

FREE CLINIC NEWS

A monthly newsletter to help keep you informed

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Visit Our New Website!

Our new website has launched! We are excited to roll out more new features in the future. Look out for Member portals containing useful documents and forums to post questions for other clinics.

Annual Meeting Recap

September 18th was the O AFC Annual Meeting! Thanks to everyone who attended. We had over 40 of our member clinics present to connect and learn together.

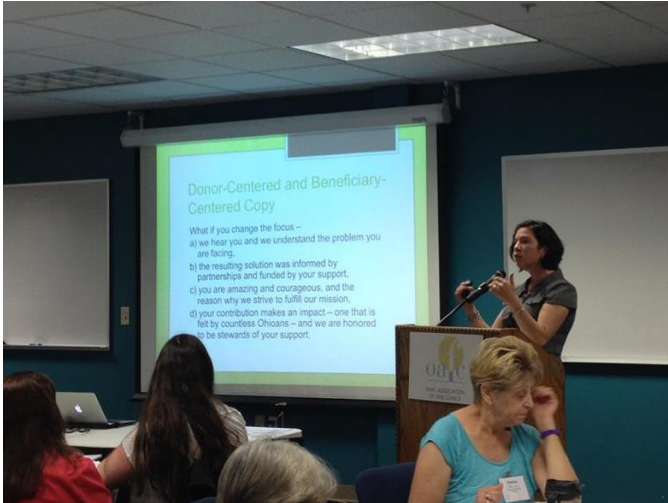
Board members for over 12 years, Katie Clark (Physicians CareConnection) and Lee Elmore (North Coast Health), are stepping down at the end of 2015. We were please to honor all their service to the O AFC. Thank you Katie and Lee! Filling their positions are Isi Ikharebha (Physicians CareConnection) and Jaime Parsons (Viola Startzman). Welcome and thank you!

After years of hard work, the Quality Assurance Committee presented the finished copy of O AFC's Quality Care Standards. The standards outline important documents and policies that should be in place at clinics – in fact, most of our members already meet most of the standards. The standards give clinics a tool to take to potential funders, explaining the good work happening. If you would like more information on the Quality Care Standards, contact Bekah and Laura, the O AFC VISTA members, at rtefft@ohiofreeclinics.org and lcook@ohiofreeclinics.org.

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Kerri Mollard gave a phenomenal presentation on fundraising and sustainability. The O AFC is grateful that we could host her. For copies of the slides or the study she cited in her talk, email Deb, Bekah, or Laura.

Special thanks go out to CareMessage, a nonprofit and sponsor of this year's meeting. CareMessage can help clinics contact patients for appointment reminders, and patient and group check-ins. Deb is working out group pricing for member clinics, but if you are interested, connect with Grace Myers: gmyers@caremessage.org; 415-819-3349. Visit caremessage.org!



Kerri Mollard Presenting at the Annual Meeting



Thank you Katie and Lee for all your years of service!

December is Free Clinic Appreciation Month

As part of House Bill 320, December has been designated Free Clinic Appreciation Month. In conjunction with Ohio Department of Health, O AFC will present awards to the Free Clinic of the Year, and Volunteer Physician, Nurse, and Dentist of the year. Nomination forms are available on our website under the "Events" tab, and are due **October 30**. O AFC and ODH will host a kick-off event on **December 2** at the Ohio Statehouse Ladies Gallery. We will have a press conference at 3 to announce winners of the nomination process, followed by a reception at 4:30 at the Riffe Gallery across High Street from the Statehouse. More information will be sent in the coming weeks. Mark your calendars!

Legislative Action

This year we plan to host state legislators in clinic visits. Maintaining our line item in the state budget is a significant goal for us this year, and we must educate our senators and representatives about the excellent care free clinics in Ohio provide! A toolkit and list of talking points will be available to interested clinics soon. Let us know if you do not wish to have a legislator visit your clinic.

If you are interested in tracking health-related legislation, our new website will soon include a section on bills going through the Ohio House and Senate. Check back to follow along with the progress.

Clinic Highlight: Columbus Free Clinic

Operating on Thursday evenings, the Columbus Free Clinic is an Ohio State University medical student-run free clinic. Over the past year, the clinic has improved its patient experience by offering online sign-ups and reminder phone calls, in addition to walk-in appointments. After putting the online signups into practice, the clinic saw its patient numbers increase to 35 people a night. In addition to allowing patients to sign up for appointments from home, the online registration, through Google Forms, allows physicians to schedule the patient for the next week during the appointment, or from the OSU emergency room.

The clinic works with three Ohio State graduate schools in addition to the medical school: pharmacy, social work, and nurse practitioner students. OSU's pharmacy school gives the clinic discounted medications. Patients go through a social work check-out at the end of their visit, making sure they have access to all the resources they need. Columbus Free Clinic also provides free lab work and imaging. Good work, and good luck, to the future doctors at Ohio State!

Webinars!

O AFC will roll out new reporting requirements for clinics receiving Uninsured Care Funds in 2016. To prepare clinics for the changes, we will host three webinars over the coming weeks. Register online at <http://ohiofreeclinics.org/news-events/reporting-webinars.html>.

September 28 at 2 pm

October 5 at 12 pm

October 8 at 10 am

We hope to see you online! Check out the rest of the upcoming events on the **Calendar of Events** on the last page.

Calendar of Events

September

28 UCF Reporting Webinar – 2 pm

October

2 Southwest Ohio Clinic Meeting

5 UCF Reporting Webinar – 12 pm

8 UCF Reporting Webinar – 10 am

12 **Columbus Day**

16 Franklin County/Central Ohio Clinic Meeting
Southeast Ohio Clinic Meeting

18 Helping Hands Health & Wellness Center’s 7th Annual “Bowl to Help”

25-27 NAFC 2015 Charitable Health Symposium (Palm Springs, CA)

31 **Halloween**

November

13 Northeast Ohio Clinic Meeting

26 **Thanksgiving**



➤ Want to share an event happening in YOUR clinic? Send info to: deb@ohiofreeclinics.org

➤ If you would like to join a committee, email deb@ohiofreeclinics.org and we will add you to the roster.