



*Spring 2009  
Issue 7*

Dear Magis Supporters,

Each spring, as we plan for the year ahead, we pause to reflect over our journey through the past year. It has been a year of much excitement at the Magis Clinic as we continued to expand our services while we strived to improve our existing programs.

The newly renovated clinic has provided the means for us to do more for both our volunteers and patients. With the added space, we immediately invited more students to volunteer for each clinic, added computers for students to access educational resources online, invited Dr. Price & pharmacy students to provide patient education at the psychiatric clinic, and improved transportation for patients from other shelters who need care at our clinic. In addition to the existing clinics, we also held flu shot clinics, worked with other organizations to set up the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Project Homeless Connect Health Fair, and collaborated with Dr. Tim Fitzgibbons and the “Our Hearts to Your Soles” program to provide foot exams and handed out shoes to the homeless in the Omaha Community. Both met very essential needs of the residents of Siena Francis House & neighboring shelters. All this could not have happened without your encouragement, time, and contributions throughout the past year. Thank you for volunteering with us and supporting us in all aspects.

Looking ahead, not only do we continue to provide our current services, we are also working on several exciting projects. Presently, we are helping to plan for and will participate in both the UNMC SHARING the Vision conference for student-run clinics and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Project Homeless Connect Health Fair in March. In progress is the collaboration between Magis Clinic, Sacred Heart Ministry Center, Creighton’s Psychiatry department and Social Work department to develop a Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinic to serve the uninsured and homeless youth of Omaha. To better care for our Spanish-speaking patients, we are actively recruiting and scheduling volunteers to be on call for Spanish translation services during our regular clinic hours. We also hope to move from paper charting to electronic medical records sometime within the next year or two. With excitement, we welcome the energy and creativity of the newly elected officers and look forward to the coming months.

As we continue our journey and strive to fulfill the mission of the Magis Clinic, we would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to all of our graduating seniors. Amy, Laura, Kate, Kelly, Lyndsay, Michael, and Paul, thank you for your leadership, dedication, hard work, and friendship during the time you’ve been with Magis. Best wishes to all of you in residency; we know you will shine no matter where you go.

Sincerely,  
Magis Officers

Thuydung Trinh  
Clinic Co-Director

## Volunteering at Magis- A Student's Perspective

Laura Sullivan  
Co-Fundraiser

As an M1, I find myself constantly saying "I'm a first year so I don't know anything yet". After years of jumping through the hoops of pre-med classes, summer research, and the dreaded MCAT, my classmates and I are only just beginning our foray into the world of medicine. This semester, as we slowly wade our way through the intricacies of the immune system and relative risk reductions in evidence-based medicine, we are constantly looking for ways to make our studies seem more clinically relevant. I have found that there is no textbook clinical correlate box that could ever compare to the experience of spending an afternoon at the Magis Clinic.

At the clinic, we take vitals, attempt to gather histories, and learn to chart in the SOAP note format. Thankfully, we are paired with third and fourth year students who guide us, fill in any gaps, and give us advice on how to improve our skills and become more confident in our exams. The best part is that, amidst all this learning, we are really making a difference in the lives of our patients. They are thankful for access to healthcare, and we are equally grateful for their patience and willingness to trust us. Of course there are some fumbles and embarrassing moments along the way. The first time I volunteered at the clinic I panicked when I couldn't find the radial pulse on the ulnar side. The second time I discovered that having my stethoscope turned to the bell rather than the diaphragm makes it impossible take a blood pressure reading. But I would never trade these blunders because I am learning and I am slowly becoming more

comfortable at the clinic doing something that I truly love.

## Magis Wine Tasting a Success!

Betsy Hassebroek  
Fundraiser

About 100 community members gathered at the DoubleTree Hotel for the second annual Wine and Cheese Extravaganza and Silent Auction on January 23rd. Event goers nibbled on cheese, sipped on wine and bid on a variety of items, raising \$3,500 for the Magis Clinic.

Event goers enjoyed spirited bidding wars on silent auction items that ranged from private winetastings to a Kyle Korver signed Creighton basketball poster. Wine expertise was provided by a team from Johnson Brothers Distributing Company, while an assortment of fine cheeses were donated by Hy-Vee Food Stores.

After such a successful evening, Magis leaders are already discussing

how to make next year's event even more successful!

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

## Pediatric Vaccination Clinic

Michele Peggs  
Special Events Coordinator

The Magis Pediatric Vaccination Clinic was an overwhelming success this past July. The clinic moved to the North Omaha area this year, offering services at the Creighton Florence clinic. Magis volunteers, with the help of Dr. Thomas Hansen, Dr. Sandra Baumberger and several Family Practice residents served over fifty pediatric patients in need of school physicals and immunizations. In addition to the required vaccines for school, the clinic also offered vision, hearing and lead screening as well.



