

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF SERVICE

Celebrating a milestone

This past summer on Thursday, June 2 and Friday, June 3, Volunteers In Medicine celebrated its 15-year Anniversary with friends, music, food and cake – lots of cake!

The star of the party was the Clinic's founder and first Executive Director, Sister Monica Heeran, who returned to Eugene just for this event. Sister Monica retired and moved to Saint Mary-on-the-Lake Convent and Retreat Center in Bellevue, Washington in July of 2014.

Sister Monica gave the invocation at the Thursday evening reception, which was followed by a brief program and the unveiling of VIM's new donor wall by Dr. Hugh Johnston and Dr. Doug Walker.

Dr. Johnston and Dr. Kerry O'Fallon were recruited by Sister Monica to serve as Co-Medical Directors of VIM well before the Clinic was opened in February of 2001. Dr. O'Fallon passed away in July of 2014. Sister Monica also recruited Dr. Walker, a retired gastroenterologist, to serve on VIM's initial Board of Directors.

The new donor wall recognizes donors for their total cumulative giving to Volunteers In Medicine over the last 15 years. All told, there are more than 1,273 names on the wall!

The Celebration shifted into high gear on Friday afternoon when Paul Biondi, Gus Russell, Byron Case, and Skip Jones played their own special brand of jazz.

Thanks to everyone who helped make our 15-year Anniversary so successful!



From left to right: Sister Aileen Trainor, Sister Monica Heeran and Sister Noreen Therrault



Paul Biondi



Who we help

Last year VIM had more than 5,100 patient visits. While each patient is unique, a typical patient is a single mom in her mid-30's.

She works hard, probably makes a little more than minimum wage. She doesn't have health insurance or access to a primary care provider.

Thanks to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), her children likely have health insurance coverage through the Oregon Health Plan (OHP) and receive periodic check-ups. *(continued on page 2)*

Fifteen Years of Caring –

VIM BY THE NUMBERS

From 2001 to 2016

TOTAL PATIENT VISITS: **137,400**

LABORATORY REFERRALS: **32,569**

MEDICAL REFERRALS (to more than 260 community specialists): **23,442**

PRESCRIPTIONS DISPENSED: **200,000**

MEDICINES PROVIDED (from charitable programs): **\$14 million**

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS: **441,000**

Talking with DeLeesa

“What have you done for somebody today?” This was a question that was often asked by Jack McConnell, founder of Volunteers In Medicine. I’ve been thinking about that question for the 15 years that I’ve worked or volunteered for our VIM clinic.

Not a day goes by that I don’t reflect on what happened today, who it was that we helped, and most of all, how can we improve. There will always be change, and it is not the change that makes you better, it is the way you handle it.

During the past 15 years, VIM has helped 11,793 patients. This number

reflects our community’s need for VIM. It reflects the changes we’ve gone through to help our patients, and last but not least, it shows the commitment of our donors, volunteers, and staff members.

As donors, you give our underserved community the gift of health, allowing each person to have healthcare that otherwise would be difficult to receive. As volunteers, you have given the gift of your heartfelt compassion and your most prized possession – time. As staff, you daily give your heart and soul to those in need. So, when reflecting on Jack’s question “What have you done for someone?” you know the answer.



DeLeesa Mcashintubby

When Sr. Monica Heeran and community members put this clinic together, it was beyond amazing. Today, what you continue to do is life-saving.

Blessings to you!

(continued from front page)

Between taking care of her kids and working, she doesn’t really have a lot of time for herself. She doesn’t let the sniffles or a cold slow her down.

Like any mother, though, she does worry about who will take care of her children if something happens to her.

If she gets sick or has a serious ongoing medical issue and needs to see a primary care provider, she doesn’t have lots of options. But she does have VIM.

Through VIM’s Women’s Health program, volunteer physicians and nurses provide a variety of medical services including routine gynecological care. VIM also provides mammograms through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.

We know that keeping Mom healthy is an important step in keeping her family healthy.

What a wonderful afternoon!

On Thursday, September 29, 2016, Dr. Steve Marks, Chairman of the VIM Board, presented the annual Sister Monica Heeran Legacy of Caring Award to Susan Ban.

Sister Monica’s astounding contribution to both Volunteers In Medicine and the community as a whole led the VIM Board of Directors to create an annual award honoring her legacy of caring and compassion. The selection committee looked for people who, through their work, demonstrated a strong commitment to humanity and selflessness without regard for direct personal or organizational gain or profit.

Susan Ban has spent her life serving the homeless population, specifically those dealing with psychiatric disabilities and brain injuries. She has been with ShelterCare for 28 years; 25 of those have been as the Executive Director, a position

she still holds. Susan is highly respected in the community, has served on many boards, and helped give a voice to those who are often overlooked. She is a most deserving recipient of the Sister Monica Legacy of Caring Award.



