



HEALTHY KIDS 15TH ANNIVERSARY NEWSLETTER

Every Child Deserves Healthcare

September 2022

The Healthy Kids School-based Clinics are proud to be celebrating 15 years in operation! Thanks to our donors and community collaborators, the Clinics have completed more than 8600 appointment for children in Johnson County who have barriers to accessing healthcare. These obstacles may include lack of insurance, transportation and English skills. You have been our partners over the years in this mission! Having free Clinics in the school buildings makes access so much easier and allows us to collaborate with school district staff to ensure that we meet other needs of the child and family.

We encourage you to visit our website to learn more about the difference your support is making in the lives of Johnson County children and their families: www.healthykidsclinic.net

HEALTHY KIDS CLINIC HELPED US IN SO MANY WAYS

"My family moved to the US at the end of 2013 with my mother and 2 younger siblings. When we tried to go to school we had to get vaccines and assessments because we had no record here or a way to recover the ones back home. We were "illegal" at the time even though we entered with a permit from immigration. But we had zero benefits like health insurance. This is where the Healthy Kids Clinic came in and helped us in so many ways. Doing routine checks, giving vaccinations, providing medications that my siblings and I needed every time we got sick. We got all the assessments and vaccinations needed at Healthy Kids Clinic to start going to school. We even got dental care which was very much needed but due to our financial and immigration situation we were not able to get if not through Healthy Kids Clinic. This clinic made a big impact in my life and (on) my whole family. We did not know our rights and had no other professional help or care at the time when we were going through so much at home. I am so thankful that God has blessed me and my family (through) everyone who works (with) and supports this clinic."

J.H.

Former ICCSD Student

"This clinic made a big impact in my life and my whole family. We did not know our rights and had no other professional help or care at the time when we were going through so much at home."

Editor note: J.H. graduated from the ICCSD and is now a nurse after training first as a nursing assistant. She worked in the clinic part-time during her nursing training.

DENTAL CARE—ALWAYS A CHALLENGE

Over the years, dental care has been one of the largest single budget item for the Healthy Kids School-based Health Clinics. Even with the student discount from the University of Iowa Dental College, the cost has impacted the operating budget of the Clinics.

Dr. Art Nowak, D.D.S., came to our rescue in 2016 by volunteering his time one day per week providing dental evaluations, fillings, fluoride treatments, and other basic dental care to children served in the Healthy Kids School-based Health Clinics. Dr. Nowak saw children in the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic. The Free Medical and Dental Clinic provided a dental assistant hired with grant funds from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Foundation. The Johnson County Health Department also provides in-kind dental services by their Dental Hygienist, but their funding has been cut drastically. Dr. Nowak is retiring from this volunteer position and we are in the process of recruiting other dentists to fill the gap.



YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK– BRINGING YOU UP TO DATE

Donations to the Clinics are used for current operations and to sustain our services going forward, including medications, supplies, equipment and Clinic Coordinator time. Physician services are generously provided by the University of Hospitals and Clinics at no cost to us.

The Clinics started in the 2007-08 school year, offering appointments 4 hours per week at one school. Thanks to your donations, during the 2022-23 school year we will schedule appointments 14-20 hours per week at 4 schools. These schools are **South East Jr. High, Northwest Jr. High, City High, and West High**. Any child from birth through high school graduation living in Johnson or Washington Counties who are uninsured, underinsured, or experience extreme barriers to accessing healthcare is eligible for our services. Many of our patients are newcomers from another state or a foreign county. When children come to Iowa from another state, it takes several months to get active insurance. When children come from another country, they are often not eligible for public insurance for many months or even years. In the meantime, parents have peace of mind knowing their children can access healthcare through the Healthy Kids School-Based Health Clinics.

Clinic Services:

- Well child exam-with recommended developmental, mental health and vision screenings, dental fluoride application
- Sick visits
- Management of chronic medical problems, such as asthma, spina bifida, epilepsy, learning problems, depression and more
- Vision, mental health and other specialty care referrals

15TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

Every Child Deserves Healthcare

CLINIC ADVISORY BOARD

**Anne Vandenburg – Chair*

Patti Fields

Mary Issah

Pamela Johnson-Carlson

Maria Lofgren

**Charlie Nusser*

Chace Ramey

**Pete Wallace*

Fundraising Committee members

with asterisk,

plus additional members:

**Jessica Jimmerson*

**Kate Moreland*

**Jamie Nguyen*

**Marguerite Oetting*

**Susie Poulton*

The demand for Healthy Kids School-Based Clinics' services continues to grow! Even with almost 900 appointments last year we are only able to reach 40% of the children eligible for our services. To meet these needs and sustain our current operations this Fall we are launching an **Anniversary Fundraising Campaign**. Our goal is to raise \$250,000 in private support by March 1, 2023. More details to follow about how you can help.

