



St Frances
Cabrini Clinic
Most Holy Trinity
Catholic Church

Cabrini Connector

Mission Statement

Cabrini Clinic provides a holistic approach toward meeting the primary health care needs of economically disadvantaged residents of southwest Detroit and beyond. We serve those that fall through the medical-social safety net, and help them connect to basic resources. We offer education, prevention and treatment without charge, but with deep compassion and respect for the people we serve and their needs.

Staff

Tawana Nettles-Robinson
Executive Director

Kristin McErlean
Clinic Nursing Director

Chantell Stainback
Physician Practice Manager

Dr. Karl Kolbe
*Volunteer
Medical Director*

Alexis Harvey
Community Health Worker

Devarsh Desai
*Clinical Operations
Coordinator
Mercy Volunteer*

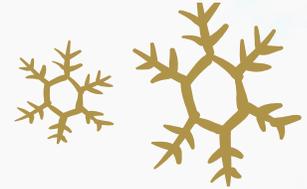
Contact Us!

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Winter Greetings

by **Kristin McErlean**, AGPCNP-BC
Clinic Nursing Director



Dear Friends,

As the year winds down, take a moment to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. Since joining the Cabrini Clinic team in March 2022, I continue to be captivated by the

profound impact of people doing good work. Although my time here has been brief, some of my favorite memories include: a visit from The Catholic Health Association (check out: This Is Catholic Healthcare on CHA's YouTube!), building community partnerships, and learning Spanish. I could not do my job without support from **Mercy Volunteer Devarsh, Community Health Worker Alexis, and of course, our beloved Chantell.** Across the Cabrini Clinic team of employees and volunteers, the ongoing desire to serve and do more while overcoming various personal challenges is nothing short of incredible.

Cabrini Clinic has been a **beacon** and **safety net** in the dizzying landscape of modern healthcare **since 1950.** The fact that we are still here is a testament to the generous commitment and ongoing support of volunteers, donors, and partners. Those who have picked up an extra shift (or several), signed up their kids and grandkids for volunteer hours in the garden, and been exceedingly flexible and generous with their time do not go unnoticed. **Henry Ford Health** continues to provide specialty **Psychiatry and Dermatology services** and **Wayne State University** supplies the clinic with **future Pharmacists. Dental services** have been a long time coming, but are finally here! Lots to smile about!

Big or small, take time to celebrate the triumphs of the past year. There is still work to be done and there will be challenges ahead, but know that we will continue to work through it all together. Together we can do more. I am proud to be a part of the legacy of Cabrini Clinic and will continue to work diligently to uphold its mission into the new year.



Cabrini Staff Spotlight

This season we celebrate **Chantell Stainback** our beloved **Physician Practice Manager.** She has been with the Clinic **since 2017** and has the capacity to fill any room she enters with love and compassion. Her expertise in management and conflict resolution is always appreciated at Cabrini. She is always able to communicate with patients in a manner that leaves them feeling **comfortable and respected.**



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From the frontline



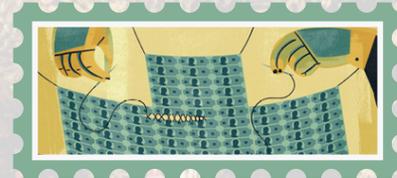
Writing Thoughts

by **Devarsh Desai**,
Clinical Operations Coordinator
Mercy Volunteer

Cabrini is not just a clinic but a place that has provided and continues to provide services for so many. For some, it provides **primary care, mental health, and specialty services** and for others, it provides **social resources, insurance application assistance, and love**. Beyond this, you have the occasional unhoused person that seeks shelter and a deaf man that needs a bus pass to take his broken bike home. A reputation like this can only be born out of the love of honest **people** that have continued to **support** this clinic **since 1950**.

The closer you look at healthcare you realize how a well-stitched fabric has big holes within it. These holes can take various forms: **citizenship status, low income, racial inequity, language barriers, limited transport, oppressed sexuality, and unhealthy neighborhoods**. While reading this might bring sadness it must also bring **joy** because every day there are clinics like Cabrini and volunteers like the ones that work here who make it their **mission to alleviate the barriers that affect healthcare**. The U.S. holds the most **diverse cultural communities** in the entire world and the fight to allow these communities to co-exist within an inclusive society will be a treacherous journey. **Mending systems like healthcare to promote inclusivity** starts with one building in South-West Detroit and grows into many larger buildings across the country.

When I left my country (India) and my family I did not know what my life would become. I never imagined myself to be in a place like this Clinic. As a low-income non-citizen, I have learned about the people I want to spend my life fighting for and the type of people that share this vision. As you reminisce about the end of a year I implore you to find yourself supporting an even brighter future!



Patient Spotlight

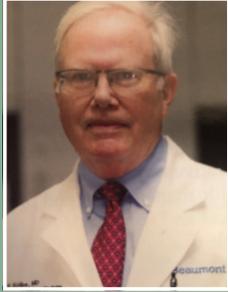
Patient Z was just a random man that walked into the clinic. He had no appointment and **only spoke Spanish**. I never learned Spanish when I lived in Miami but the desire to help him made me go from 'no hablo Espanol' to '¿Cómo estás, cómo puedo ayudar?' Today, Kristin and I are able to anticipate when he will come to the clinic and **schedule his appointment**. Some days he comes for **medical appointments** but most days he just comes to talk to me and asks me random questions I could never anticipate. I understand **30%** of what he says and I hope to increase that percentage in the coming months. Our **languages are different** but somehow we find a way to understand each other. He exemplifies how our clinic helps patients: **Finding ways to help regardless of the barrier at hand**.



