

The Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic was established in 1993 as a non profit organization to care for those in need in our community. Our clinic is funded through private and corporate donations. Your contribution and continued support is gratefully accepted and appreciated!

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to:  
 Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic  
 81 Belmont Avenue  
 Brattleboro, VT 05301

**The Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic**  
**81 Belmont Avenue**  
**Brattleboro, VT 05301**

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Summer, 2003

## Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic has record number of Patient Visits

The Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic provided 1,118 free medical patient visits in 2002. This represented an increase of 20 % from 2001 and once again this year is the most patient visits the clinic has ever provided. Additionally, the dental clinic provided 126 free patient visits this year. This represents a 24% increase from last year.

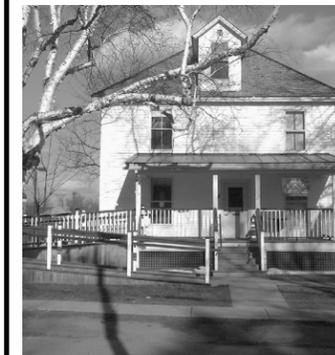
The 1,118 free medical patient visits occurred despite the clinic being closed six times during the year because of holidays or lack of provider.

This year, 65% of patients were seen on Tuesday evenings and the rest of the patient visits occurred on Wednesdays. New patient visits accounted for 35% of patient visits with the remaining patient visits representing those who have been seen at the clinic at least one time previously. New patient visits decreased by 6% in 2002. Although a majority of patients seen are from Windham County, 18% of patients were New Hampshire residents.

A Newsletter from  
 the Brattleboro  
 Walk-In Clinic

*We are located at*  
 81 Belmont Avenue  
 Brattleboro, VT 05301

We provide primary medical and dental treatment for those who are uninsured, underinsured or have other barriers to accessing care.



### *Our hours of operation*

Tuesday Evenings  
 Check-In: 5:30-7:00pm  
 Wednesday Mornings  
 Check-In 9:00-10:30am

We continue to operate mainly with a pool of dedicated volunteers, without which we could not continue to provide the care to those in need.

## Thank You to our Sponsors of the 5K Walk, Run and Roll

### Our Major Sponsors

Banknorth  
 Brattleboro Memorial Hospital  
 Brattleboro Savings & Loan  
 C & S Wholesale Grocers  
 Perfect Image  
 Vermont Bread Company  
 Vermont Yankee  
 Wal-Mart

### Our Corporate Sponsors

Atamaniuk Funeral Home  
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 Key Bank  
 Lawton Flooring  
 Leader Home Center  
 Maple Leaf Music  
 N.E. Fitness Equipment  
 Northeast Home Loan  
 Peter Haven's Restaurant  
 Richards, Gates, Hoffman & Clay  
 River Valley Credit Union  
 Trust Company Of Vermont  
 Vermont Artisans/Kitchen Sync  
 Windham Flowers

*Continued Prize Donors Page 2*



**Chittenden Bank Car wash Raises Funds for the Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic.** Employees from Chittenden Bank held a car wash to benefit the Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic. The car washes were held at the bank locations on Putney Road and Canal Street. The event raised over \$1000.00 for the clinic. Community involvement and contributions like this help fund clinic operations. Thank you, Chittenden for your continued support!

**Prize Donors, continued from Page 1**

- |                          |                    |                     |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Agnes Seville Massage    | Linden Gardens     | Shear Design        |
| Brattleboro Country Club | Mail Boxes Etc.    | Shoeboom            |
| Basketville              | Mainly Music       | Steakout            |
| Brattleboro Food Coop    | Merchants Bank     | Steve's Auto Repair |
| Brown & Roberts          | Mole's Eye Cafe    | Subway              |
| BRW Radio Shack          | Mountain Computers | Taylor For Flowers  |
| Carols' Main St. Cafe    | Newton Business    | The Putney Inn      |
| Everyone's Books         | North End Market   | The Shoe Tree       |
| Fireside True Value      | Northeast Coop     | Tom & Sally's       |
| Fletcher's Auto Repair   | Not Just Yarn      | Vermont Market      |
| G.Housen                 | Outer Limits       | Walker Farm         |
| Green River Flowers      | Prompt Image       | Walker's Restaurant |
| Hannaford Superstore     | Riverside Grocery  | Windham Business    |
| H & R Block              | Sam's              | Zephyr Designs      |
| Lawton's Dry Cleaners    |                    |                     |

Additionally, Leader Beverage provided bottled water, Cortland Hill Orchards provided apples, Brueggers Bagels provided bagels, First Run Video provided "Rent One Get One Free" certificates and Vermont Bread provided loaves of bread.

The Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic's Annual Fundraiser is a 5K walk and run and a 1 mile "fun run" for children. This year is the eighth anniversary of the event. Although each year brings new challenges, our board enjoys this event and tries to improve on and learn from the past year's race. The race raises almost half of our annual budget, and therefore, is very important to us. This year's race is scheduled for Saturday, September 20, 2003. We hope to see as many racers as possible enjoy the race and help us celebrate the clinic's 10 year anniversary!

**Nurse Practitioners at the Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic**

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses or Nurse Practitioners, have been an integral part of the Brattleboro Walk in Clinic since its inception as volunteer providers. When the Wednesday morning clinics were established, it was decided to staff them with Nurse Practitioners.

The Wednesday morning clinic was established in response to a need for more continuity of care for many patients. Patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure and asthma need to see the same provider on a regular basis. Care of these patients is dependent on establishing a provider-patient relationship and educating the patient in self-management of their disease. Nurse Practitioners are ideal for this role as they generally enjoy spending time teaching patients more about their disease and the appropriate treatment plan.

The APRN's have been well received by the clinic patients. The Wednesday clinics provide the continuity of care and follow-up that many patients need. Patients can easily be scheduled to return to see the same Nurse Practitioner from visit to visit.

There have been more than a dozen APRN's over the past 10 years serving the clinic. The current Wednesday morning staff consists of Linda Rice, Ann Zaveruha and Joan Smidutz, plus a few other NPs who continue to volunteer on Tuesday evenings.

**The Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic Board of Directors**

- Andrew Miller, President
- Wendy Rembisz, Vice President
- Debbie Lemnah, Treasurer
- Thomas Ragle, Secretary
- Thomas Evans, MD, Medical Director
- Gerald Theberge, DDS, Dental Director
- Joan Smidutz, Nurse Practitioner
- Linda Rice, Nurse Practitioner
- Barbara Evans, Nurse Practitioner
- Chris Chapman, CTFA

**Clinic Coordinator**  
Jeanne Seymour

We thank all the volunteers for their continued support and expertise they bring to the Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic. Your dedication allows the clinic to continue to provide services in our community!

**The Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic Celebrates Its Ten-Year Anniversary**

Dr. Thomas Evans and his wife Barbara founded the clinic in 1993. Since that time the clinic has been an evolving entity serving the community. Both serve on the board and Tom is the medical Director. Board Secretary Tom Ragle recently interviewed Dr. Evans.

**When and why did you and your wife found The Walk-In Clinic?** Barbara thought of it first. We had both been actively involved in the Christian Community Health Fellowship and had worked for the Public Health Service in Mississippi, where we saw firsthand the serious poverty and the need for health services for those who did not have coverage. When we came to Vermont, we thought perhaps there might be a need here as well. We founded the Center in 1993 in space made available for us in the offices of Southern Vermont Home Health in the Holstein-Freisian building

**Do other health care organizations in Brattleboro assist the Clinic in any way?**

The Brattleboro Memorial Hospital now provides our rent free space at 81 Belmont Avenue and provides considerable free laboratory work and administrative support.

**How many doctors and nurses would you say are volunteering their time this year?**

It varies considerably, but at present there around 14 doctors and nurse practitioners, 8 dentists, and dental assistants, 10 to 15 nurses, and around 10 clerical workers.

**What are the biggest problems facing the Clinic at this time?**

Maintaining the list of volunteers (ongoing), keeping motivation high, and providing on-

going care for the chronically ill in a voluntary part-time clinic.

**Is there a need for non-professional volunteers? Yes.** If anyone is willing to help, he or she should call Jeanne Seymour, our administrator, at 257-6536. Such help is always needed.

**Do you have any comments you would like to make about the health care system in this country at the present time?**

I believe most physicians provide good care to those who can access us. The big problem is access, which is difficult for those who do not have health insurance. They have a difficult time knowing how to access us. Malpractice insurance is a problem for those who might like to help but whose insurance covers only their specialties, not the primary care required at the Clinic.

**Wal-Mart Continues its support of the Walk-In Clinic**



Brattleboro Walk-In Clinic Treasurer Debbie Lemnah accepts a check from Arlene Bailey at Wal-Mart in Hinsdale, NH. Wal-Mart contributed \$1500.00 as a major race sponsor. This money was made possible by the matching grant program of the Wal-Mart Foundation.