

Affordable Health Care - Quality Service - Healthy Living



# Newsletter





www.gpocenter.org

GeneseoPOC@gmail.com

#### **GPOC Spring/Summer Update**

As some restrictions ease and more people are vaccinated, the GPOC continues to serve the needs of our clients as we get back on track to near normalcy. Clinics are scheduled each week, and the Center continues to refer clients for ancillary medical and mental health services, laboratory, dental and vision care, as well as assistance with prescription drug costs.

The GPOC was awarded a \$75,000 Federal CARES grant, which will greatly enhance the financial bottom line in assisting the needs of our Livingston County clients.

The GPOC is excited to announce our affiliation with UNITE US, a national network of social services agencies that provide assistance with such things as food insecurity, housing, employment, mental health counseling and addiction services and much more. UNITE US expands the Center's umbrella of agencies available to meet the needs of our clients in every part of New York State.

The GPOC needs more volunteers to maintain our high standard of client services. Presently we are looking for a Primary Care Provider, as well as an RN and/or an LPN to be available on scheduled clinic days. In addition, anyone with secretarial and basic computer skills is needed to assist with the myriad of record keeping and grant documentation demands. Our Foodlink Emergency pantry could use some extra hands, as well. Think about joining our "team" of dedicated volunteers. The rewards are great, the time involved is up to you. Our clients are so grateful for everything the Center does for them. Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer!!

COVID-19 Vaccine Information from Livingston County

243-7270 Livingston Co. Health Dept.

#### The Geneseo Parish Outreach Food Pantry

We are continuing to help feed our community through generous donations and the grants we receive from Foodlink in Rochester. NY. From January 2021 until the end of June this year, our statistic show that we have



served 199 families which represents a total of 395 individuals served.

After doing a Foodlink survey we were allocated a donation/grant fund in May of \$2,750.00 and that is above the yearly contracted funds we receive from Foodlink. Way to go ...

Along with seeking funding, we have been blessed by the United Methodist Women of Geneseo with a donation to help offset supplies not purchased or given by Foodlink or in other donations through our community members. The United Methodist Women are committed to serving with us in the Food Pantry. As a service through Foodlink, our volunteers must spend hours in Food Safety training, Civil Rights training and classes to better understand hunger needs in communities. These are done by most all volunteers. Some are required and others help us serve and work more efficiently within the Food

Much goes on behind the scenes to help make this pantry work and it COULD NOT be done without the entire village. Thank you all.

Respectfully,

Pam K

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# Volunteers: What They Do and How You Might Help



Carol Thompson, RN

The Outreach Center consists of many volunteers who devote themselves to the grateful clients who enter the doors four mornings a week month in and month out. At this time GPOC would welcome others who could assist with various services. Executive Director Donna Flaherty is the primary person who sets the wheels in motion. Not only are the usual office organizational skills a must, but she and anyone who serves in the clinic must have the interpersonal skills required to speak with patients and deal patiently and compassionately with those experiencing hardships. An additional office helper would need to be computer savvy, understand how to track data, and have some familiarity with medical nomenclature. Extra hands once a week or every other week would be of great help to the Director.

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#### **Thanks to Geneseo Boy Scout Troup 4070**



John and Rafael Rutigliano brought items for the Food Pantry collected by Boy Scout Troop 4070 of Geneseo. The Outreach Center appreciates all donations to the Pantry especially non-food personal items that we do not get through Foodlink.

Thanks, Troop 4070 for your contribution.

#### Hours and Fees

#### All services are by appointment only.

Call us for an appointment at: 585-243-3120
Monday through Thursday, 9-Noon
We suggest a \$5 donation for clinic visits.
A \$20 donation is suggested for adult
(18 and older) job or school physicals.

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4520 Genesee Street (Route 63) Geneseo, NY 14454 Phone: 585-243-3120

Fax:585-243-1189

GeneseoPOC@gmail.com

#### Potential Clients:

Those with no insurance.

Those who are under-insured.

