

River Valley Health and Dental Center

CEO Report to the Board of Directors

April 2021

COVID-19: Center and Community Impact

- The Center recently received a notice of award for \$2.9 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan. The team has been developing a budget for these funds that will need to be approved by the board and submitted to HRSA in May. The grant funds may be used for an array of needs, but a major emphasis has been placed on COVID immunization and testing by the Biden Administration. One example of utilization for us is the use of staffing agency nurses for the vaccine clinic which will allow our staff members to be able to go out into the Community to administer vaccines. Due to the flexibility of the grant, we would like to be able to reserve some of the funds to support sustainability at the end of the two-year cycle.
- The Center held its second Saturday vaccine clinic on April 3rd. Nearly 350 individuals received their second dose after receiving their first dose during the Saturday clinic held in March. Our goal of administering 1,000 vaccines per week continues to be a driving force. Barb Wool, Clinical Operations Manager, will provide additional information during our meeting.
- The Center purchased a self-scheduling add-on module for the eCW software to assist with the scheduling of COVID vaccines. This software allows patients to schedule vaccines only up to 10 days in the future. Of course, a patient can still call and speak to a staff member to schedule their appointment.
- Demand for COVID-19 testing increased during the past four weeks with 180 tests completed. The Center has continued to provide both rapid testing and non-rapid PCR tests five days per week.

Grants and/or Expanded Services Opportunities

- The Center received notice late last week that we will be receiving \$50,000 from an organization called Direct Relief. We had applied for this grant before learning about the \$2.9 million received from the American Rescue Plan. This \$50,000 will be used to pay for staffing of the vaccine clinic.
- The dentist that was supposed to begin earlier this month decided to not join our team due to a significant family situation. However, two other dentists will be joining us over the next four months: one in July and the other in August. We are continuing to recruit for a third dentist.

- As mentioned last month, Express Care is now open for business at our 431 location with limited hours. However, on May 1 we will be going to a fully expanded schedule.

Building Community Awareness and Perception

- Express Care services have gained momentum this month with full operating hours beginning in May. The hours of operation will be Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Further Webb Weekly advertising is planned along with other efforts to promote this service. Temporary signage will soon be replaced with an electric sign on top of the building to attract customers driving by.
- PACHC Statewide Initiative Update & Vaccine Campaign: Print advertising and billboards will soon be launched as part of the statewide effort organized by PACHC. The message was developed first to support COVID vaccine services but was composed in a way to promote that health centers are here for more than just for COVID-19 vaccines. The billboard design was created by PACHC, but River Valley will fund the campaign cost for the billboards and ads from this year's budget and additional funds will be allocated from next year's budget. Further plans for the statewide efforts will use funding allocated from previous grant dollars contributed by all centers.
- National Health Center Week is August 8 -14, 2021 and its theme is "Community Health Centers: The Chemistry for Strong Communities". The PR/Marketing Committee is looking at plans to celebrate this week, which is further part of the celebration of River Valley's 10th year anniversary of being an FQHC. It is hoped COVID restrictions will have relaxed by then so the Center can do more of a traditional celebration.
- Raise the Region Final Tally was \$9,181.65. That total includes \$865.92 of stretch and match money from Blaise Alexander.

Outreach Locations & Activities for March and April 2021

- STEP Board Activities
- Chamber of Commerce Activities
- Senior management has continued to participate with local groups anxious about COVID-19 which includes such interested parties as state and county government representatives, as well as concerned citizens.
- Lock Haven University: STD awareness/testing. Provided education related to prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, healthy relationships, and preventing unwanted pregnancy
- RVH&DC waiting room event: STD awareness. Educational handouts, giveaways, and risk reduction tools. The Health Educator was available for questions.
- Table Display and TV monitors in exam rooms at RVH&DC: Prevention and risk reduction of STD's and COVID-19 awareness and prevention
- Lock Haven University: STD awareness/testing
- Table Display and TV monitors in exam rooms at RVH&DC: Colorectal Cancer Awareness and COVID-19 awareness and prevention