

Being a Samaritan Means Loving Your Neighbor



Ken and Becky Miles drive 20 miles each Thursday to volunteer. Becky is a bilingual volunteer and she and Ken both work at the front desk.

Thursdays are the busiest days at the Good Samaritan Center. On those days we are grateful to have the husband-wife team of Becky and Ken Miles working the front desk. Becky Miles is a clinical dietician who worked for the Christus/St. Elizabeth system in Beaumont. Ken worked at the Texaco Oil Refinery in Port Arthur in the area of labor relations. They retired to Willow City just as the Good Samaritan Center began its building campaign. Volunteering has

given them a shared activity in their retirement and an opportunity to meet other like-minded volunteers.

"Everyone can come together for a common cause," Beckysaid. "I'm so thankful this is here."

The Miles arrive around 2:00 PM each Thursday and stay until the last client leaves - usually after 7:00 PM.

Becky's bilingual skills have made her essential at the front desk. She is Mexican-American by heritage, so she can help many of the Center's Hispanic patients.

"I listen to some of the stories of people who are really struggling. We don't ask, but some of them tell us."

Ken Miles,
Thursday Afternoon Volunteer

One day she got to put all her training to work. A Spanish-speaking woman called the clinic in a frantic state. Her husband had just been diagnosed with diabetes, and refused to eat. Becky calmed the woman down and gave her some valuable information about her husband's condition.

"It was easy to go into it with her," Becky said. "I tried to help them fit their diet into their ethnic food choices."

Both Ken and Becky have learned from their experience as volunteers.

"I've learned how to deal with people a little better," Kensaid. "I listen to some of the stories of people who are really struggling. We don't ask, but some of them tell us."

Although Becky has worked in the medical community for many years, she said that volunteering at the front desk has helped her appreciate the value of teamwork. She feels just as connected with the doctors in the examination rooms as she does with the patients in the waiting room.

We thank the Miles and our over 90 other volunteers for being part of the team at the Good Samaritan Center!

We grew a lot in 2005!

We always knew there was a huge need for a charitable clinic in our community, but our growth in 2005 surprised even us.

We operated for years in borrowed and rented spaces that limited the number of patients we could see. Our new building, which was completed in June 2004, has changed all of that. Now we are limited only by the number of hours we are open, and the number of patients our doctor can see.

One look at the chart to the right will show you that our new building has dramatically increased the numbers of medical patients we can see and the number of medications we can provide. It also reflects the fact that we can now offer basic dental services such as cleanings, fillings, and extractions.

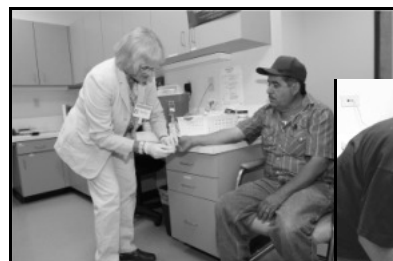
Our goal for 2006 is to add as many patient and dental visits as possible. Through January and February we have already seen 20% more patients than we did in the same period of 2005.

We also received a grant to formally launch our diabetes program. You have read in past newsletters about Kathy Lux's volunteer work in helping our diabetes patients. Now Kathy is working for us sixteen hours per week, and formalizing our diabetes screening and education to maximize its effectiveness.

None of this could happen without the tremendous support we receive from every volunteer, donor, and business that chooses to become part of our ministry. If you are one of the above, then we hope our results for 2005 and our plans for 2006 bring you a lot of joy.

Clinical Data for 2004 & 2005

	2004	2005
Medical		
Patient Files	882	1,735
Patient Visits	1,766	2,545
Specialty Referrals no stats		156
Prescriptions filled no stats		3,602
Dental		
Patient Files	55	250
Patient Visits	67	397



Left: Kathy Lux helps a patient with a blood test.

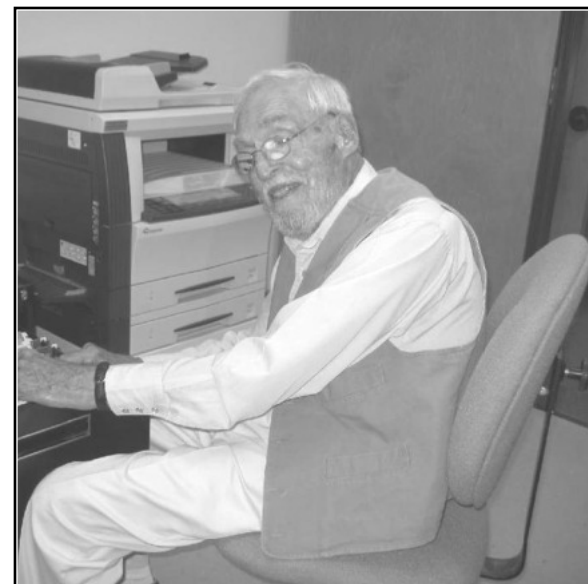


Right: Jan Warner comforts a young dental patient.

Remembering Dr. Ralph Greenlee, Sr.

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell...?"

Jesus, Luke 10:36



Dr. Greenlee, Sr., is caught pulling dental patient files so that he could call to remind them of their appointment.

We would be remiss if we did not mention a great moment of sorrow for us in December. The entire Fredericksburg community lost a treasure when Dr. Ralph Greenlee, Sr. passed away. Dr. Greenlee was a volunteer and founding board member of The Good Samaritan Center, serving as a member of the Executive and Clinical Services Committees, and Chair of the Nominating and Board Development Committee.