Those who cannot pay for medications or specialty care.

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For the weekly patient clinics, GPOC is seeking additional volunteers: nurse practitioners, physician assistants and doctors. In addition to the clinic needs, nurses offer other valuable assistance for clients. Nurse care manager Carol Thompson, for example, volunteers one morning a week and, occasionally, helps with patient clinics. Nurses often help with problem-solving such as determining methods of getting expensive medications. They are familiar with electronic medical records, communicate with other medical providers, and document referrals.

Another component of the GPOC is the Food Pantry headed by Pam Klingman. Marilyn Russell assists Pam with shifts as they distribute food and personal care items to clients, while complying with all Foodlink guidelines Stocking shelves and keeping track of inventory are among their other duties. They would appreciate help at Christmas and other crucial times such as Foodlink delivery days. These three are only a few of the areas where new volunteers might be of service and find satisfaction at the Outreach Center. Please contact the Geneseo Parish Outreach Center at (585) 243-3120 or email us at <a href="mailto:geneseopoc@gmail.com">geneseopoc@gmail.com</a> if you are interested in playing a role in this valuable community service



#### Adopt-a-Shelf/Assist with Medication

As more individuals are temporarily unable to work, their ability to obtain food, personal hygiene items, and medications becomes more difficult.

Our pantry is well stocked, but we do not get a price break on items such as toilet paper, shampoo, and laundry soap. If you or an organization that you are a member of would like to adopt one of these items and keep the shelf for that item stocked, it would be most helpful. Just let us know which item you are adopting and we will let you know when it is running low.

Another opportunity for serving is to assist our clients with prescription expenses. In March alone we experienced a 500% increase in prescription-assisted expenses.

Listed below are the costs of four of the many drugs our clients need. Each represents costs for one individual per month.

- Lantus, a long-acting insulin commonly used to treat diabetes: \$223-\$744, depending on the dose the patient requires. The Lantus calculation is based on a patient using 30 units per day on the low side to 100 units per day on the high side.
- **Trulicity,** a newer non-insulin drug for diabetes which is injected weekly: \$689.
- **Symbicort,** combination inhaler for asthma or COPD, taken 2 puffs twice a day: \$295.
- **Spiriva,** an inhaled drug for asthma or COPD, taken 2 puffs daily: \$439.

Sample donation and reminder: \$223 is equivalent to helping one person who needs 30 units of Lantus per day secure his/her much-needed medication. If clients need to choose which bills to pay, they may stop taking their medication to save money. This decision would weaken them and could cost us all in higher emergency room costs.

If you or your organization can support shelf items and/ or medications, please respond to the GPOC ASAP with your wishes.

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#### CENTER RECEIVES CARES GRANT

The Geneseo Parish Outreach Center has been awarded a \$75K grant by the Livingston County Community Initiatives Council (<a href="https://www.livingstoncounty.us/.../Community-Initiatives...">https://www.livingstoncounty.us/.../Community-Initiatives...</a>) for our submission for the CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT FUNDING.

The Outreach Center and its clients are delighted and wish to thank the Council for selecting us to receive these funds. The funds will be used to help improve the health and well-being of Livingston County residents who have income below 200% of the federal poverty level. Many have lost employment, and, consequently, health insurance during this difficult time.

Clients will be helped with medical bills including prescription costs, dental costs, hospital bills, and specialty doctor visits such as vision, hearing, podiatry, etc.

Please call the Outreach Center (585) 243-3120 Monday - Thursday 9am -12 noon to schedule an appointment if you are in need of these medical services.

#### **Saturday, May 15, 2021**



Peggy Linton and Diana Harke represented the Geneseo Parish Outreach Center at the Livingston County Safety & Wellness Community Fair at the Livingston County Campus Murray Hill Drive in Mount Morris on Saturday, May 15, 2021. They handed out raisins, apple slices, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, Good Rx prescription cards, health-related coloring books, pens and GPOC brochures, wish lists and volunteer opportunity information to those visiting the GPOC booth.



