

# Clinic (continued from page 2)

healthier lifestyle decisions. They work closely with other social service and faith based agencies to guide clients to existing resources when they need help to meet needs for clothing, food and other necessities. Pastor John Weborg, Covenant Children's Home and Family Services chaplain, works with the clinic to provide pastoral services.

The clinic's director and board continue to identify and address the health care needs of the area's working poor. Efforts have been made to bring dental care and mental health care services to this underserved population. The clinic is also working to expand bilingual services to migrant farm workers who come to the area during the summer and fall harvesting seasons.

According to director Kate Terlep, "our goal is to make a difference in the lives of the community by caring for the (residents) who are sick, poor, underserved and at risk." The words of grateful clients, posted on the BCHWC's website, attest to the clinic's success:

"When I was unemployed and without health insurance, BCHWC was like a port in the storm for me," one client wrote. "The staff and professional volunteers treated me with compassion and provided excellent medical treatment that I would not have received otherwise. I have diabetes, high blood pressure and a heart condition, that if left unattended without proper medications would have been fatal. The clinic provided

care for me until I was old enough to receive Medicare benefits. Without the love of God, emotional and medical support given to me by the BCHWC, I would not be alive today."

Another client said, "The Bureau County Health and Wellness Clinic has been a Godsend to me. They have helped me get my prescription medicines either by supplying them or getting me enrolled in prescription plans. They take what you can afford so everyone is able to get treatment. I couldn't afford to stay healthy if it weren't for BCHWC, and I thank them with all my heart and soul."

"I had been married with good medical insurance for over 35 years, but due to a recent divorce I was left penniless and with no medical insurance. I first turned to BCHWC when my regular doctor realized I was having much difficulty paying for office visits and medications and referred me to the clinic. From the moment I first walked into the clinic, I felt very cared for and was helped immediately....There is always someone there with open arms and heart....Thank you all for being there! You are all angels sent from above, I just know it, and I ask God's blessing upon each and every one of you and the clinic as well."

For information about the Bureau County Health and Wellness Clinic, see the clinic's website at [www.bchwclinic.org](http://www.bchwclinic.org); or call the clinic at 815-879-8794.

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Children's Home and Family Services  
502 Elm Place, P.O. Box 518  
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# In Touch

News about the ministries of Covenant Children's Home and Family Services • Princeton, Illinois

## **HELP US CELEBRATE!**

### **Memorial Sculpture Garden to be dedicated May 31**

The trees have been planted, benches placed and the walkways and waterfall completed; now the Memorial Garden is ready for visitors on the Covenant Children's Home and Family Services campus.

The CCHFS Board of Directors is hosting a service of dedication and celebration Saturday, May 31, to formally open the garden. The service will begin at 2 p.m. in the Nelson Chapel. Area friends already have been enjoying the beauty and serenity of the garden. Benches and a water fountain have been added for visitors' comfort.

Elite Landscaping in Princeton has been in charge of the garden's construction and planting. Perennials have been planted, and annuals will be added to provide floral color. Visitors will find several varieties of trees, including crab apple, maple and elm. Water will be flowing gently through the creek bed and over the waterfall this spring. Key Builders of Princeton is constructing a pergola marking the entrance to the garden.

The garden celebrates Covenant Children's Home and Family Services' history as a haven of hope and caring to children, youths, adults and families. "This garden will provide a permanent, meaningful place for friends to visit, revive memories and be proud of their association with Covenant Children's Home," Ron Gustafson of Rockford, IL, chairman of the CCHFS board's garden project committee, commented.

In commemoration of CCHFS's history of caring for children, a bronze plaque will be placed near the site of the original Covenant Children's Home building. The plaque will recount the home's proud history and will be unveiled at the May 31 celebration.

The CCHFS Board of Directors recently received the old dinner bell from the Covenant Children's Home dining room. For many years, the CCH cooks rang this bell as a signal to the residents and staff that meal time had arrived. Former residents from several decades fondly remember this three-times-daily ritual. The bell will be encased in glass and placed just inside the Nelson Chapel but viewable from outside the chapel's foyer window.

The CCHFS Board of Directors thanks you for your support of the Memorial Sculpture Garden Project and look forward to greeting you at the service of dedication on Saturday, May 31!

