
Linda J. Swoveland

10 Years

James E. Buckner
Renee M. Carpenter
Deborah R. Darity
Andrew J. Evans
Linda K. Gibson
Jessica J. Greene
Sally A. Griebel
Susan A. Kittel
Jill L. Labelle
John N. Lauzon
Cindy L. Meyer
Sheila B. Rathbone
Susan E. Sutherland

Facility Dispatch
ASC
Emergency Dept.
Storeroom
Weight Management
Health Info. Mgmt.

Central Transport
Operating Room
Child Development
NICU
Audit Services
6 Pulmonary Adult Med.
Health Ed. Center
HIM Transcription
ASC
Copestone
Operating Room
Lab Chemistry
Research Institute

5 Years

Tatyana Buksh Research Institute
Judy L. Davis Low Vision Center
Angela R. Franks Lab Outpt
Cheryl C. Greenlee Lab Phlebotomy
Tammy D. Israel Senior Services
Sara R. Kilpatrick Emergency Dept.
John P. Kincaid Neurosciences
Tiffany D. LaFontaine Lab Microbiology
Ann L. Maude-Simpson Rehab. Services
Annie K. Meyers CVRU
William P. Owens, Jr. Critical Care
Deborah L. Parham Anesthesia Support
Richard M. Sackett Copestone
John P. Stineman Emergency Dept.
Ian T. Welliver Orthopedic Trauma
Stephanie C. Whitaker Emergency Dept.
Clarence D. Whitmire Security
Cynthia M. Zdanski Radiology