



*Fall 2008
Issue 6*

Opening the Lines of Communication

Laura Cudzilo
Clinic Co-Director

As the days get shorter and the weather gets colder, the end of another semester looms closer. It has been a busy and eventful few months at the Magis Clinic, and we hope that the articles that follow in this newsletter will provide you with an overview of the changes we have made and the new projects we have undertaken.

One exciting development is our effort to collaborate more with and learn more about the SHARING Clinic run by medical and health professions students at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Though both working toward the goal of providing quality healthcare for the underserved individuals of Omaha, our clinics, until now, have had little communication with one another. I recently met with several medical student members of the SHARING Clinic board, and plans are underway to get our officers together to discuss each clinic's philosophy, structure, "specialty" clinics, and fundraising strategies. We will also be helping with and participating in the UNMC SHARING the Vision conference for student-run clinics in March of 2009. In addition, the SHARING Clinic officer in charge of translation services and I hope to put together an online training program for our volunteer translators to educate them in the proper method of translating in the medical setting. We hope this will make for an increased quality of care and accuracy of diagnosis for our non-English-speaking patients. Working together, we will no doubt be better able to meet the challenges both of our clinics face.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of the Magis Clinic. We wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season!

Another Step Forward: the Completion of Our Expansion

Thuydung Trinh
Clinic Co-Director

A year ago, we announced the expansion of our clinic within the Siena Francis House. This fall, we are overjoyed to announce that it was completed in May of 2008.

Let us first take a moment to look back at the journey of the Magis Clinic from its inception. In the spring of 2004, a group of 8 medical students collaborated to apply for the AAMC Caring for Community grant. That fall, the Magis Clinic opened its doors to provide health care for the homeless and indigent patients of Omaha. Inside those doors was one small patient room with a second "room" closed off with a curtain. The fall of 2005 marked an improvement when Magis moved to the new clinic at the new Siena/Francis House Baright Center. In this building, we had two patient rooms and a small bench in the office area for performing labs. Since then, we have added the Psychiatric Clinic and the STD Clinic while the patient load for the Acute Care Clinic continues to grow. We have now seen over 1500 patients, with a total of over 3000 visits in 4 years.

With neither a lack of patients nor a lack of volunteers, we immediately set out to design a larger clinic space after receiving a

generous donation from the Remember to Share Foundation. An expansion of 600 square feet, the new layout includes three exam rooms, a multipurpose (lab/procedure/medication counseling) room, and a built-in medication closet. Previously, there have been several times when we began patient visits in the main office area. With our newly remodeled space, we have been able to care for more patients without compromising the confidentiality, dignity, respect, and quality care they deserve. In addition, with increased exam space, we have been able to create more opportunities for Creighton medical students to have the Magis volunteer experience. Last but not least, our newly expanded clinic will also provide the space needed for additional clinics such as the flu vaccination clinic and a shoe fitting/give-away clinic planned for November and December of this year.

As we continue moving forward with this beautiful new clinic, we want to thank all who have helped make Magis Clinic what we are today. Each day we spent in the new clinic is another day we are grateful for the generosity and dedication of countless benefactors, donors, volunteers, and previous officers.

Rainy Weather No Match for Avid Golfers Supporting the Magis Clinic

Betsy Hassebroek
Fundraiser

Despite a torrential downpour, a record-setting 72 doctors, students, and community leaders attended the 2008 Annual Magis Golf Classic at Ironwood Golf and Country Club on September 12th, 2008, raising \$26,000 for the Magis Clinic. Proceeds from



Winners of the 2008 Magis Classic: Dr. Kevin Cawley, Dr. David Deavers,
Dr. Robert Troia, not pictured - Mr. Patrick J. Borchers



Father Schlegel prepares to swing while other Magis supporters observe.

the tournament will be used to purchase medications and supplies as well as for general operating expenses of the clinic.

Golfers played a 4 person Texas Scramble format. Elite sponsors for this year's tournament were RDG Planning and Design and Creighton University Medical Center. Dr. Kevin Cawley, Dr. David Deaver, Dr. Robert Troia, and Mr. Patrick Borchers were in the Winner's Circle.. Flag prizes were given as well as prizes for 1st and 2nd place. Of note, Father Schlegel won the flag prize for "Closest to the Water Without Going In."

Mark your calendars for next year's Magis Golf Classic which will be held September 11, 2009 at the Ironwood Golf and Country Club.

STD Clinic Update

Paul Decker
STD Clinic Manager

On Monday January 5th, the

Magis Clinic will celebrate two years of the STD clinic. In 2007 we began an exciting new service to more fully address our mission of standing in the healthcare gap that many homeless and low income individuals experience. From that day we have offered free, confidential and respectful STD testing along with counseling and treatment from our location at the Siena Francis house on the first and third Mondays of each month. We currently test for and treat gonorrhea, chlamydia, trichomonas, and bacteria vaginosis. Recently, we began HIV testing and counseling services in partnership with the Nebraska AIDS Project. This new service will allow us to more fully serve our patients as well as broaden the educational opportunities for our volunteers.

