# Volunteers In Medicine Clinic



# Our Sisters' Closet

It started with a dream.

Six months ago I received a phone call from one of our board members.

She told me she had a dream saying that VIM needed to "sell" something. "What can we sell to raise money for the clinic?" she asked me. We finally decided that VIM Clinic needed to start up a thrift store...and thus the journey began.

On Thursday, May 9th, Our Sisters' Closet opened to the public. It is located at 4245 Franklin Blvd. in Glenwood, next to the Dari Mart. It is open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Donations accepted at the store during open hours only.

4245 Franklin Blvd, Glenwood Thursday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The reason VIM decided to take this step is the economics of keeping our clinic open and viable. More and more, nonprofits are being challenged to find ways to be more self-supporting. Our Sisters' Closet is an environmentally sustainable, revenue-raising project that will help us stabilize our bottom line.

This project has been a team effort. I would like to thank the Dari Mart family for their support and their generosity in making this project possible. I also want to thank VIM's Board of Directors for being willing to not only take a chance on this endeavor, but for their help cleaning, painting and securing items for the store. VIM volunteers have spent untold hours organizing and setting up the store. Without these donations of time and energy, and your support, none of this would be possible. It certainly does take a village.

And now that the dream has become a reality, please come visit our store —thrifting is fun!

#### VIM Clinic Equipment Needs:

Autoclave
Infocus Projector
Electric Printing Calculator

Medication refrigerators w/o freezers (2 - 3' x 3')



visit www.vim-clinic.org/donate or call Susie Bates at 458-205-6365



#### Dr. Stacy Chance - Volunteer Physician

**r. Stacy Chance**, Chief Medical Officer at Oregon Medical Group, began volunteering at VIM after moving to Eugene to take a job as a physician with OMG. He heard about VIM and checked the clinic's website. What attracted him, he says, is VIM's flexibility with volunteer providers.

"It was something I could plug into when I had the time," he says. His volunteer hours decreased following the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, when it seemed that there was less need for his services. But after a while it became clear that VIM still needed him. "I started getting plugged back in," he says.

One of the things Dr. Chance likes about volunteering is the patients' responses to his being there. "The patients are extraordinarily appreciative," he says. Patients in his daily practice are, too, "but it is much more up front and visible from the patients at VIM. They are so happy to have someone there willing to take care of them." He says VIM's medical staff also makes it clear that they appreciate his time and his efforts.

In addition, he says, he isn't burdened by paperwork or follow-up tasks once his volunteer shift is over. VIM does a good job of making it easy for a provider to come in, take care of patients, and go home with no strings attached. "It's nice to know I start at zero, and end at zero," he says. "I know the wrap-around care will be taken care of."

#### A Volunteers In Medicine Patient Story: Russ Carey

**uss Carey** gives two thumbs up to the impeccable service and staff at the Volunteers In Medicine Clinic.

Russ came to VIM after being diagnosed with the painful nerve condition, Polymyalgia Rheumatica, which affects the upper body. "I couldn't shave, I couldn't comb my hair, I couldn't raise my arms, I couldn't do anything," he says.

Treatment for the condition is expensive, and Russ, who had retired after years of physical labor, didn't have health insurance. He was referred to VIM.

But shortly after being put on steroids by VIM volunteer provider Mary Derlacki, NP, Russ began experiencing a loss of taste, smell, and even memory. He attributed the loss to the steroids, but Mary suspected it was something else. Dr. Jay, VIM's Medical Director, was then able to arrange for him to get an MRI, which showed he had a brain tumor.

> VIM still assists him by providing free medication while he decides on his next steps. He remains grateful to VIM. "I would really be lost if it hadn't been for them," he says.

> > Written by Matilde Begliomini

Our Mission: To understand and serve the health and wellness needs of the medically underserved who live and work in Lane County.

# Outside the Box Fundraising for VIM

#### Social Media Campaign Bears Fruit

Last fall, VIM initiated a fundraising campaign with the slogan, "Community Building Community – Keeping Artists Healthy." Posters featured the work of three local artists. On the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, known as "Giving Tuesday," each artist pushed VIM on their social media channels, and encouraged their followers to do the same.



The effort brought in at least one new donor to VIM – Morning Glory Café, near the Amtrak Station in Eugene's Market District. Claire Aldersong, who owns the café with her husband, Josh, said until she read the post she hadn't realized there was a VIM Clinic in Springfield. The post prompted her to make a donation. "I felt comfortable putting my money there and knowing it would have a direct, local effect," Claire said. "I'm not keen on giving money to a giant organization where you don't know where the money goes or how it will be spent. [With VIM] I felt it was really clear that local people are going to be helped by this."

### **Business Partners for Good**

This Spring, Volunteers In Medicine of Lane County will be launching a county-wide small business challenge and a corporate partnership program. We are excited to celebrate businesses who make it possible for us to help take care of those who are in need and are underserved. In our first series of recognition, we are highlighting the following companies who sponsored our April fundraising event, *One Fine Day*.













OAKWAY CENTER





Large and small business owners -- please consider partnering with us. We have several unique opportunities available including sponsorship of our *Swingin' Summer Night* fundraiser in August, new recurring giving options, and more. Email DeLeesa Meashintubby for information: dmeashintubby@vim-clinic.org.







## Special Thanks to our 2018 In-Kind Donors

110 Bungalow Abed's Limousine Service Aesthetic Surgical Arts Kathy and Nick Aliotti American Linen - ALSCO AmeriCares Foundation Aquarium Services and Systems LLC

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## Special Thanks to our 2018 Underwriters

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Jill and David Niles Nancy and David Petrone Kathy and Rick Re Dan Reece Dwayne "Sparky" Rice Richard Roseta Vicki Schoenleber

Lisa Smith

Evelyn and Brad Swank Kim and Steve Ward Daniel Williams

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of our lists. If you see an error, please accept our sincerest apology.



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.





What an amazing *One Fine Day*! The 15th annual *One Fine Day* was held at The Club at Autzen on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 with 270 guests in attendance, raising \$190,000. Thank you to everyone for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you again next year! Special thank you to the 2019 Steering Committee (pictured left to right above): Lisa Tucker, Heather Upton, Kristin Forrest, Kimber Sweeney, Wendy Laing, Carol Hammons (Chair), and Jill Niles.



It's not too soon to get your Swingin' Summer Night tickets or tables, and ask us about Sponsorships!

Contact Diane LeClere, 458-205-6366 or email dleclere@vim-clinic.org

Swingin' Summer Night August 1, 2019 Shadow Hills Country Club 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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#### **FOUNDER**

Sister Monica Heeran







**Back Row**: Clark Compton, Dick Barnhart, MD, Steven Marks, MD, Dan Reece, and DeLeesa Meashintubby **Front Row**: Vicki Schoenleber, Kellie DeVore, Lisa Smith, Evy Hernandez **Not pictured**: Marian Blankenship, Rev. Greg Flint, Rick Kincade, MD, Sparky Rice, MD and Rick Roseta

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