In a lot of ways, Dr. Greenlee set the tone for our ministry, even suggesting our name. He constantly looked for ways to be of service. When he could no longer drive he would have the next day's patient list faxed to his home and then call each patient to remind them of their appointment. He also worked diligently on the difficult task of putting a quantifiable number on our impact on Hill Country Memorial Hospital's ER. He wanted The Good Samaritan Center to not only be a good clinic, but an exemplary clinic that put the patient first at all times.

Our former board president and current board secretary, Katherine Peake, remembers this of Dr. Greenlee: "He was an 'old school' gentleman who would stand up when a woman entered the room and pull out a chair at the table. He framed each question with, 'How would a patient perceive this?' and, 'Is this what the Good Samaritan would do?'"

A man of deep faith, personal integrity, immense knowledge and great caring, his life and his actions serve as a model for us all. A plaque will be installed in his memory at the Center, and his memory will remain in our hearts.

Yes, I want to help!

You are welcome to help us in any way that your feel led to be involved. Because we charge only \$15 to \$25 per patient visit, we end up subsidizing about \$70 for every patient we see. This money comes from foundations and private donations. Of course, there are other ways to help too. Volunteers and in-kind donations help us to minimize our costs and use our resources more wisely. Please take a moment to pray and consider whether you would like to become a volunteer or donor. Thank you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ST/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

- Monthly commitment (amount _____)
 - One-time donation (amount _____)
 - Memoriam/Honorarium (see below)
 - Wish List (see back for list)
 - Volunteer (type of activity _____)
 - In-kind service (type _____)
 - Send me the quarterly newsletter
- (We will contact you to clarify your request)*

Memorials/Honorariums (circle one):

Name of honoree: _____

Person(s) to be notified: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

The Good Samaritan Center

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John Willome, Executive Director



The Good Samaritan Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.



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Nonprofit Organization
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The Good Samaritan Center



"A Healing Place"

Spring 2006

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Working Together for our Neighbors

John Willome, Executive Director

As the new Executive Director of The Good Samaritan Center I am amazed at what I have found here in Fredericksburg. God has obviously worked through Sara Allerkamp and the entire community to help families who need basic health and dental care.

Your involvement makes it all possible. We have over 90 active volunteers involved in every facet of our operation, and hundreds of financial partners. Add to that the multiple specialists who accept our referrals and the local businesses that give in-kind donations to keep our costs down, and you can see the teamwork involved in serving our patients.

Our goal for 2006 and 2007 is to grow as much as possible. We want to add more medical and dental appointments, sustain and expand our new diabetes program, provide more medications, and conduct public trainings so that preventative care will reduce the need for emergency care.

Thank you for your decision to partner with us. Whether you choose to volunteer, make a donation of some type, or stand with us in prayer, you are choosing to help your "neighbor" and live in the tradition of Jesus' "Good Samaritan."



We are one of the few charitable clinics that offers dental hygiene service in addition to extractions and fillings. Pictured L to R are Polly, Veronica, Sandi, and Kelly.

A Samaritan's Story

A family came into the clinic at the end of a busy day. They had never visited us before, and they were timid about asking for help.

They had two boys. The younger one was about two years old and the older was around four years old. The younger child had two large knobs protruding from each side of his neck and obviously needed medical attention.

Our waiting room has a play area for children, but neither child left his parents' side. The family remained huddled together.

We immediately made arrangements for the younger

child to see our doctor that day.

A volunteer soon brought them a basket of food goodies—granola bars, peanut butter crackers, and fruit. She asked if she could offer snacks to the children, and the father said yes. Each child took a goodie, but were still full of trepidation.

The volunteer thought to herself, They need to know there is compassion here. She remained with the family, eventually earned enough trust to pat the children. Immediately,

smiles broke over their faces. It was one of those dreary

dreary winter days outside, when the sun sets in the early evening, but inside the waiting room the sun was shining brightly.

The child got the medical help he needed at a price the family could afford. The family began to build some trust with a former stranger. And a volunteer learned the value of touch to a frightened sick child.

Your help allowed us to be the Good Samaritan to this family. Thank you.

Your Chance to be Involved

People often ask us how they can help. Here are some options for you as you prayerfully consider how you might join us in reaching out to our neighbors.

Help us get the word out:

- Bring your friends by for a tour.
- Invite us to present to your church, social, or civic organization.

Volunteer:

- Become a weekly administrative/medical volunteer. *If you speak Spanish we definitely need your help.*
- Help with facility maintenance and cleaning.
- Join our landscaping crew.
- Assist us in conducting fundraising events.
- Conduct a public education class.

Donate:

- Become a monthly/regular donor to cover our \$70 per patient cost (we see 200-260 patients each month).
- Donate "Wish List" items or services your business might provide.

Our mission is to provide coordinated and affordable health and social services that minister to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the unserved and underserved in the Texas Hill Country (Blanco, Gillespie, Kimball, Llano, and Mason Counties).

Wish List:

- Two blood pressure machines (\$100 each)
- Lockable information display case for wall outside the front door (\$200)
- Storage building for landscaping equipment (750)

Please call to verify that someone has not already donated your chosen item.



Our clinical director, Eryn Tatum, works on a patient chart.

Thank you!

Spring is in the Air!

Countless volunteers, businesses, churches, and civic organizations donate their time and resources to help us. In addition to our administrative and medical needs, landscaping volunteers honor our patients by adding to the beauty of our facility.

When you come by for a tour, please take some time to walk all of the way around our building. You will see a natural habitat that has been lovingly sculpted. Hopefully, it will minister to you as you see how beautiful the springtime in Texas can be!



Volunteers from Gillespie County Leadership 2006 and Holy Ghost Lutheran Church Youth Group get us ready for spring.