MERCY
HEALTH CENTER

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends:

For the past twenty-three years, Mercy Health Center has provided medical care as a platform for sharing the love of Jesus, targeted specifically to low-income and uninsured neighbors. Because we do not charge our patients for their healthcare, your support enables the ministry to continue as we work to improve wellness, restore hope, and grow faith.

2023 saw progress on the initiatives set by our board in 2022.
- Staff were hired to lay a firm foundation for excellent patient care and growth. Key roles included the Executive Director, Medical Director, Volunteer Coordinator, Patient Representative, Front Office Manager, and Director of Development.
- We completed preparation for transitioning to a new electronic health record (EHR) that will better serve our patients and providers.
- Our dispensary had been closed since July of 2022. Through the effort of many people, preparations were made in 2023 that have enabled our newly licensed pharmacy to open officially on February 5, 2024.

2023 was a year of getting things done.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Mercy, thank you for your generosity and partnership. We could not provide quality healthcare in a Christ-centered environment without you.

Reflecting on my first year of service at Mercy, I know that with your support, the Mercy Health Center model works. Our mission remains solid – sharing the Gospel of Jesus by providing quality whole-person healthcare in a Christ-centered environment to the low-income, uninsured in our community. I am excited about how far we have come and look forward to a great 2024.

Sincerely,

Vince

Vince Botta
Executive Director

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

I am thrilled and honored to be the new Medical Director for Mercy! My wife, Jacline, and I are finishing our time in Winston Salem, North Carolina, and will head to Athens this summer to begin our new chapter there. We look forward to meeting and doing life alongside many of y'all very soon!

Nearly 10 years ago, I entered medical school with a calling to love the poor and proclaim the gospel through medicine. Serving at a clinic like Mercy has been a dream of mine since then, and I am ecstatic that the Lord has led my wife and me to Athens, where I will live out that calling! I care deeply about the marginalized and forgotten and love the opportunity that medicine provides to meet people in their suffering and provide physical and spiritual healing. We all share a deep sickness called sin that can only be healed by the ultimate Physician, and I find life and joy in interacting with His people in a healthcare setting.

The beauty of Mercy is the community of support that allows for that care and gospel work to occur. Without you, Mercy could not provide healthcare to those on the margins in Athens and the surrounding areas. Your support, financial, prayerful, volunteering, and the like, allow our under-resourced neighbors to get vital access to preventive care, treatment for acute and chronic diseases, medications that they otherwise would not have, social services, dental care, and the opportunity to encounter a health center full of people who exude the love of Jesus.

As the Lord leads us into a new season at Mercy, we intend to continue providing excellent healthcare to those on the margins and be a light for Jesus in this city. Thank you for partnering with us in this mission; we can't wait for what's in store!

In Him,

-Cole Phillips

Cole Phillips, MD
Medical Director

REACH & IMPACT IN 2023

14,000+

Volunteer hours

valued at

$481,000+

Patient visits

3,230+

Dental visits

278

650+

Specialty referrals

Behavioral health visits

444

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

TIM AND LEAH CHAPMAN FOUNDATION

THE RAMON AND AMANDA THOMPSON FAMILY FUND

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The Tim & Leah Chapman Foundation
ULM Family Foundation

$24,999 - $10,000

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World Outreach Fund

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Reese Williams
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Chick-fil-A
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DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

DENTAL

- 3 NEW DENTAL PROVIDERS
- MOA WITH CHRISTIAN MEDICAL & DENTAL ASSOCIATION AT DENTAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA
- INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION OF DENTAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA'S GPR RESIDENT ROTATIONS @ MHC DENTAL CLINIC
- AWARDED DELTA DENTAL, WALTON EMC, GEORGIA CLUB AND PATTERSON GRANTS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- ADDED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES WEEKLY SUPERVISION, EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES, AND PRACTICUM PLACEMENT FOR GRADUATE COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS.
- INCREASE IN ACCESS FOR NUTRITION AND HEALTHY EATING CLASSES

MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS

- 6 NEW MD VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED
- 4 ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS RECRUITED
- 1 NEW SPECIALIST OFFICE ADDED TO THE REFERRAL NETWORK
- 3 VOLUNTEER RN'S ADDED
- 225 STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

- DONUTS AND FRUIT TRAYS WERE PERSONALLY DELIVERED TO 26 MEDICAL VOLUNTEER OFFICES AND 9 DENTAL VOLUNTEER OFFICES TO SHOW LOVE AND APPRECIATION.
- JITTERY JOES GIFT CARDS WERE MAILED WITH A STAFF CHRISTMAS CARD TO 95 MEDICAL AND DENTAL VOLUNTEERS

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ATHENS, GA 30606

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