You are cordially invited  
to attend a

**Service of Dedication and Celebration  
for the  
Memorial Sculpture Garden**

Saturday, May 31, 2008  
Beginning at 2:00 p.m.

in the Nelson Chapel at  
Covenant Children's Home and Family Services  
502 Elm Place, Princeton, IL

The Rev. John Weborg will lead the service,  
with guest speakers Ron Gustafson  
and Rev. Paul Bengtson

Light refreshments will be served  
following the service

## **Visit our website!**

For information about Covenant Children's Home and Family Services, visit our newly renovated website at <http://www.cchfs.info>.

Here you will find stories and photos about the history of Covenant Children's Home and Family Services, information about the ministries currently located on the CCHFS campus, and news about upcoming events.

# Showing the love of Christ through health care

One of the ministries thriving on the Covenant Children's Home and Family Services campus is the Bureau County Health and Wellness Clinic (BCHWC). The BCHWC has grown from a one-room storefront operation to a bustling clinic on the CCHFS campus, serving 2500 area residents. The people who come to the clinic could be your neighbors, friends or relatives. They have no access to affordable health insurance and, thus, to affordable primary health care. Many of them have chronic health conditions.

The Bureau County Health and Wellness Clinic's mission is "to show the love of Christ by meeting needs." At BCHWC, clients find quality health care services offered with compassion, dignity and confidentiality.

"There are so many people who live not just paycheck to paycheck, but on the edge of financial ruin," BCHWC Director Kate Terlep said in an article in the *Bureau County Republican*. "These people were slipping through the cracks. Now, businesses, churches and individual volunteers are coming together to care for people, body and soul."

BCHWC was founded in 2002 by Heather Tinker. As an emergency room nurse, she grew frustrated that non-emergency patients had to wait 6 to 8 hours for primary health care behind the acutely ill and injured in the local hospital emergency rooms because they had no other access to care. Factory closings and lay-offs in the Bureau County area, coupled with a shift from industrial jobs to service industry positions with few or no benefits, had left many people with no health insurance. At the same time, the "working poor" often did not qualify for government assisted health care programs.

"Heather saw the need and had the perseverance to get the clinic going, and over the years had the passion and faith to keep it going," Paulette Bird, BCHWC board member, commented. Heather formed a task force of community leaders, including clergy and health practitioners, to assess the needs of area residents. Their work led to the establishment of the Bureau County Health and Wellness Clinic.

The clinic opened in an empty storefront on Main Street in Princeton in 2002. That same year, the CCHFS board met with the clinic board to consider the feasibility of partnering with the clinic to move services to the CCHFS campus. The mission statements of the two entities were compatible, and the move would



## COMPASSIONATE CARE

*A staff worker at the Bureau County Health and Wellness Clinic takes a routine blood pressure reading in one of the clinic's three examining rooms. The clinic, located on the CCHFS campus, provides primary medical care and other services to uninsured persons in Bureau and LaSalle Counties.*

provide much-needed additional space for the clinic. In 2004, the BCHWC moved to the former school and activities building on the CCHFS campus.

The clinic relies upon the volunteer services of area physicians and nurses, as well as volunteer support staff and board members, to provide care, seek contributions and manage the annual budget. Only the director and a part time office worker receive salaries. Kate Terlep assumed the directorship of the clinic when Heather Tinker stepped down as director last fall. Kate is a licensed Minister of Care for the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ. Her husband is the pastor at the First Christian Church of Princeton.

A Hospital Impact Study showed a 60% reduction in uninsured visits to the local hospital emergency department a year after the introduction of free clinic services. This has led Perry Memorial Hospital in Princeton and St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley to provide limited testing services for BCHWC clients. A second free clinic opened in neighboring LaSalle County last year.

In the past year, the BCHWC has provided more than a half million dollars in patient care, diagnostics and prescription medications to 2500 clients, in more than 4000 patient visits in two counties. The BCHWC provides services with funds raised solely from contributions and grants, as well as in-kind donations. Supporters include the volunteers who give so generously of their time, as well as local residents, churches, civic organizations and businesses. CCHFS is proud to partner with the clinic as it promotes CCHFS's own mission to provide a continuum of effective care and quality services to children, youth, adults, and families, in response to the life and work of Jesus Christ.

In addition to patient care, the clinic volunteers and staff provide health education to help clients and community residents make

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## InTouch

InTouch is a newsletter for friends of Covenant Children's Home and Family Services. Published by the Board of Directors of Covenant Children's Home and Family Services.

