



Lake County Free Clinic

Serving Northeast Ohio

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Representatives from the Ohio Association of Free Clinics (O AFC) attend the signing for House Bill 320. Pictured: back row, left to right: O AFC Board members: Heather Baird; Andrew Merrill; Joyce Bourgault; Deb Miller, Executive Director; Johanna Henz, Executive Director, Lake County Free Clinic; and Justin Yafanaro, legislative aide, House of Representatives. Front row: John Kasich, Governor, State of Ohio.

Lake County Free Clinic in the Capitol

Lake County Free Clinic played an integral role in the creation and passage of House Bill 320 that was crafted and introduced by Rep. Ron Young (R-60). Rep. Young visited Lake County Free County in 2014, and expressed his desire to help our clinic – as well as free clinics statewide – and aid our efforts to serve those who don't have access to health care.

Johanna Henz, Executive Director, Lake County Free Clinic, offered testimony to the Senate in support of the Bill. In December 2014, Governor John Kasich signed House Bill 320 into legislation.

The bill has four main components:

- Extends qualified immunity from civil liability for certain volunteer health care services provided to individuals eligible for or receiving Medicaid
- Makes changes to the state's physician and dentist loan repayment programs
- Creates a volunteer's certificate for retired nurses
- Designates the month of December as "Free Clinic Appreciation Month"

Mission Statement

Lake County Free Clinic exists to address the unmet health care needs of the residents in our community through the provision of quality medical and dental care.

Contact Us

Lake County Free Clinic
54 South State Street, Suite 302
Painesville, Ohio 44077

Monday – Friday | 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

WEB: lakefreeclinic.org

EMAIL: info@lakefreeclinic.org

FACEBOOK:

facebook.com/pages/Lake-County-Free-Clinic

TWITTER: @LakeFreeClinic

440.352.8686

2014 Lake County Free Clinic In Numbers

1,416

Patients cared for

3,370

Health care visits made

23,610

Services provided

\$480,000

Operating budget

\$4.8 million

Value of the services provided



Fulfilling our mission: helping those in need

At 60 years old and without health insurance, **Karen** was anxious about her health care. She hadn't felt well in years. With a history of diabetes complications involving pain and weakness in one foot, she despaired of ever being healthy. Karen had a long list of complaints that conveyed a lifetime of unhealthy habits that would not be easy to change. She yearned to exercise, go for walks and lose weight, but had resigned herself to a wheel chair due to a foot ulcer, that she had for years, that wouldn't heal.

“Today I feel optimistic.
Today I have hope.”

Karen explained the depths of her concerns about her foot problems to her Lake County Free Clinic (LCFC) provider who realized that Karen was very fearful and believed that she could never be strong again. The provider spoke to Karen at length about her fears, and discovered that Karen was not really sure what she was afraid of, but did acknowledge that she needed to do something to improve her health. Karen and the provider agreed upon a plan to gradually increase her level of activity by a few steps a day using an inexpensive pedometer that we provided for her. She was given a few easy leg exercises she could use to build muscle strength. Karen initially came to LCFC feeling defeated and depressed, but instead, at the end of her appointments, she said, “Today I feel optimistic. Today I have hope.”

Henry, a man in his 40s, had spent the majority of his career as a chef. Looking for a career change, he applied to truck driving school but was unable to enroll due to his blood sugar level being too high. The school requires that applicants have levels of 9 or lower, and Henry's was 14. Henry's former career had contributed to his high blood sugar level. Over a period of three or four months, with education about diet, exercise and how to take better care of himself, Henry

lowered his blood sugar level to 7, enrolled in school and is now driving trucks cross-country. This is his first time to see other places, and is so happy to be supporting his family and also able to see so much of our country.

Juan and Elena, husband and wife, have been coming to LCFC for about two years. The couple lost their insurance when they both became unemployed. In need of medical care, the couple turned to LCFC. Elena was treated for cellulitis, acute health issues and ear problems. Juan is a chronic care patient, receiving treatment for lung problems and asthma and acute issues as needed. They are both so impressed and thankful for the care they receive at LCFC. They rave about Dr. Fike, and have said that the care they get at LCFC is better than they ever experienced when they were insured.

Yolanda brought her son **Delvin** to the LCFC pediatric dental clinic. In the past, Yolanda had a hard time finding a dentist to treat her special needs son. When Delvin came to LCFC, he was pretty reluctant and nervous to be seen by the dentist. The visit went well and Delvin had a thorough exam. The dental team let Yolanda know that Delvin could be given anesthesia for cleanings or other dental work, if needed. She was also provided with information about how to apply for help defraying the cost of visits at other dental offices for services we don't offer, so that she didn't feel overwhelmed navigating both Delvin's reluctance and the probability of being faced with prohibitively-high cost dental care for her son.

For every \$1 received, we are able to provide \$10 worth of health care services. Please consider making a donation – it will go directly to improving the lives of our patients.

To make a donation, visit www.lakefreeclinic.org/donate. If you prefer to donate by mail, checks may be sent to Lake County Free Clinic, 54 South State Street, Suite 302, Painesville, Ohio 44077. Thank you for your consideration and support.