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Cabrini to the Rescue



Primary Care Matters

By **Dr. Karl Kolbe**,
Volunteer Medical Director

I want to **personally** thank all of the volunteers who worked diligently and compassionately throughout the **COVID pandemic**. Despite difficult circumstances our patients have

been treated with goodness, discipline, and knowledge. Our physicians, nurses, PAs, NPs, and support staff, possess skills similar to those of the **“Good Samaritan”**. We also continue psychiatry, gynecology, and dermatology. Our capacity for Internal Medicine visits will be augmented as long as volunteers are available. This year, operations are more organized and streamlined allowing us to offer better services to our patients. Once again, thank you for your support and continued service.



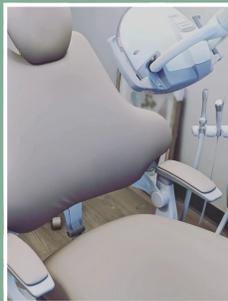
Medication Access Matters

from the **pharmacy and our pharmacists' in training**

Uninsured patients face various socioeconomic barriers. Therefore, even if we can provide access to primary care it **does not hold value**

without **access to affordable medications**. With an **in-house pharmacy**, we are able to provide these patients with the medicines they need for **free**. Our perseverent **volunteer pharmacists** make this happen while training the leader pharmacists at **Wayne State** with critical **values**. Your support helps stock our pharmacy with necessary medications.

Dental Service Matters



A **2018 CHRT cover Michigan survey** revealed that uninsured patients have the most difficulty accessing all types of care. Oral health is important and therefore Cabrini Clinic has made great strides in making these services available. We are now able to provide **cleanings, fillings, X-rays, fluoride treatments, & sealants**. Your

continued support will allow us to expand these services.

Maternal Support Matters

Project Hope, a program of **Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan**, has been located within the Cabrini Clinic for over **7 years**. Our Catholic partner program here at the clinic provides safe support and confidential case management assistance to mothers who are pregnant and or parenting



babies up to 12 months of age. As a donation-driven program, we give thanks to all who generously donated to **Project Hope**, be it diapers, pacifiers, or prayers. I am deeply grateful. Our mothers and their babies are very grateful.

May the blessings of this Christmas season of giving and joy find each of you gifted with the love of family and good health. We wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! And May you feel the love, blessings, and strength God provides as we celebrate the jubilation of the birth of our Savior to Mary, and all Mankind. Peace.

For more information, to schedule an appointment or donation drop-off dates, please call **Mary** at **Project Hope: 313-961-7863 ext 5**.



Social Service Matters

by **Alexis Harvey**,
Community Health Worker

I find patients have a hard time understanding and navigating how to find appropriate resources and apply for benefits.

Being able to assist patients has been a huge impact on Cabrini, as I am able to **enroll patients** in HealthCare plans and transfer their care to our sister clinics or a medical office of their choosing, as well as seek out specialists they may need. This allows us to be able to **schedule more patients** who need our services, who are **uninsured and may not qualify for state Medicaid**.

Being able to provide **Basic Needs Resources** has been a huge win for Cabrini. Using a Basic Needs Assessment, I can provide referrals and **social resources**, such as Food Pantries, clothing closets, and utility assistance. Patients have expressed their gratitude for these resources and the positive feedback has been amazing.

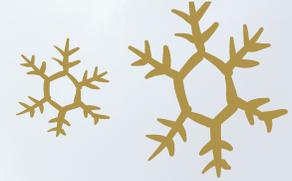


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A Message from Our Unsung Hero



By **Tawana Nettles-Robinson**,
Executive Director

It's hard to believe it, but this is my **4th year leading** the work of Cabrini Clinic! Every time I enter the Clinic, I'm still proud of the work and the dedication of the staff and volunteers. Our service offerings continue to grow and our commitment to serving the most vulnerable citizens in metro Detroit never waivers.

A recent meeting with local clinical safety net leaders reminded me of the continued need for free and low-cost healthcare services for low-income or uninsured patients. According to a recent study released by the **U.S. Department of Health and Humans Services**, roughly **26 million people** remain **without health insurance** in the U.S. This indicates the importance of finding ways to support patients seeking care, as we know that access to quality healthcare is key to healthier lives, economic security, and peace of mind. Additionally, as Christians, we are called to serve the poor. According to **Proverbs 19:17**, **Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.** I believe every day, our staff and volunteers come into the Clinic, they are thinking about serving those in need and intentional in their efforts to improve health outcomes for every single patient that enters our doors.

Today, as we have for **over 70 years**, Cabrini Clinic continues to provide all primary care, behavioral health, specialty services, and medications to patients at no charge. To clarify, we have not charged a single patient for any service or resource, in over 70 years. As you make your charitable contributions at the end of the year, please consider making a gift to Cabrini Clinic. Every dollar given, is used to **support patients' healthcare needs** but also to provide them with basic necessities such as disease management supplies, clothing, and transportation where needed.

Again, I want to thank our staff, our amazing team of volunteers, community partners, and generous donors for their steadfast commitment to our work, all of you play a huge part in the success of the clinic. I've been extremely honored and blessed to be a part of this team. I pray for a **safe, blessed holiday season** for us all.