



The mission of the Raphael Community Free Clinic is to minister in a caring and Christian environment to the Medically underserved of Kerrville and the surrounding area.

The Raphael Visitor

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DO YOU OPEN YOUR HAND TO THE NEEDY AND POOR?

Deuteronomy 15:11

"For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and the poor in your land."

The Lord tells us there will always be the poor and needy and we are commanded to serve them. Raphael Clinic has been serving those in need of medical assistance since

August 7, 1997. However, the clinic would not have been able to serve those in need the past 18 years without the support of so many churches and organizations in Kerrville and the surrounding counties.

The financial support of the community is essential for the clinic being able to provide medical care for those who have no insurance and live at 200% or below the federal poverty level.

Unfortunately, the Affordable Healthcare Act has failed to provide affordable health insurance coverage to virtually anyone. Therefore we have the uninsured poor and needy who continue to depend on the Raphael Community Free Clinic and other Christian charities to keep them well and out of the emergency rooms.

Raphael Clinic needs your support more than ever before. Drug costs keep increasing as do medical supplies and testing. Historically the clinic's patients were given

x-rays and other radiology tests at no charge. Now the radiologists in Kerr county can no longer provide that service at no cost to the clinic or it's patients.

We understand that you also are facing increasing costs. However, we have patients who, without the clinic's services could go blind, loose a limb or even die. If you are unable to help us now, then consider leaving the clinic a large gift in your Last Will and Testament.

All of us at the Raphael Clinic thank you for your past support and pray the Lord will bless you with enough to allow your continuing support of Raphael Community Free Clinic.



Contact Us: 830-895-4201

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Providing healthcare for low-income, uninsured residents of Kerr, Bandera, Edwards, Gillespie, Kendall, Kimble, and Real Counties.

ANGELS ARE REAL

THE RAPHAEL COMMUNITY FREE CLINIC

By GREG FOREST

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The name of archangel Raphael, in Standard Hebrew is described as serving the “God who heals”, “God Heals”, “God, and in Christian tradition performs all manners of healing. August 7, marked the founding of the Raphael Community Free Clinic whose mission is “to minister in a caring and Christian environment to the medically underserved of Kerrville and the surrounding area.”

The clinic addresses the nonemergency medical needs of the uninsured. Residents of Bander, Edward, Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, and Real Counties may qualify as patients. With the help of other local social and medical agencies such as Peterson Memorial Hospital, and community medical professionals, the clinic has worked with its partners to have the Clinic become a reality.

With Texas being a “low services” state, there is a large gap between those who have medical needs but have no insurance or are unable to qualify for any government assistance. Sometimes becoming ill inconveniently happens to those who don’t qualify for government services such as Medicare or Medicaid. The onset of illness may not wait until a patient reaches the Medicare qualifying age of 65.

Sister Marge Novak, a Franciscan Sister and Family Nurse Practitioner, moved to Kerrville in 1995. Her vision of a medical mission for those who could not afford health insurance, especially the working poor, inspired a group of others to help bring the clinic about.

Raphael Community Free Clinic is a Funded Partner of Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas. Raphael Clinic is supported by contributions from private foundations, individuals, churches and civic clubs. It neither requests nor accepts funds from city, state or Federal sources. So it is not only the staff and volunteers who have made this resource a reality but the entire Hill Country community as well.

Sister Marge Novak, with cofounder Sister Mary Ann Giardina have built a monument to giving and sacrifice to help those in the region who need it most. The clinic’s staff and cadre of 70 volunteers provides a wide variety of medical and pharmacy services ranging from prenatal care, diabetes treatment and education to Hep C treatment and cardiovascular care.

| RAPHAEL CLINIC 2015 PATIENT STATISTICS | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 2,257 | PATIENT VISITS |
| 101 | NEW PATIENTS |
| 80% | KERRVILLE & INGRAM RESIDENTS |
| 66% | ADULTS BETWEEN AGES 36-59 |
| 54% | INCOME BELOW \$15,000 |
| 56% | HISPANIC |
| 43% | CARDIAC OR DIABETIC PATIENTS |

Responses from Raphael Clinic’s PATIENT SURVEY

“This is only my second visit and I have been very satisfied with the services provided. God bless and have a happy Thanksgiving and merry Christmas.”

“I just want to thank you all for the care you have given me. God bless all of your staff.”

“You all are really awesome! I really appreciate everything and everyone!”

“Overall things are great. If not for ya’ll I don’t know where I would be medically. God bless and thank you.”

“I’d love to stay, but I now have Medicare. I enjoyed all of the staff. Thanks for having me and thank you Sister Marge for getting me to stop smoking. I will dearly miss each and every one of ya’ll.”



I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see thee...'

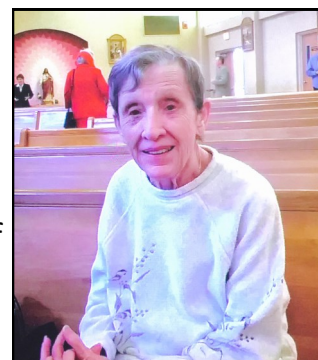
Matthew 25:36-37

Director's Corner

It was going to happen sooner or later. Sister Marge Novak and Sister Mary Ann Giardina retired on August 7, 2015 after founding and successfully operating Raphael Clinic for the past 18 years. Staff, volunteers and patients miss them dearly.



Since 1997, Lois Pritchard is one of our most dedicated volunteers. She has been with the clinic since day one. She always has a positive attitude. She has volunteered hour after hour of her precious time to help out our patients and staff.



Joyce Horat, our office manager/volunteer coordinator since 2001 is assisting John Penaloza, our patient advocate since 2005. They are valuable members of our team, donating many, many hours of their spare time to help our patients receive their medications.



Right: Loraine Levis is another very important volunteer. She has been volunteering since 2009 and schedules appointments for our patients as well as performing many other tasks.

Left: Students from Our Lady of the Hills high school donated many, many Christmas gifts to the children and mothers of our clinic.





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RAPHAEL COMMUNITY FREE CLINIC

serves the low-income uninsured populations of a seven-county area in the Texas Hill Country, offering non-emergency medical care in a clinical setting.

Patients must meet financial eligibility and residency requirements to qualify.

*Raphael Clinic accepts no funding from federal, state or city governments but relies strictly on the generosity of donations from charitable organizations and private donors like **YOU!***

If you have been blessed with medical care or medical insurance for yourself or your family, please consider "sharing your blessings"

**I Invite You To Leave The Legacy Of Health and
Medical Care For Those In Need...
In Your Will.**

Today, the Raphael Community Free Clinic's Endowment is an important partner in the Clinic's medical and health care efforts. The permanent endowment fund generates annual revenue for Raphael Clinic's many health and medical care programs. Your tax deductible estate gift to the endowment is never really spent. Rather, it is permanently invested to grow and generate revenue in support of Raphael Clinic's important programs . . . forever.

I encourage you to include the Raphael Free Clinic Endowment Fund, Inc. in your will. As good stewards, it is our responsibility to assist those in need not only today but also in generations to come.

Remember a gift in your will does not impose any financial hardship to you and will aid in supporting the clinic forever.



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