*Michele Peggs, Marcia Cusic, and Dr. Thomas Hansen at the 2009 Wine Tasting*



*Dr. Al Fleming and Dr. and Mrs. John Hurley at the 2009 Wine Tasting*

There were several things that set our clinic apart however. In the waiting room, a booth was set up offering nutritional education. The Omaha Fire Department also stopped by and offered some tips on fire safety. The biggest attraction in the waiting room was a clown who not only entertained the children but also provided several balloon creations and face painting! In addition to all of these services, the Magis Clinic also provided a backpack filled with school supplies to every child seen in the clinic that day.

This year we will continue to our commitment to the pediatric population in need. With the help of our donors, doctors and volunteers, we hope to not only expand the number of patients this year, but also hope to provide services at more than one location. Prior to this year, we served primarily the South Omaha neighborhoods. However, after the overwhelming success at the Florence Clinic, we hope to target both North and South Omaha communities. Backpacks and school supplies will again be given to all that participate in the clinic, as well as information on health and wellness. With the help of Creighton and the

community, we will again be a success.

## **“Happy Feet”-Magis Shoes Clinic for Men**

Kim-Thuy Truong  
Acute Care Manager

10 toes, 26 bones, many ligaments and small muscles. Outside of medicine, we hardly pay attention to

this part of our body unless it gives us trouble. If we need a pair of new shoes, we'll just run out to the store and buy a new, nicely fitted pair. No problem. It's a different story for the homeless. They wear whatever shoes are available to them, whether or not they are too large or too small or are the cause of foot calluses or ulcers.

This past December the Magis Clinic, Dr. Timothy Fitzgibbons, Dr. Dave Inda and Dr. Katie Grier, along with volunteers from Lifestyles and Hanger Orthotics and Prosthetics and the Bergan Mercy Wound Care Clinic, and Creighton medical students decided to answer this problem with the opening of our first “Our Hearts to Your Soles” Magis Shoes Clinic for Men. We provided 93 homeless men and 4 homeless women from the Siena Francis House, Open Door Mission, and Salvation Army a foot examination, foot fitting, and a pair of new shoes. In addition, each man and woman received a warm hat, a pair of thick mittens, and a gift bag of



*Boxes of donated shoes for the first “Our Hearts to Your Soles” Magis Shoe Clinic this fall.*



*The group of physicians and volunteers at the first Magis Shoe Clinic Fall, 2008.*

paste, face and hand lotion, Chap Stick and cough drops.

These items were popular as many men and women lined up outside of our clinic, waiting to be seen. Some came in wearing a size 11 and came out wearing a size 10. Diabetic patients walked away with a treated ulcer and a pair of properly fitted shoes to prevent future foot ulceration. One man stated that he would wear his new shoes to a job interview with Sara Lee Bakery. Another man has a size 13 left foot and a size 11 right foot due to polio and has been wearing size 11 on both feet. We were able to give him a nicer and larger pair of shoes to make his daily walking experience comfortable. Although most of the stories were a success, there were a few surprises. Two men returned the perfectly fitted pair of shoes for larger sizes because they were used to walking in larger shoes with more “room to breathe.”

Despite their different stories, the men and women were all grateful

for the gifts with their “Thank you” and “God Bless.” Smiles shone on their faces when they put on their new shoes or as they lightly danced around the Siena Francis House. For this winter, these men’s and women’s feet, hands, and heads are protected from the harsh Omaha weather.

Thank you to everyone who has made “Our Hearts to Your Soles” Magis Shoes Clinic for Men possible, including the Magis Clinic officers, Mike Lohman and Galen Thies from Lifestyles, the staff at Hanger especially Cris Rever and Diane Cernik, and third year medical students Josh Sole and Lucas Christensen. Next year, we hope to provide shoes for more homeless women as well as reach out to other homeless men and women from other shelters.

## Psych Clinic Update

Marley Doyle  
Psych Clinic Manager

The Magis Psychiatry Clinic is gearing up for another busy semester!

We are currently still undertaking our main project of beginning the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinic. We have been working closely with the Sacred Heart Ministry Center (located at 22nd and Binney), as it looks like this may be the new location for the clinic. Our main goal is to serve uninsured or homeless youth in the Omaha area, and we anticipate a great response within the community. Our tentative starting date is late Spring to early Summer, so stay tuned for more details!!

Magis Psychiatry Clinic is also working very hard to have an interdisciplinary focus, seeing as psychiatric care involves so many aspects of health care. Last semester, we worked on an alliance with the School of Pharmacy and have had wonderful results! This summer,



*One of the 97 homeless men and women who gratefully received a new pair of shoes at the fall Magis Shoe Clinic.*

we are working to have a relationship with the Department of Social Work at Creighton University. We are so pleased to be working with Dr. Barbara Harris and senior student Emily Knezetic in our future endeavors! Dr. Harris began her 17th year at Creighton in 2008 where she serves as the Field Practicum Coordinator for the Department of Social Work. She has served on several community boards including Child Saving Institute, YWCA, Uta Hallee, Mammel Foundation Root-to-Fruit and Holy Name School and was a founding member of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council. Dr. Harris and Emily will be working closely with the families of the Child and Adolescent Clinic to address needs such as Medicaid and Food Stamp eligibility and education about community resources, including area mental health therapists.