From left to right: Dr. Steve Marks, Susan Ban and DeLeesa Mcashintubby

What your gift provides...

~ A gift of \$100 gives a patient with diabetes two months of access to VIM's Diabetic Education and Management program. Diabetes is our most commonly diagnosed illness. The program provides patients with the information and the support they need to successfully manage their disease.

~ A gift of \$500 supports up to three provider visits to the clinic. The visits could be for primary care, behavioral health, women's health, or for specialty services such as gastroenterology, neurology, cardiology, surgery, respiratory therapy, and occupational therapy.

~ A gift of \$1,000 underwrites up to three months of medical supplies. VIM provides many different medical services for our patients including annual exams, laboratory services, minor procedures and respiratory care. These services require a variety of medical supplies including exam gloves, exam table paper, bandages, syringes, liquid nitrogen, sutures, disinfectant, multi-stix strips, and coagulation strips and supplies.

Legacy of commitment

"Volunteers in Medicine." Our name says it all; without volunteers we simply wouldn't exist. VIM currently has more than 400 active volunteers, and over the past 15 years, literally thousands of people from all walks of life have been VIM volunteers. Their commitment to caring and compassion has made a huge difference in our community.

I am especially appreciative of the efforts of our volunteer Board of Directors, and I want to especially thank our two retiring board members, Sandra Mattson and Doug White. Both Sandra and Doug are going off the board after having served for 12 years. In a time of great change within healthcare, their collective wisdom and leadership brought much to VIM.

In their place I am pleased to welcome Clark Compton and Wendy Apland to the Board of Directors. Clark was one of the founders of Bank of the Northwest, and later served as

from the Board Chair

the bank's President and CEO. After he retired from banking he started his own consulting practice. Wendy came to work for Sacred Heart in 1998. She currently serves as Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer for PeaceHealth Oregon. I am looking forward to working with both Wendy and Clark.



Dr. Steven Marks

Passages

"I believe that individuals can make a difference in society...it is up to each of us to make the best use of our time to help create a happier world." The Dalai Lama

The nearest thing to immortality that any one of us can hope to achieve is to live in the memory of those who knew and loved us. This year VIM lost three beautiful volunteers who will do just that.

Richard Leutzinger, RN, passed away on July 23. Richard, a long-time VIM volunteer, served in the roles of RN Roomer and as a Dispensary Lead for more than 10 years. Richard always had a smile on his face and a "hello" for everyone he came in contact with. He will be missed.

Shirley "Diane" Roome, passed away on July 27 and was a mainstay volunteer for 12 years. She did every role in the front office. She was the epitome of professionalism. Her South

African accent and her wonderful laugh made her a hit with everyone. The front office will not be the same without her.

Ellie Dumdi passed away on August 4 and was involved in VIM from the beginning. She volunteered on the One Fine Day Committee for many years. She also served on the Development Council, was a great strategic thinker and always willing to give a helping hand. Her smile remains in our hearts here at VIM.

Thank You to our Donors

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			Jean Specht		

In Memory of

We appreciate those in our community who gave a memorial gift in fiscal year ending Sept. 30 to Volunteers In Medicine in the name of cherished or respected individuals in their lives.

Persons memorialized appear in boldface.

Peter Bergreen, MD
Michael & Sally Hahn

Ted Chuman
Margaret Chuman

Ralph Cobb
Ralph Robinson

Russ Donnelly
Joyce Benjamin

Ellie Dumdi
Scott & Barb Palmer

Paul Dye
Lois Dye

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Lawrence & LaVelle Hughes

Joe Evans
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Father Michael B. Ferguson
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Frieda Geisenheimer
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Rick & Janet Starr

Charles Swenson
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Patrick Williams
Dan & Maureen William

In Honor of

We appreciate those in our community who in our fiscal year ending Sept. 30 honored a respected or cherished individual in their lives with a gift to Volunteers In Medicine.

Persons honored appear in boldface.