Chlamydia and gonorrhea, in particular, are staggering problems in the Omaha area. According to the Douglas County Health Department the number of reported chlamydia infections in

2005 was 578.1 per 100,000 residents, compared to the national average of 332.5. The number of new gonorrhea infections was 156.7 per 100,000 residents compared to a national average of 115.6. While new infections of gonorrhea have been trending downwards in the past 3 years, chlamydia infections have been climbing to record numbers over the past decade. By all accounts, these numbers are on the low side of the reality facing the Omaha area and are likely much higher among homeless and low income individuals.

Since the first STD clinic, we have emphasized the need for education and counseling as a vital component of our testing and treatment services. It is our goal to raise our patients' awareness about their sexual health. We do this by instructing all volunteers to take an in-depth sexual history and taking time to get to know each patient so as to better advise each individual on safe practices.

Along with offering HIV testing and referral services we have several goals for the future of the STD clinic. We need to do a better job of reaching out to women. The subtle nature and devastating effects of these infections in females necessitates clinics like ours educating females and encouraging them to be tested. Street youth in general are undeserved by the Magis Clinic. There are a variety of factors that contribute to this reality, including the fact that many youth do not feel comfort-

able in traditional homeless shelters. Nonetheless, there is a real need for testing, treatment, and general healthcare in this demographic. In the next few months, we hope to come up with creative and practical means of meeting these needs.

I would like to close by thanking all the dedicated physician and student volunteers, who have given of their time to help serve our patients. Special thanks to a few docs who have given multiple evenings to the STD clinic: Dr. Maureen Fleming, Dr. Lisa Rice, Dr. Al Fleming, and Dr. Lee Morrow. As always, we are grateful to all the physicians, who take the time to care for our patients and further our education. Questions about the STD clinic? Email Paul Decker, pauldecker@creighton.edu.

Psych Clinic Update

Marley Doyle
Psychiatry Clinic Manager

This fall has proven to be a busy one at the Magis Psych Clinic! Patient numbers continue to rise with the addition of some new features to our clinic. Thanks to cooperation from the Charles Drew Clinic, we are able to offer free transportation to and from for any patients, who do not have the means. As cold weather approaches, it is safe to say that the patients, as well as the clinic, are very grateful! We are also now partnering with the Creighton University School of Pharmacy to help educate patients on the medications they receive. Dr.

Paul L. Price, is a Clinical Pharmacy Psychiatry Specialist, who consults with Inpatient Psychiatry Services in the Omaha area. We are better able to serve our patients with the help of Dr. Price and the pharmacy students.

The Magis Psychiatry Clinic also had the opportunity to try our broadcasting skills in October. Magis Officers Betsy Hassebrook, Chris Holley, Thuydung Trinh, and Marley Doyle appeared on the show "Not Alone" on KCOR 660AM. This show, hosted by Diana Waggoner with the Kim Foundation, allowed listeners to hear about all of the services the Magis Clinic has to offer and the importance of treating mental health issues of the homeless. To hear the radio broadcast, please see our website! (<http://medicine.creighton.edu/magis/>)

The Psych Clinic was also nominated for the Eli Lilly "Heroes in the Fight" Award. This award recognizes clinics and individuals, who participate in community mental health. Though we did not receive the award, we were flattered to have the recognition. Here's hoping for next year!

Physician Spotlight: Dr. Lee Morrow

Meagan McCarthy
Assistant Clinic Manager

"Just think about this amazing gift that we can give as doctors. I think it's pretty incredible and that's why I have always made

volunteering a part of my life," said Dr. Morrow when asked about why he volunteers at Magis. Dr. Morrow has incorporated service and volunteering into his daily regime since well before his days at Magis. From volunteering as a medical student at the free clinic at the University of Iowa to volunteering at inner city clinics in St. Louis, MO and Savannah, GA, Dr. Morrow has made service an integral part of his life.

Even with a busy schedule involving shuttling two young boys (ages six and nine) between hockey practices/games and fulfilling his duties as Director of the Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Fellowship Program at CUMC, Dr. Morrow still finds time to volunteer regularly at Magis. Dr. Morrow has also been a part of the "Honor Flights" program (Heartland Honor Flight is the Nebraska chapter of the national Honor Flight program), which provides free-of-charge trips to Washington D.C. for veterans to see the World War II Memorial, which



Dr. Lee Morrow

was dedicated in May 2004. Dr. Morrow served as a guardian for the WWII veterans, ensuring that they could fully experience their memorial without have to worry about their health. Dr. Morrow finds true joy in his volunteering, which thankfully, makes him a regular volunteer at Magis.