The Magis Psychiatry Clinic is so grateful for the extreme amount of support we have from the Creighton community! If you would like to become involved, please contact Marley Doyle at Marley-Doyle@creighton.edu.

## Top 5 Ways You Can Help the Magis Clinic

Allie Rasband-Lindquist  
Public Relations

1. Donate your time! We are always looking for new physician volunteers. (email: [magis-clinic@creighton.edu](mailto:magis-clinic@creighton.edu))
2. Donate any extra in-date medications to the clinic. (email Meagan at: [mmm69997@creighton.edu](mailto:mmm69997@creighton.edu))
3. Get the word out to your uninsured patients. We currently have an Acute Care, STD, and

Psych Clinic (hours are posted on Page 6).

4. Promote the clinic to your colleagues! We need all the support that we can get.
5. Donate money to the clinic! (email Betsy at: [ech45783@creighton.edu](mailto:ech45783@creighton.edu))

## MD Spotlight: Dr. William Marcil

[wmarcil@creighton.edu](mailto:wmarcil@creighton.edu)

Mei Li Kwong  
Supply Manager



Dr. William Marcil is an associate professor at CUMC in Adult Psychiatry who practices as a staff psychiatrist at the Omaha VA and faculty for the outpatient Creighton clinic. He received his MD at the University of Texas Health Center in Houston, Texas. He began private practice in 1991 and joined Creighton in 1999. Currently, Dr. Marcil has been volunteering his Saturday mornings every other week at the Magis Psychiatry Clinic. Dr. Marcil has been a tremendous support to the newest Magis Clinic and we would like to show our appreciation for him by

shining the “MD Spotlight” on this generous physician.

Dr. James Phalen, who is the advisor for the Magis Clinic, began recruiting Dr. Marcil when he was still a premedical student. Dr. Phalen invited young pre-med Marcil to work at the Indio-Chicano Clinic (now called One World Community Health Center) that offers health care to the underserved. This facilitated Dr. Marcil’s later desire to become more involved in the Magis Clinic which has a similar mission to provide free healthcare to the homeless and uninsured.

Dr. Marcil was also inspired to volunteer with Magis Clinic by his partner in private practice, Robert Dale Jones. Dr. Jones was the first psychiatrist that began working with the homeless population. Dr. Jones retired in the 1990’s but continued to work for another ten years as a volunteer psychiatrist for the homeless. Dr. Marcil sees his work at the Magis Psychiatry Clinic as a way to assist and maintain the work that was began by Dr. Jones. Dr. Marcil also credits community liaison, Marilyn Wegehaupt MSN, RN, and medical student, Marley Doyle, for doing much of the work that keeps the Magis Psychiatry clinic running smoothly. He thought that the Magis Clinic was run very competently and efficiently and “if the students did all the work, who am I to say no?”

Dr. Marcil says that he became involved in Magis because he is “very much a team player” and Magis Clinic “appealed to [his] team mentality.” All of us at Magis Clinic would like to thank Dr. William Marcil for being a partner with the Magis Psychiatry Clinic. We’re glad to have you on our team.

## The 2009-2010 Magis Clinic Officers:

Directors: Chris Holley

Thuy Koll

Thuydung Trinh

Clinic Manager: Danielle Thurtle

Assistant Clinic Managers: Amanda Pope

Kelsi Lacock

STD Clinic Managers: Derrick Brown

Betsy Gilbertson

Psych Clinic Manager: Marley Doyle

Volunteer Coordinator: Amandeep Mahal

Secretary: Kashmir Singh

Treasurer: John Schwerkoske

Supply Managers: Mei Li Kwong

Meagan McCarthy

Special Events Coordinators: Kim-Thuy Truong

Michele Peggs

Public Relations: Allie Rasband-Lindquist

Fundraisers: Betsy Hassebroek

Laura Sullivan

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](mailto:magisclinic@creighton.edu) or call (888) 218-4692 for more information.

### ***Sexual Health 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Temple Brannan  
Dr. John Cannella  
Dr. Erica Cichowski  
Dr. Al Fleming  
Dr. Maureen Fleming  
Dr. James Frock  
Dr. William Gossman  
Dr. Edward Horowitz  
Dr. Bruce Houghton  
Dr. Nick Jaszczak  
Dr. Nancy Koster

Dr. Joseph McCaslin  
Dr. Lee Morrow  
Dr. James Phalen  
Dr. Lisa Rice  
Dr. Hemant Satpathy  
Dr. Shailendra Saxena  
Dr. Peter Silberstein  
Dr. Robert Townley  
Dr. Truc Tran  
Dr. Guy Williams  
Dr. Frederick Youngblood

***We always welcome new Volunteer Physicians at Magis Clinic:***

Please email: [magisclinic@creighton.edu](mailto:magisclinic@creighton.edu)  
Clinic hours are Saturday afternoons from 2-6 pm



**Magis Clinic**

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