Carmen Admire
Margaret Leutzinger

Loren Barlow
Dick & Sheila Stokes

Scott & Joan Bengé
Rex & Shirley Stevens

Paul Biondi
Mike & Jackie Fitzgerald

Jim & Judie Borg
Shannon & Patricia Oldham

Dr. Ray & Libby Englander
Richard & Shannon Roseta

Jim & Linda Hamilton
Julie Cherry

Sister Monica Heeran
Richard & Jessie Lee Bylund

W.W. & Nancy Glascock
Eric & Susie Goss
Gerald Moshofsky
Richard & Sharron Nurre
Virginia Starr

Hugh Johnston
Tom & Carol Williams

Mrs. Marie D. Jones
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DeLeesa Meashintubby
Wesley & Joanna Hoskins
Gerald Moshofsky
Ralph & Janet Robinson

Mark & Laura Rodgers
Rex & Shirley Stevens

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Presbyterian Women's Association

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Shoshana Kerewsky

Katherine Spivey
April Wick

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Rex & Shirley Stevens

Kent & Rosie Stevens
Rex & Shirley Stevens

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Sonia & Mike Wildish
Marilyn Tollefson

Steve & Kim Wildish
Marilyn Tollefson

VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Volunteers In Medicine has established the Heritage Society to honor and thank those donors who include VIM in their will or estate plan.

Posthumous members: Larry Anderson, John and Ruth Bascom, Harry and Jean Rubenstein, Beulah Stephens

Current members: Paula Chambers, Linda Cheney, Chris Johnson, Barb and Scott Palmer, Dr. Dwayne "Sparky" and Bette Rice, Donna Shepherd

For more information about VIM's Heritage Society please contact Scott Palmer at (541) 686-6361.

A life well loved – Glenn McKee's story

Glenn was born in Eugene in 1956. The fourth of David McKee's six children, he confronted many challenges growing up.

Glenn was a slow learner and struggled in different facets of his life. No one knew for sure why; perhaps it was fetal alcohol syndrome or some undiagnosed learning disability.

David divorced Glenn's mother in 1963, and eight years later met and married Doris. The two of them worked hard to provide a good home for all of their children; however, Glenn was always unsettled.

He dropped out of high school in his sophomore year. He was like a tumbleweed – going from one job to another looking for the place where he fit. David and Doris stood by him doing their best to support him.

In 1977, Glenn got married. Not too long after that his daughter Teresa was born. He was gradually overtaken by alcoholism, and not even his love for his daughter could save his marriage.

In 1999, he moved to Alaska; perhaps this was where he belonged. Alas, just a few years later, Glenn called his dad. He was sick, broke, alone, and without much hope.

David and Doris told him to come home to Eugene.

Somewhere along the way Glenn had contracted Pulmonary Fibrosis,

a terrible lung disease that causes scarring of the lung tissue, resulting in shortness of breath and difficulty breathing. Treatment options are limited and the prognosis for patients with Pulmonary Fibrosis is poor; survival for most patients is often less than five years.

Back in Eugene, Glenn received initial treatment for his disease. He was bound and determined to get back on his feet, and he didn't want to impose any more on David and Doris. Rather than live at home, they arranged for Glenn to get his own apartment and helped him find a job.

For the first time in a long time, Glenn appeared to be settled and was even able to reconnect with his daughter. But his disease was getting worse.

Between his deteriorating medical condition and missed appointments, he struggled to maintain his eligibility for the Oregon Health Plan. He was under incredible stress and he knew he needed help.

Glenn found Volunteers In Medicine on his own. He had heard about a clinic staffed by volunteer physicians and nurses that would help people like him. Neither David nor Doris had ever heard of VIM, but they watched as their son worked hard to maintain his health.

Over the next 18 months, Glenn was a regular patient at VIM. According to Doris, the volunteer physicians and nurses did everything they could to help him, especially Dr. Khuram Ameen. Dr. Ameen, a pulmonologist, is just one of many specialists who volunteer to take care of the Clinic's patients.

Dr. Ameen spent a lot of time with Glenn helping him fight for his life. Ultimately, he lost his battle with the disease and died in 2004.

It was only after he died, that David and Doris learned of Glenn's final gesture of love – he had signed up to be an organ, cornea and skin donor.

To this day, the McKee's remain very supportive of Volunteers In Medicine. "You took care of my son when he had nowhere else to turn," said David. "He was treated with respect and dignity from the moment he came into the Clinic until the day he died."

"We were both impressed with the compassion and the excellent care Glenn received from everyone at Volunteers In Medicine," added Doris. "We are so grateful to VIM and the doctors and the nurses who did so much for our son in his time of need."



David and Doris McKee

By remembering Volunteers In Medicine in your estate planning you make a lasting investment in the lives of thousands of Lane County residents who depend on VIM for health care.

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VOLUNTEERS
IN MEDICINE
CLINIC

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OUR MISSION is to understand and serve the health and wellness needs of the medically underserved who live or work in Lane County.

OUR VISION: May we have eyes to see those rendered invisible and excluded, open arms and hearts to reach out and include them, healing hands to touch their lives with love, and, in the process, heal ourselves.

Save the Date

APRIL 19, 2017

ONE FINE DAY



A benefit for Volunteers In Medicine Clinic



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