Born in Eldora, IA and raised in Montague, MI, Dr. Morrow had his heart set on becoming either a family physician or a professional hockey player. Luckily for us, Dr. Morrow chose medicine for a career and attended medical school at the University of Iowa. His path changed, however, when he discovered his passion for internal medicine. He then went on to do a pulmonary and critical care fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis, which eventually brought him to CUMC. Besides his work at CUMC and his volunteer responsibilities, Dr. Morrow enjoys traveling and exploring the outdoors with his family. Moreover,

Dr. Morrow is a Harley enthusiast, but his busy schedule has limited his Harley time. We regret adding to the cobwebs on his motorcycle, but we are very thankful to Dr. Morrow for his generous donation of time, teaching skills, and excellent care that has been contributed to the Magis clinic. We look forward to your continuing participation at Magis!

Diabetic Retinopathy Clinic

Michele Peggs
Special Events Coordinator

Magis Clinic continues to expand its services above and beyond the acute care clinic. This past May, Dr. Ira Priluck joined with Magis to offer a special retinopathy clinic at the Creighton Eye Center for individuals with diabetes. With help from Al, our shuttle driver, we were able to screen people not only from the Sienna/Francis House, but also the

Stephen Center and Salvation Army. In the past, this clinic was offered at the Sienna/Francis House; however, this year with encouragement from Dr. Priluck, the clinic was moved to the Creighton Eye Center not only to utilize optimal equipment, but also to give the students a better learning experience. The School of Pharmacy also participated in the retinopathy clinic by offering extra education and information about diabetes and retinopathy to all of the patients. Although the turnout was slightly lower than retinopathy clinics in the past, at this new location we were still able to serve six patients from multiple shelters in the area. Luckily no one was in need of any interventions at the time although we did uncover a definite need for eyeglasses in this population. In the future, we wish to continue to offer this service to our patients and hopefully expand our scope to include vision correction and glaucoma care.

Happy Holidays !

- Magis Clinic

The 2008-2009 Magis Clinic Officers:

Directors: Laura Cudzillo Thuydung Trinh Kate Zaluski	Volunteer Coordinator: Kelly Rosso Secretary: Kashmir Singh Treasurer: Chris Holley
Clinic Manager: Kim-Thuy Truong Assistant Clinic Managers: Thuy Koll Meagan McCarthy	Supply Manager: Amy Heller Assistant Supply Manager: Michael Smith Special Events Coordinators: April Singleton Michele Peggs
STD Clinic Manager: Paul Decker Assistant STD Clinic Manager: Lyndsay Olsen Psych Clinic Manager: Marley Doyle	Public Relations: TaSheitha Anazia Fundraiser: Betsy Hassebroek

For more information about Magis Clinic please visit:
<http://medicine.creighton.edu/magis/>

We Care at the Magis Clinic...

Below is a detailed description about each of the clinical services that the Magis Clinic offers to the uninsured population:

Acute Care Clinic:

The Acute Care Clinic treats those with basic medical problems. If indicated, referrals for specialty care are given. Patients that need immediate attention are sent free-of-charge to Creighton University Medical Center. This clinic is open every Saturday from 2:00pm-6:00pm at the Siena/Francis House Baright Shelter.

Psychiatry Clinic:

The Psychiatry Clinic treats patients on a transitional basis until they can be registered to receive services from Douglas County. This clinic is open every other Saturday from 11:00am-1:00pm at the Siena/Francis House Baright Shelter. However, a referral is required to be seen at this clinic. Please email magisclinic@creighton.edu or call (888) 218-4692 for more information.

STD Clinic:

The STD Clinic offers treatment for many sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy testing, and patient education and counseling. Referrals to pre-natal care providers and various health care clinics for follow-up are made as needed. The STD clinic is open from 5:30pm-7:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month at the Siena/Francis House Baright Shelter.

Diabetic Education Classes:

The Diabetic Education Classes provide medical support and healthy lifestyle education to patients who suffer from diabetes. It also serves as a time where diabetic patients can interact and learn from one another. These classes are offered the 1st Saturday of the month at 12:30 pm at the Day Services Center, which is just south of the Siena/Francis House Baright Shelter.

Pediatric Vaccination Clinic:

The pediatric vaccination clinic is a yearly event held in the summer to provide physical exams and vaccines to school-age children. The clinic is held at Creighton Family Health Care Florence and includes vision and hearing screenings, lead and hemoglobin levels, urinalysis, and physical exams.

A Sincere Thank-you to Our Volunteer Physicians

We deeply appreciate our volunteer physicians' commitment to service and teaching. Without their generous assistance, our work at the Magis Clinic would not be possible!

Dr. Erica Cichowski
Dr. Al Fleming
Dr. Maureen Fleming
Dr. William Gossman
Dr. Bruce Houghton
Dr. Nancy Koster
Dr. William Marcil
Dr. Joseph McCaslin

Dr. Lee Morrow
Dr. James Phalen
Dr. Lisa Rice
Dr. Hermant Satpathy
Dr. Peter Silberstein
Dr. Truc Tran
Dr. Guy Williams
Dr. Frederick Youngblood

We always welcome new Volunteer Physicians at Magis Clinic:

Please email: magisclinic@creighton.edu
Clinic hours are Saturday afternoons from 2-6 pm



Magis Clinic

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