

Community Involvement

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www.gracehealthmi.org

Printing provided by a grant from Allegra of Battle Creek FootPRINT fund



grace
HEALTH

2015 Annual Report

Our Mission

At Grace Health, we provide quality health care with the belief that all individuals have the right to considerate service at all times with recognition of their personal dignity.

To YOU from President/CEO, Dr. A. J. Jones



Dr. A.J. Jones

On January 15, 2015, Family Health Center of Battle Creek officially changed its name to Grace Health (GH). The word “grace” as part of our name serves as a constant reminder of who we are, what we do and how we do it. Along with the name change came an updated website (www.gracehealthmi.org) highlighting services provided, including videos of GH departments – Behavioral Health, Dental, Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics and OB/GYN. GH joined social media with the creation of a Facebook page. “Like us” on Facebook – it’s a great opportunity to keep updated on happenings at GH, learn health tips and other valuable information.

In 2015, GH provided over 132,000 services for more than 30,600 patients, an increase of approximately 6,800 services for an additional 380 patients compared to 2014. An average of 756 new patients were seen on a monthly basis. We continued our collaboration through Calhoun

County Senior Millage with Fountain Clinic of Marshall and provided 717 services for 110 Calhoun County low-income residents over age 60. With grant funding received from Battle Creek Community Foundation, GH purchased an additional portable dental chair – giving us a total of 2 chairs – and updated equipment for our Portable Dentistry Program. If there is ample space at the school, GH is now able to have 2 hygienists at a school at the same time or have hygienists at 2 different schools on the same day – allowing more children to be seen. Our Portable Dentistry Program delivered more than 3,000 services in Calhoun County schools with all schools participating in the service.



Dental

GH has an agreement with University of Michigan School of Dentistry (UMSD) by which we provide a clinical environment and setting for UMSD 4th year dental students to assist in the delivery of on-site dental services at GH. Each dental student is given a patient schedule, just like GH dentists. There are as many as 3 UMSD dental students in GH Dental 3 days a week. GH hopes to increase the amount of time students are in Dental in 2016. All GH dentists are UMSD adjunct clinical faculty and supervise the dental students. Not only does this collaboration with UMSD provide an opportunity for 4th year dental students to experience working in a community health center, but it also helps GH increase access to dental care in our community.

With the expansion of Behavioral Health services in 2015, Behavioral Health Consultants are now within each department and have face-to-face consultations with providers on a daily basis. Co-led consultations with providers and patients to discuss treatment options are the standard of care. GH has 12 Behavioral Health staff who assist our 52 providers.

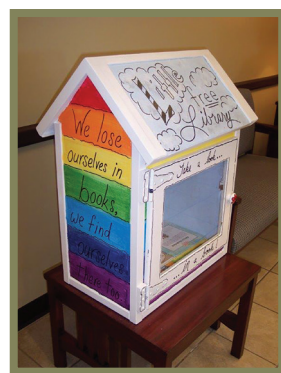


In response to the need for a Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) – a free program for the improvement of maternal and child health – in our community, GH received approval from the State of Michigan and federal government in June to provide MIHP. This program is available for all pregnant women and infants (up to 12 months) who have Medicaid coverage. A total of 11 staff were trained and GH began providing MIHP services on September 9, 2015. GH provides support for pregnant women through their pregnancy and infants through their first year of life.

GH CenteringPregnancy – prenatal care that includes a regular visit with a health care provider plus additional time for learning and sharing – started in June. In the CenteringPregnancy program, a group of pregnant women with similar due dates, and the father of the baby/ support person meet with the expectant mothers’ health care provider throughout the pregnancy to share questions, advice and experiences.



CenteringPregnancy



Free Little Library

We participate in several programs which assists patients with more than medical needs. GH and Food Bank of South Central Michigan continue to “grow” their partnership by providing fresh food in our lobby 2 days a week. Throughout extreme weather months, water is available for patients and visitors on hot summer days; coffee and hot chocolate are available on bitter, cold days. Hats, scarves and mittens – most were knitted and donated by community members – are available during winter months. GH has participated in the National Read Out and Read *Health and Early Literacy* program for 11 years. In 2015, over 2,400 books were provided to children coming to GH for their well-child visit; just over 47,000 books have been provided since the start of the program in 2004. GH added *Free Little Libraries* to its Pediatrics, Dental and OB/GYN departments and plans to add a library to Family Practice Department in 2016. People visiting GH may bring a book to add to the *Free Little Library* and then take a book. Gifts of gently used books from community members and staff were received to help keep the libraries stocked with books.

GH remains dedicated to its mission to YOU and YOURS. Check out our website at www.gracehealthmi.org and “like us” on Facebook; watch for more exciting things to come in 2016, such as, vision service/optometry and extended hours for Family Practice/Internal Medicine. If you know someone who may be in need of our services, I encourage you to pass along GH’s website and contact information. Please, let us hear from YOU.

Health care with grace,

A.J. Jones, ND

