

MAYES COUNTY

MAYES COUNTY RESOURCE BOARD

Established in 1999



This is a story of how a community can and does work together once the gaps in services are clearly identified and everyone involved understands a shared vision. Although several health issues were identified, the community felt that the best place to start was to ensure that everyone in the community had access to primary care and affordable medications. Once this issue was addressed then many of the other priorities would fall into place. As with most small communities, funding, or lack thereof, was an issue. But the community answered the call to action and many people donated money, supplies and labor to renovate a dilapidated duplex into a clinic that would serve everyone. More than three years in the making, the Mayes County Free Clinic now sees over 250 patients a month and continues to be operated 100% on the donations of the community. The tireless dedication of all the volunteers made the clinic possible. The community also has a Women's Health Resource Council. Over the years they have sponsored many health fairs focusing on breast health awareness, mammograms, the importance of exercise and nutrition, depression and other mental health issues and parenting classes. This outreach to the community has increased the awareness of the importance of prevention versus treatment.

Activities

- July 1999 – social service agencies, local doctors and pharmacists met to discuss the unmet needs of the community. The interest of the group was with opening a free medical clinic with free pharmacy.
- January 2001 – local resident donates an unused duplex near the health department.
- February to November 2001 – a retired doctor and two residents began the remodel project on the Free Clinic. The plumbing, cabinetry, electrical, heat/air labor was donated as well as many of the supplies needed to complete the project.

- Start up funding came in the form of a grant from Jock Mayor Foundation in the amount of \$46,566.00. More than \$40,000 came from local donations from various groups.
- February 28, 2002 – The Mayes County Free Clinic opens to the public.
- Women's Resource Council conducts several health fairs throughout the county.

Outcomes

- All the staff, doctors and pharmacists are volunteers.
- 250 residents of Mayes County are served every month.
- More than 18 patients seen per night between 6 to 9 pm.
- Filling 90-100 prescriptions per night.
- Completing 15-20 new indigent medical applications during a three hour period.
- Have filled over \$250,000 worth of prescriptions for free to the medically underserved.
- Dental clinic to open once a month starting in January 2004.
- Established a planned giving campaign to sustain the clinic.

Participants

- First United Methodist Church (FUMC), Pryor
- United Methodist Women Group of FUMC, Pryor
- United Methodist Men Group of FUMC, Pryor
- Marvin Nelson & Lillian Rose Hammer Benevolent Fund
- Rep. Larry Rice & Sen. Stratton Taylor
- Optimist Service Club
- Lion's Service Club
- Sertoma Service Club
- Rotary Service Club
- St. Mark's Catholic Church Fundraiser
- Locust Grove Funeral Home
- Mayes County Medical Center
- Protein Technologies
- Pryor Home & Auto
- Beggs Pharmacy
- Public Service Organization
- Pryor Lumber
- United Way
- Chamber of Commerce
- Local Businesses
- Northeast Oklahoma Electric Company
- Modern Woodsman of America
- South Grand Lake Christian Church, Langley
- Fellowship of Believers, Langley
- Grand River Dam Authority