

A Minute with Mercy



Mercy Medicine Free Clinic ~ 500 South Coit Street

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2018 Statistics:

- ◇ 2,355 medical and dental onsite office visits
- ◇ 4,335 hours worked by 130 volunteers
- ◇ \$18,559 pharmaceutical expense
- ◇ For every \$1 given to Mercy, \$6.47 of services were provided.

Representatives from MMFC will be accepting applications, for both new and recertifying patients, at the Felician Center in Kingstree from 9 am-12 noon on Tuesday, January 14th.

Gala Success

Mercy Medicine Free Clinic (MMFC) celebrated it's 25th anniversary this year by hosting a fundraiser gala held on Thursday, October 17th. Almost \$45,000 was collected for MMFC, which will benefit our patients across the board from clinic visits and medications to transportation assistance associated with Mercy appointments and everything in between.

There were about 150 supporters in attendance, including MMFC board members, staff, and volunteers as well as families of the five founding physicians, Harry S. Allen, Jr., M.D., N. B. Baroody, M.D., John

M. Thomason, M.D., Myers H. Hicks, M.D., and James C. Owen, M.D.



Osbornes, a popular special events facility located in downtown Florence, catered the affair held in The Waters Building on Dargan Street. Food offerings included many delicious recipes from our own Palate Pleasers cookbook,

of which a copy was given to each person who bought a ticket for the event.

Beverage services, provided by Mickey Finns, blended seamlessly into the elegance of the evening.

Music, consisting of a mix of jazz, easy listening, and popular songs, was performed by the After Dark Quintet and set the ideal mood for socializing.

Mercy Medicine would like to thank all of our patrons (corporate, group, and individual) for making the gala such a success.

Thank you for your support!

Get Involved with Mercy

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD and he will repay him for his deed," Proverbs 19:17.

If you are seeking a place to bless with a gift of any amount, would you consider Mercy Medicine Free Clinic? Here are some options if you decide to aid us by donating:

- ~ give online at www.mercymedicine.org
- ~ give to United Way of Florence in the name of Mercy Medicine
- ~ contact Mercy for information on how to donate supplies
- ~ buy a Palate Pleasers cookbook
- ~ shop AmazonSmile with Mercy Medicine Free Clinic as your charity

Whether you can assist us financially or not, we ask that you please support us in prayer.

Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Spotlight On...Zavon Felton

Mr. Zavon has been volunteering at Mercy Medicine Free Clinic since its inception in 1994. This US Air Force veteran served in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Even at 90-something years old, he is still as active as possible. This includes helping out at Lighthouse Ministries every week. Each day that he is at Mercy Medicine, you can find him in his favorite rolling chair, cozied up to his space heater, sipping a mug (or three) of hot coffee. He is usually either laughing or entertaining someone with tales of his military days. He has plenty to tell with 30 years to draw from. Mr. Zavon is as important a part of Mercy Medicine as any other person associated with the clinic; answering phones, keeping the atmosphere light, and engaging patients in conversation.



Zavon Felton

Thank you, Mr. Zavon, for your service to our country and our community.

I Was Sick and You Cared for Me

“It’s never before I need it or after I need it. It’s always right on time. It’s the Lord providing for me.”

About two years ago, Jeffrey became a patient here at Mercy Medicine Free Clinic. His diabetic condition requires him to have special equipment which automatically dispenses the appropriate amount of insulin throughout the day. The required equipment is expensive with the pump alone (which has a lifespan of approximately five to six years) costing around \$8,000 without insurance and supplies costing over \$140 per month. Jeffrey has seen the Lord’s hand at work here because regularly, when he comes in for an appointment, a donation has just been made within the previous day or two that consists of supplies that are the same type as his set-up requires. “It’s never before I need it or after I need it. It’s always right on time. It’s the Lord providing for me,” Jeffrey says.

United Way’s Day of Caring

On Friday, September 20, 2019 Mercy Medicine was grateful to welcome a group of volunteers from MUSC Health—Florence who had adopted us through the United Way of Florence’s Day of Caring. Not only did they improve our curb appeal by planting trees and flowers with a fresh layer of straw, but they gave us a nice cleaning of hard to reach vents and light fixtures.

They even did windows!

We can clearly see how blessed we are to have institutions in our city who care about the communities they serve.