**Bonnie Pihl**  
Board Chair

**Barbara Prendergast**  
Editor

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# Honor and Memorial Gifts

A gift given in honor or in memory of a loved one is a wonderful way to commemorate a special person's life or accomplishments. Memorial and honor gifts will be listed in future issues of *InTouch*. (Note: the name of the honored or memorialized person is listed first, followed by the donor.)

## GENERAL GIFTS

### In memory of Harry Cullins

Alice Anderson

### In memory of Gary Smith

Edwin and Donna Fattes

### In memory of Lillian Anderson

Glenn and Shirley Peterson

### In memory of Walter Youngblood

Glenn Stach

David Youngberg

Dale and Gay Knutson

Peter and Sandy Pueston

Bill Youngblood

Rae Kinn

Richard and Judith Nagel

John and Mary Zielnicki

Cynthia Kozlowski

June Perrine

### In honor of Rev. Donald Frisk

### In memory of Evelyn Frisk

Peter and Martha Frisk

### In memory of Harry B. Johnson

Carl E. Johnson

### In memory of Carl Brorson

Stig and Ingrid Benson

### In memory of

### Debra Schaidle, CCHFS

### staff member (1991)

Walter and Pat Schaidle

### In honor of Doris Beistle Falk

Margaret Grant

### In honor of Dolly Kaehler

Helen Porter

### In memory of Arthur C. Johnson

Mrs. Arthur C. Johnson

### In memory of

### Mr. and Mrs. A. Anderson

### and Mr. and Mrs. A. Walter

Mr. and Mrs. R. Walter

### In honor of education

Inez Olander

### In memory of

### Rev. and Mrs. Clifford Videen

John W. Brundine

### In honor of

### Glenn and Shirley Peterson

Col. Gladys M. Boyer,

USAR (Ret)

### In memory of

### Elsa, Jack and Eileen Bolton

Mary Bolton Stubbe

### In memory of

### J. Fredrick Burgh, DDS

Helen B. Johnson

### In memory of

### Georgena A. Erickson

Kenneth A. Erickson

### In memory of Hannah Leigh Boyd, granddaughter

Gene R. Boyd

### In honor of grandchildren

Tribune Printing Company

### In honor of Rev. C. John Weborg

John Zetterlund

### In memory of LouAnn Peterson

JoAnn Oswald

### In honor of all teachers

Miss Verna M. Larson

### In memory of

### Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Tamte

James and Dorothy Ronning

### In memory of Pamela's parents,

### Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Wagner

Merle and Pamela Tillman

### In honor of grandsons,

### Ken and Andy

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Zeitler

### In memory of Carl (Okie) Nelson

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Eickmeier

Thelma Beall

Debra Adams

Greg and Kris Bell

Merv and Nancy Smith

Dave and Kathy Nixon

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Pihl

Roger and Dana Clayton

The Schultzes

Wanda Stenzel

Gary and Bea Coates

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Gilbert and Else Williamson

Margaret Sutcliffe

Edgar and Esther Sinn

Jim and Linda Carter

Tatty McCauley Monroe

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Walter and Carole Nelson

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Anderson

Raymond and Ruth Vetter

Glenn and Shirley Peterson

Frances and Gilbert Pinter

Roger and Sylvia Swanson

Deborah Anne Vetter

Joyce and Edward Wagner

Robert and Kay Telfer

Sue Austin

## MEMORIAL GARDEN GIFTS

### In honor of parents

### Edwin Cedarleaf, original member

### Of CCHFS Board

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Cedarleaf

### In memory of Arthur G. Falk

Doris M. Falk

## HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH A GIFT TO COVENANT CHILDREN'S HOME AND FAMILY SERVICES

Did you know that you can make a gift to Covenant Children's Home and Family Services in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a special event or to honor a special person? An honor or memorial gift is a wonderful way to provide hope and caring to someone in need, while remembering a special person or event. The honoree will receive a letter from CCHFS informing him or her of your thoughtfulness, and the gift will be acknowledged in the next issue of the *InTouch* newsletter.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of gift enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ General gift \_\_\_\_\_ or Memorial Garden gift \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is in memory of \_\_\_\_\_ or to honor \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

Send gift acknowledgement letter to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send gift with form to: Covenant Children's Home and Family Services \* P.O. Box 518, Princeton, IL 61356

**THANK YOU!**