# Food & Goods Donations Needed Partner with





Personal Care Items not covered by food stamps, such as the following:

- ♦ shampoo
- toilet paper
- ♦ deodorant
- ♦ tooth paste
- laundry detergent
- ♦ dish soap
- hand soap
- ♦ feminine hygiene products
- incontinence briefs

Geneseo Parish Outreach Center is an Emergency Foodlink Pantry

The Geneseo United Methodist Church provides the GPOC with a safe home space for our volunteers and clients.



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# New Yorkers don't have to go without health coverage. We are here to help!

NY State of Health is committed to ensuring access to affordable, quality health insurance for all New Yorkers so they can get the care they need. New Yorkers who are without health insurance should apply now through NY State of Health.

There are three ways to apply:

- Online at nystateofhealth.ny.gov
- By phone at 1-855-355-5777 (TTY: 1-800-662-1220)
- With the help of an Enrollment Assistor

Find one by calling 1-855-355-5777 or visit http://info.nystateofhealth.ny.gov/findassistor

#### Donate to The Geneseo Parish Outreach Center

The Parish Outreach Center is a 501(c)(3). It is dependent upon the support of the community that surrounds us. Our mission is accomplished through the generous donations of time, money and equipment from our supporters.

Donations, fundraisers, in-kind donations and foundation supporters are welcome.

You may participate in several ways:

- ... donate "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one.
- ... remember GPOC in your will or bequest.
- ... consider matching gifts from employers.

To learn how you or your organization can help us to help others, please call us. 585-243-3120

- All donations are tax deductible
- United Way donations can be made to number 2471
- We use PAYPAL to provide a secure transaction. Go to <u>www.gpocenter.org</u> and use the PAYPAL Donate Button.

## Services we provide for our clients

At Geneseo Parish Outreach Center

- Primary adult and pediatric care
- Medication assistance
- Health education
- School and employment physicals
- Insurance navigation
- Spiritual direction (upon request)
- Grief support (upon request)

At our partner/referral organizations or agencies

- Laboratory screening
- X-ray services
- Women's health
- Mental health services
- Dentistry
- Vision and hearing evaluations
- Services provided by Livingston County Department of Social Services
- Services provided by Livingston County Department of Health (ex. immunizations)
- Services provided by Catholic Family Services

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#### **GPOC earns an NAFC 2021 Gold Rating**

The Geneseo Parish Outreach Center earned a 2021 Gold Rating from the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (NAFC) Quality Standards Program.

The mission of the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics is to ensure the medically underserved have access to affordable health care. The NAFC and its members are dedicated to ensuring that patients receive quality health care.

To quantify and qualify the care provided at the Free and Charitable Clinic network, the NAFC formalized a set of Quality Standards for member organizations. NAFC Members voluntarily submit information to the NAFC on the various policies and procedures in place to attain their standards rating and attest/pledge that they successfully incorporate these standards within their organization.

NAFC Quality Standards elements include policies and procedures related to the following areas: Administrative, Enhanced Access and Continuity of Care, Identifying and Managing Patient Population information, Planning and Managing Care, Providing Self-Care Support and Community Resources, Tracking and Coordinating Care, and Measuring and Improving Performance.

We are excited to have received this top rating highlighting our commitment to providing quality care for our patients. For more information on the NAFC, please visit www.nafcclinics.org.

#### **Volunteer Retires after 17 Years of Service**



The GPOC extends a special thanks to Lucille Kane, a faithful volunteer at the Outreach Center for 17 years, on her retirement. Her cheerful spirit and heartfelt concern has helped make clients feel welcome and heard. Her presence will be missed by all.



# Our Volunteer Hours

In the first six months of 2021 the Geneseo Parish Outreach Center volunteers contributed over 2338 hours of service.



# **Newsletter Staff**

Diana Harke P
Bonnie Kreutter M
Jackie McNall S

Pam Klingman Marilyn Lyon Sandy Wilcox