Picture from MUSC Health—Florence facebook page; used with permission

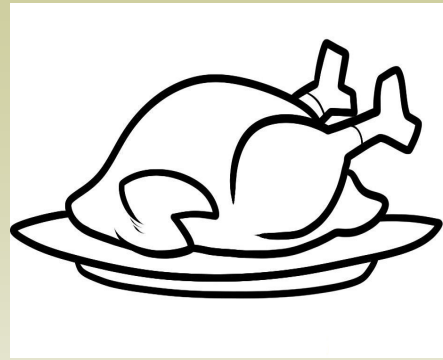
Thank you, MUSC Health—Florence, for caring.

Palate Pleasers ... Easy Chicken

Palate Pleasers cookbooks available for \$20

- 1 pkg. dry onion soup mix
- 1 jar apricot preserves
- 1 bottle Russian dressing
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts

Place chicken breasts in a Pyrex dish.
 Mix remaining ingredients.
 Pour over chicken.
 Bake covered at 350° for 45 minutes.
Serves 4

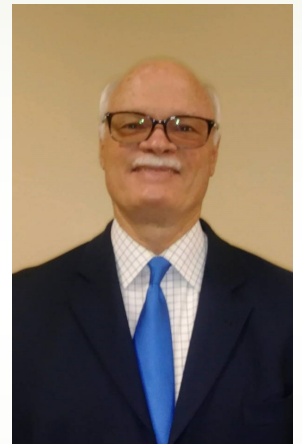


From the Director's Desk

Welcome to the "revived" Mercy Medicine Free Clinic newsletter! It has been dormant for a while, but the entire staff and I are excited to have it back. The goal of our newsletter will be both to inform and inspire our Mercy followers to continue to support us with their financial gifts, donations of tangible supply items, and volunteer hours but mostly with their prayers for our continued success.

Our featured article highlights our very successful gala in October that help to raise awareness of our people, our special patients, and appreciation for past and future financial support that enables Mercy to meet our mission statement which is on the rear cover. Since Mercy accepts no federal funding, no private insurance reimbursements, or any payments from patients, events such as the gala are key to its community awareness and financial viability. Thanks to all that attended and to those who made it such a fun and memorable evening.

There is much going on at Mercy that we will be sharing with you in the months ahead. I frequently hear that our clinic is the "best kept secret" in Florence and Williamsburg counties. Hopefully, our newsletter will begin to help counter that perception. Finally, it is my privilege to serve as Mercy's executive director. Feel free to contact me at any time with your suggestions and thoughts about this special place—Mercy Medicine Free Clinic.



In Praise and Thanks to Him,
 Wayne

Donation Form

or give online at www.mercymedicine.org/donate

YES! I want to help Mercy Medicine Free Clinic care for the needy and indigent citizens of our area. I have enclosed a tax deductible check for \$_____.

Use where most needed or Direct my gift to the _____ program.

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

This gift is in honor or memory of _____.

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

"I was sick and you cared for me" ~ Matthew 25 ~



Mercy Medicine Free Clinic

500 South Coit Street

Florence, SC 29501



www.mercymedicine.org



Mercy Medicine Free Clinic

About Mercy Medicine Free Clinic

Since its founding in October 1994, MMFC's mission has been to use Judeo-Christian values of love, faith, compassion, and integrity to provide a free medical and dental home for low-income, uninsured adults, the working poor, and homeless adults.

Medical care is available for residents of Florence and Williamsburg counties. Dental (pain or infection only) eligibility is expanded to include several surrounding counties in the Pee Dee area.

We do not charge our patients for any services provided by our clinic regardless of ability to pay and we receive no federal funding.

Many who work at this non-profit facility are donating their time and talents to help their community. From providers to office workers, these volunteers represent Mercy's goal of showing the love of God to everyone who comes through our doors.



*What We
Need*

While monetary support is always welcome and appreciated, another option for giving is by donating new/factory sealed supplies. The following is a list of items that MMFC currently needs:

- * ibuprofen 200mg
- * low dose aspirin 81mg
- * first class postage stamps
- * standard size mailing envelopes
- * 4 - 3'x5' framed cork bulletin boards
- * white copier paper
- * sticky note pads
- * antibacterial spray and wipes
- * antibacterial, liquid hand soap