For more information, please check our website:
www.healthykidsclinic.net or scan this QR code



In 2021-22, the Clinics

- cared for 391 patients
- completed 895 medical appointments
- provided 103 child psychiatry appointments
- provided 189 dental appointments
- administered 275 Covid vaccines
- administered 1371 routine vaccines

COLLABORATION WITH THE IOWA CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Over the years the District has provided clinic space and renovations, utilities and administrative support. District staff including the School Nurses, Student & Family Advocates, Athletic Trainers, and Teachers make referrals to the Clinics and help with ongoing follow-up and care.

“For 15 years the Healthy Kids School-Based Health Clinics have provided medical, mental health, dental and vision services to students in our district who struggle to find healthcare. Thanks to the care the clinic provides, many students have received the immunizations they need to stay in school or the sports physical they need to participate in sports and get involved in the school community. Others have found a medical home or been referred to specialty care. These services improve attendance, engagement, academic performance and overall well-being. As a principal, district level administrator, and now Superintendent I have heard first hand testimonials from families about the impact having this resource has made in their life. Unfortunately, the level of need in our district increases every year and the clinic does not have the resources to keep up. **Please consider a donation** to the 15th Year Fundraising Campaign so more children can benefit from the essential services provided by Healthy Kids School-Based Clinics!”

Matt Degner

Superintendent of Schools

“These services improve attendance, engagement, academic performance and overall well-being.”



**IOWA CITY
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Child-Centered : Future-Focused



Renovated clinic space at SEJH



City High Little Hawk Clinic



Renovated clinic space at NWJH

IMPACTING LIVES

“The Healthy Kids Community Care Clinic has served so many of our students throughout the years that need medical care and do not have the resources to seek care elsewhere. They offer a wide variety of services that are not otherwise available or affordable. From immunizations to sports physicals and acute care visits, they are a priceless resource that our district cannot function without! Not only has the clinic assisted thousands of our students and families throughout the years, but they are also an excellent resource for information on where people can receive a variety of different services in our community.”

Suzi Wilkes, RN, BSN

School Nurse, City High School

CLINIC STAFF

Dr. Marguerite Oetting, Medical Director

Jamie Nguyen, Program Clinic Coordinator

Guadalupe Hurtado, Assistant Clinic Coordinator

Ladiester Janania - Psychiatric Clinic Coordinator

OTHER CLINIC PROVIDERS

Dr. Nancy Beyer, Child Psychiatrist

Dr. Victoria "Torie" Tann, Family Practice

Dr. Hao Tran, volunteer Pediatrician

Dr. Susan Wall, volunteer Dermatologist

Deb Schoelerman, Interpreter

A FOUNDER AND FUNDRAISER

Dr. Peter Wallace is well known in Iowa City as a retired pediatrician who provided care to children and families for decades. He was also a co-founder of the Healthy Kids Clinics. He served as a volunteer provider in the Clinics and continues as our fundraiser par excellence. Early in our history he met the goal each year to receive Mercy

Iowa City matching funds of \$500,000 which created a financial foundation for the Clinics and he continues to raise funds for our current and future operations. Thank you Dr. Wallace and many thanks to those of you who have responded so generously to his requests!

STAFF CORNER



We are sad to bid farewell to Dr. Emad Abou-Arab, a wonderful Family Medicine physician who joined our team three years ago. He will be sorely missed as he and his family set off on a new adventure. His colleague, Dr. Victoria "Torie" Tann is our new Family Medicine doctor and she has hit the ground running! Having Family Medicine on staff at Healthy Kids Clinics expands our capacity to care for patients as well as educate residents and medical students about school health and community based care/collaboration.

"Growing up in a family of immigrants, I understood the difficulty with accessing health care in this complicated system. Being a part of Healthy Kids, I have been able to give back to those most vulnerable communities. It has been an absolute joy to be a part of this clinic and all that it offers. Giving these families a primary care home is an essential and aids them with some of the necessary tools they will need to succeed. I will miss the relationships I have made with each and every family, as well as the relationships with the rest of the Healthy Kids staff."

Dr. Emad Abou-Arab