

CHRIST HEALTH CENTER



AUTHENTIC HEALTH CARE FOR BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT

Thank you for taking a few minutes to catch up on all that is happening at Christ Health Center. We hope you enjoy this brief glimpse into the work we are doing to advance God’s Kingdom in Woodlawn and Bessemer.

Bessemer - A Year of Growth

Clinic volume at our Bessemer location grew notably in 2009, partly due to a bad economy resulting in more uninsured patients. We continue to serve largely as a stop-gap for the uninsured at that location. As one community patient recently shared with me after undergoing a procedure in Bessemer, “Man, you sure come in handy; you just don’t know!”

The Bessemer location also serves residents of The Foundry Rescue Mission, providing compassionate care for men and women reclaiming their lives from the ravages of addiction. We are expecting significant growth for Bessemer in 2010.

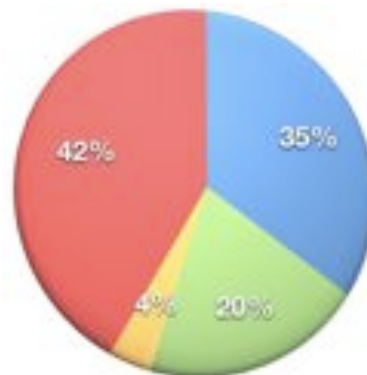
In addition to routine primary care, we are always seeking to expand services to better care for the uninsured. Most recently, we have been able to provide ultrasounds at no cost to our patients through the generosity of UAB physician, Dr. Ed Underwood. And for those procedures we cannot provide, one of our back pain patients may have said it best, “I’ve

decided it’s just a problem of mind over matter. If I don’t mind, it don’t matter!”

~ Dr. John Fischer

6,566 Patient Visits in 2009

In 2009, Christ Health Center had a total of 6,566 patient visits, 3,596 in Bessemer and 2,970 in Woodlawn. The Bessemer visits included 2,290 from the community and 1,306 visits from The Foundry Rescue Mission. Woodlawn saw 2,733 medical visits since March 23, 2009, and 237 dental visits since November 10, 2009.



- 42% Bessemer Community
- 35% Woodlawn Medical
- 20% Bessemer Foundry
- 4% Woodlawn Dental

OUR TEAM



Angels Among Us

My last patient, Ms. Bell, had Alzheimer's and was brought by a caregiver – which usually means they are from a boarding home. As I was finishing our visit, I asked the woman sitting in the corner if she was related to Ms. Bell.

“No, Ms. Bell was given to me by DHR,” she replied.

Somewhat confused, I asked, “Does Ms. Bell live with you?”

Doing the Impossible

Although Woodlawn's dental suite has only been open since November of 2009, Dr. Rayne Osborn and her team are already having a dramatic impact on patients' lives.

She recently treated a 27-year old young man who has been a bed-bound, quadriplegic for the last two years as a result of a gun shot wound.

He originally came to Christ Health Center as a medical patient where a routine exam revealed a

Angels Among Us (con't)

Well, the story that tumbled out of her absolutely made my week!

"I used to run an assisted living home until three years ago when my husband suddenly died. He wasn't sick or anything. He just died. I got so lost. I thought I was losing my mind. I gave my assisted living home to my daughter and she runs it now. She came and stayed with me too because I was so depressed. I just lost everything. Then DHR called a few months ago needing help with Ms. Bell. She has Alzheimer's and she wanders and her family had given her up and she was living in deplorable conditions.

"Well, I took her in to my home, and Ms. Bell has saved me. I'm not depressed any more. I am alive again!

"Sometimes, I will be sitting in my chair and I will start crying and Ms. Bell (she calls me 'Sally') will say, 'Sally, is that you I hear crying?' and I will say, 'Yes, Ms. Bell.' She will come put her arms around me and say, 'Well, Sally don't you cry. Everything is going to be okay. Every woman needs her own home. I don't know why God has me here either instead of my own home but everything will be okay.'

"I was also sad and crying one day when my daughter had gone back home to her husband, and Ms. Bell looked at me and said, 'Sally, you remember what it was like to have your own husband don't you?' and I said, 'Yes, Ms. Bell.' 'Well, then you let her go home and have her home with her husband. Everything will be okay.'"

So now Sally and Ms. Bell live together and apparently each blesses the other more than they ever would have imagined. I had Dr. Record come in and ask if we could tell their story. He looked at her when she finished and said, "Do you believe in God?" She said she did. He then asked, "Is this not what it means to love the Lord?"

Sally just looked back through tears.

~ Amelia Morton, MSN, CRNP

Doing the Impossible (con't)

large abscess in his tooth that appeared to be the cause of a larger infection, fever and significant pain.

Dr. Osborn continued the examination and determined that three teeth, including a notoriously difficult wisdom tooth, needed to be pulled to eliminate the infection. Because the patient was unable to sit in a dental chair, a makeshift operatory was devised in the entrance to the dental suite.

After numerous uncontrollable outbursts from the patient, and considerable amounts of perspiration, Dr. Osborn's four person team eliminated the offending teeth.

Most incredible, the total cost to the family was a mere \$120. Due to the incredibly challenging circumstances, the same treatment anywhere else would have cost at least \$700, assuming that another facility would have even risen to the challenge.

His mother and caretaker report that since the teeth were removed, his mouth has been pain and infection free.

~ Ramsey Duck and Dr. Rayne Osborn

From the Board

Christ Health Center is your clinic, our clinic, and as your board, we are excited by the challenge of delivering on our commitment to the physical, mental and spiritual health of each of our patients. Who are our patients? They are our neighbors, our community.

This organization has been called to make an investment in the long term health and wellness of this community. The sheer number of patients we have served in the short time we have been open is proof of the present need. There will be challenges. Our Adversary will do everything possible to thwart our progress, but He is faithful and we will prevail through Christ's provision. Without our many partners, our doors would still be closed and needs would still be going unmet.

As we move forward, your board is eager to meet the felt needs of this organization and this community. Thank you for your support and faithfulness.

~ Dr. Jeremy Allen, Chair

Prayer Needs

Grace for the team to minister to the whole patient • Health for our patients • That our patients' neighborhoods would be healthy and vibrant • Wisdom in growing our crisis pregnancy work • Smooth opening of our pharmacy • Resources to serve our growing patient population



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You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter!