

OPEN ARMS CLINIC

PROVIDING CHARITABLE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

Newsletter



CONTACT

109 BIG A RD. • TOCCOA, GA 30577

PHONE: 1 (706) 886-0940 FAX: 1 (706) 886-0941 EMAIL: OPENARMSGA@GMAIL.COM

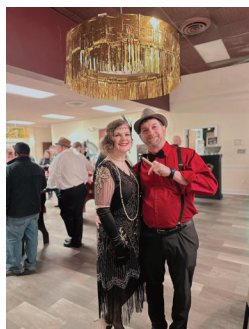
WWW.OPENARMSCLINICGA.COM

HOURS

TUESDAYS: 2PM-8PM • WEDNESDAYS: BY APPT. ONLY • THURSDAYS: 9AM-5PM

GAME NIGHT

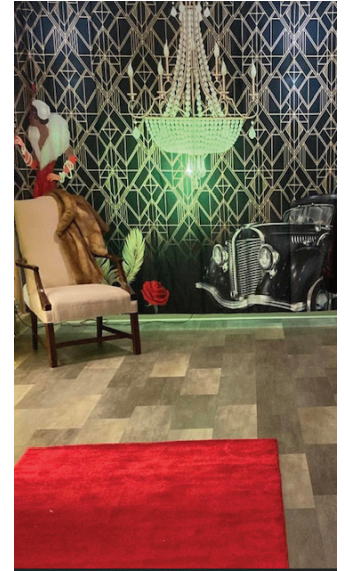
Fun & games for a great cause!



GAME NIGHT

The results are in!

After expenses, our annual
FUNdraiser raised
\$17,070.10



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR GENEROUS DONORS FOR HELPING TO MAKE THIS NIGHT A ROARING SUCCESS!

WINE

GENEROUSLY
DONATED BY
SHERRY BEAVERS
SHARLEEN STINE SPRING
ROGER & DEBBIE GUILMOND
KAY ROYAL
JOLEY STRICKLAND
HELEN CELLAR
FRANK & SUSAN PATTON
ENGLEHEIM WINERY
DUANE & SHARON MAHON
DAVID & ROSEMARY BALLARD
CURRAHEE VINEYARDS
CARTEGAY VINEYARDS
CANE CREEK VINEYARDS
BUDDY & JANA CHEEK
BUCKLEY VINEYARDS
BRYAN GORDON
BILL & SHERRI STEPHENS
BIG A LIQUORS
BEAR CLAW VINEYARD
BARNEY COLLINS
ALAN & DELISA CHRIST

ROARING TWENTIES GAME NIGHT
SPONSORED BY

TABLE BENEFACTORS

ADAMS & ASSOCIATES
DISABILITY, INC.

JAYNE AND JERRY
SNELL

ANONYMOUS
DONOR

CHRIS IRVIN
BUILDERS

TABLE SPONSORS

Franklin
Financial

ALAN AND DELISA
CHRIST

ASI Southeast

BILL AND JUDY
BUDGETEAL

GREENSTONE

WATKINS RINGDORS
706-884-4062 | Toccoa

JAMIESON
P.A. & B.B. INC.

Stephens County Hospital

SPONSORS

BARNEY
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HEALTH

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DICKERSON, ESSBE

SAM BAAR
TRUCKING

STEPHENS COUNTY
EYE CLING

SUPPORTERS

DMV ENTERPRISES

DR. LEMNA NOVOTNA and DAVID SHADAT

GEORGE and SHERRY BEAVERS

KERSHA PARKER STATE FARM

LABRINE BETTS

FIRST CITIZENS BANK

WYTHLOCH MORTUARY

ANGEL DAN DESIGN

ROSELANE BEMETARY

TRANSPLANT NURSERY

IN KIND

DR. and MRS. JIM WADE

ELKS LODGE

ANGEL DAN HOME

BULLDOG CAR WASH

CK MORGAN and COMPANY

CVS

DEVINE CREATIONS

EL PADON

INELLS

HELLER GREEN KENNELS

LIVING ROOM BROTHERS COFFEE

SHERRY BEAVERS

CAROL BOWNELLY

DR. KAY ROYAL

STAN RICHIEY, STAN'S SERVICE CENTER

LITTLE BLACK DRESS GRAPHIC STUDIO

SHARLEEN STINE SPRING

GAME NIGHT 2024: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD!

Reverse Advent Calendar 2022

January 4th, 2023 was a cold, rainy day on which we were able to bring a little sunshine into 55 families' lives. 9 Open Arms Clinic volunteers gathered with Neighbors 4 Neighbors and distributed the food boxes you donated for the 3rd annual Reverse Advent Calendar.

Thank you for your generosity!



"to nourish all who come through our doors, those in need and those who serve".

February 2, 2023

Ms. Sherry Beavers
Open Arms Clinic
109 Big A Road
Toccoa, GA 30577

Dear Sherry,

On behalf of the board of directors of Neighbors 4 Neighbors I would like to thank you and all the people involved with Open Arms Clinic for your donation of the Reverse Advent Calendar Collection ~ a tremendous amount of food! It was so generous of you to come and distribute the boxes on our distribution day. Thanks to your kindness we may continue to provide what our guests desperately need. We stay committed to feed and provide for the hungry and needy of Stephens County. As well as you are committed to the health and wellbeing of our citizens. It takes all of us working together to make anything worthwhile. It is with your help that we can keep our mission alive.

We truly appreciate you, your continued support, and of course, this donation. It is people like you that make life good and Toccoa a good place to live. 😊

Sincerely,

Dee Scarborough
N4N secretary/MFP coordinator

Deborah Gibby, President; Lucy Davis, VP; Dee Scarborough, Secretary; Sabrina Walker, Treasurer;
Board members: Jana Cheek, Betty Daniels, Ron Hartzog, Agnes Oglesby,
Dave Standard, Laura Vandal and Paige Watson

935 East Tugalo Street Toccoa, Ga 30577 (706) 491-5636

Facebook: [Neighbors4NeighborsToccoa](https://www.facebook.com/Neighbors4NeighborsToccoa)

E-mail: neighbors4neighbors@windstream.net

UPCOMING EVENTS



SPONSORED BY THE TOCCOA LIONS CLUB



CONDO RAFFLE

TO BENEFIT OPEN ARMS CLINIC

OPEN ARMS CLINIC IS A 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT THAT PROVIDES FREE AND COMPASSIONATE MEDICAL CARE AND MEDICATIONS TO THE INDIGENT OF STEPHENS COUNTY, GA.

\$50 = 1 TICKET • \$100 = 3 TICKETS

Vacation in beautiful Myrtle Beach

- A WORLD-CLASS VACATION EXPERIENCE
- 6 NIGHTS & 5 DAYS
- GOLFING, BEACH, ENTERTAINMENT, AND SHOPPING
- CONDO SLEEPS 10 PEOPLE
- PATIO, OVERLOOKING GOLF COURSE
- UP TO 20 ROUNDS OF GOLF
- FREE BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND 2 DRINKS FOR PLAYERS
- SCOTTISH-STYLE GOLF COURSE, POOL, HOT TUB & PUB ACCESS
- 15-MINUTE DRIVE TO BEACHFRONT, ENTERTAINMENT, AND SHOPPING
- A WEEK OF FUN & SUN, SURF & TURF FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

WINNER WILL BE DRAWN ON MAY 18TH

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE* AT OPENARMSCLINICGA.COM, FROM ANY BOARD MEMBER, OR AT THE CLINIC ON ANY TUESDAY (2PM-8PM) OR THURSDAY (9AM-5PM)

*ONLINE SALES END ON MAY 17TH AT MIDNIGHT

PACKAGE VALUE: \$2,500.⁰⁰

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE STARTING APRIL 1ST!

Walgreens

WE ARE PLEASE TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR THE
WALGREENS DONATION PROGRAM
MARCH 1ST - MAY 31ST

Since 1901, Walgreens has been committed to giving back to our communities. We work with a number of national charity partners and are looking to further deliver on supporting the needs within our local communities.



how to donate Walgreens Cash rewards to charity

in^{ACT}.



Now you can donate your Walgreens Cash rewards to make an impact on causes you care about. You'll earn unlimited 1% Walgreens Cash rewards when you shop and you can choose how much to donate. It's that easy.



Every dollar counts. Whether you'd like to contribute \$1, \$5, or more of your Walgreens Cash rewards you'll be making a big difference. It really adds up!

Help communities you care about by donating your Walgreens Cash rewards.

myWalgreens



PATIENT PROGRAMS



SWEET FEET IS AN ADJUNCT TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS WITH DIABETES; OFFERING THEM A TARGETED EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE, AS WELL AS A FOOT ASSESSMENT IN A RELAXING, THERAPUTIC ENVIRONMENT, PERFORMED BY A REGISTERED NURSE. WITH REGULAR ASSESSMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE REVIEWS OF DAILY BLOOD SUGAR LOGS AND QUARTERLY LAB WORK, WE EXPECT OUR PATIENTS TO EXPERIENCE BETTER

UNDERSTANDING AND COMPLIANCE, AS WELL AS MORE NORMALIZED BLOOD LEVELS. THEY SHOULD THEN EXPERIENCE FEWER DIABETIC COMPLICATIONS.

WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE PARTNERED WITH GIVINGHEALTH IN ORDER TO PROVIDE OUR PATIENTS WITH A MORE COMPREHENSIVE AFTER HOURS HEALTH CARE OPTION. THIS WILL PROVIDE OUR PATIENTS WITH THE MEANS TO AVOID UNNECESSARY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM UTILIZATION (ER) AND RESULT IN COST SAVINGS TO THE COMMUNITY.



24/7 ON-DEMAND TELEHEALTH ACCESS FOR PARTNERS

**OUR PATIENTS NOW HAVE ACCESS TO
FREE TELEMEDICINE & MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING!**

FECAL IMMUNOCHEMICAL TEST (F.I.T.)



BEGINNING IN MARCH 2023, WE HAVE PARTNERED WITH UNIFIED HEALTHCARE FOR THE RURAL UNDERSERVED TO ACHIEVE OUR COMMON GOAL TO HELP UNDERSERVED GEORGIANS GET SCREENED FOR COLON CANCER.

Georgia Colon Cancer Prevention Project

UHRU HAS PROVIDED US WITH SCREENING TESTS, FREE OF CHARGE, AS WELL AS A \$500 GRANT. IF A PATIENT TESTS POSITIVE, HE/SHE WILL BE REFERRED ON TO HAVE A COLONOSCOPY, PER OUR PROTOCOL. THE GRANT MONEY WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE GAS FOR TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THAT PROCEDURE.



GIVE TAKE

LENDING CLOSET

These are items donated to us to redistribute to anyone in the community that may need them

- Wheelchairs
- Walkers
- Rollators
- Shower Chairs
- Potty Chairs
- Adult Diapers
- Bed Pads
- Canes
- Crutches
- Potty Rails
- Nebulizers & Tubing
- Oxygen Tubing

WHAT WE NEED

Listed below are items that we are in need of in order to help maintain our office and provide for our patients and the community

- Copy Paper
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Hand Soap
- Sticky Notes
- AAA Batteries
- AA Batteries
- Staples
- Garbage Bags
- (4gal, 8gal, 13gal, & 30gal)
- Closed-Toed Shoes
- (good condition)

We have several carloads of donations for Samaritan's Purse. If you are going anywhere near Boone, Wilkesboro, or Blowing Rock, NC, please consider dropping a load off for us. For information on their mission, please check out their website: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/>

COMMUNITY



IN AN EXPANSION TO OUR **EMBRACING ELDERS** PROGRAM WE HAVE BECOME A HOST AGENCY FOR OUR SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM. SCSEP IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM FOR UNEMPLOYED, LOW-INCOME ELIGIBLE ADULTS, AGED 55+, WHO HAVE POOR EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS. ALL WAGES ARE PAID THROUGH **LEGACY LINK**. WE ARE PROUD TO OFFER TRAINING TO 2 PARTICIPANTS, CURRENTLY.



WE ARE ALWAYS PROUD TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL HOSPITAL, STEPHENS COUNTY. ABOVE, WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN SCH'S BREAST CANCER CAMPEIGN, **PAINT THE TOWN PINK!**

Director's Corner

WE DO NOT REMEMBER DAYS, WE REMEMBER MOMENTS

CESARE PAVESE

It was December, and I stood at the door to Walmart, assessing whether I needed to mask or not before I entered. Flu was rampant in our area, Covid had yet another variant circulating and we had just lost a patient to Tuberculosis. I was 3 weeks post op; my husband was scheduled for surgery in one week and I still had a week in the clinic left before Christmas. I was greeted with a cacophony of coughing, nose blowing and gravelly voices as I listened to the interior of the packed store. Considering the above, I chose to put on the mask. Yes, I'm tired of them too. I'm so over it. But, I knew it was the least I could do to protect myself, my family, staff, volunteers and patients. Eventually I made my way to the shampoo aisle perusing the innumerable choices when a woman with a teenage girl rounded the corner. She stopped and said loudly to her daughter, "I wonder when these idiots will ever stop wearing their %^&* %^&* masks?" The girl gave her a horrified glance and moved on to the next aisle quickly. I stopped as indignation and anger overcame me, took a deep breath, and chose to be the bigger person. I chose my shampoo and made my way to the end of the aisle silently. But she wasn't done. "Hey Stupid, didn't you hear me? I'm talking to you!" I turned, took a breath, and quietly told her she knew nothing of my life, my health, my work, etc. to judge my choices. She loudly pronounced, "Well I know you are a fat a- -, and I take care of myself and exercise, so I don't have to worry about getting sick." I just shook my head and continued to walk away as she shouted accusations at my back. I was shaken to my core. All I could think was, "Why am I here, in this time and this place? Toccoa, Georgia? These are not my people!" In the aftermath of the pandemic, we have all continued to suffer the divisive effects of the controversy Covid generated among us. I had hoped as time passed, those differences would dim in view of realizing the value of friends and family. Clearly, I thought, I was wrong. This was never going to get better. I went home and announced to my family that I was finally ready to consider their constant demand to move. To say I was discouraged is the tip of what I was feeling.

And so, the season moved on. My mood was glum and her voice echoed in my ears on and off, reminding me that THIS is not where I wanted to be. While I usually received requests from the public about helping with the needy, I hadn't received one (further proof -- in my mind -- that I was in a place that had lost its heart and caring for one another). Then I read a request in my FB group, "Stephens County Buy Nothing". It was a plea for a child who had recently been placed with her grandmother (so clearly something was amiss family wise). The grandmother was already working two jobs to keep afloat and had missed all the deadlines for Angel Tree etc. She was very concerned that this young girl would have nothing for Christmas. Was there help available in the community? The plea came from a family member. I thought this was something I could help with. So I put out a plea to our subscribers. Within minutes, I received the first call, and they continued to come. Within hours, we had a complete Christmas promised. The calls kept coming and I told them we had what we needed. What about the grandmother, they asked? I contacted the family member. "She could use some new black tennis shoes to work in. Hers are duct taped together." And so, the grandmother was added to the list. Is anyone doing stockings? Has anyone provided food for Christmas dinner? My staff and I had a wrapping party as the gifts flowed in! We were stunned by the abundance of gifts...and yet they came. How many toys and coloring books, colors and games could one young girl use, I wondered?

Director's Corner (continued)

In the meantime, I became aware of a needy elderly family for whom one had recently lost a job and the other was not scheduled for two weeks of the Christmas season. The lost wages of the worker would financially devastate them over Christmas. I was concerned about utilities, food, and yes...Christmas for them. But how could I help? It was the 22nd of December! Surely it was too late to ask for help! I thought of the very needy families I personally knew of and prayed they would have what they needed. I had no expectation of an answer.

And then the season of miracles began!

The family member who had made the request on behalf of the grandmother and child came to pick up the gifts. As their older, dilapidated van pulled in, their three young children ensconced in car seats, I began to see how this abundance of presents would be used! The 2-year-old quickly plucked an apple from one of the grocery sacks, as the others eyed the gaily wrapped gifts tumbling around them. The father was in his mechanic clothes and told me how he wished he had been able to help his mother and his niece, but he struggled to provide for his own. I told them there was more than enough to provide for a wonderful Christmas day for all of them. They were overwhelmed! The smiles and laughter emanating from that van as it pulled away on its Christmas mission was something I wished I could share with all who donated! I stood in my driveway in wonder.

I received an unexpected text from one of our providers who told me to go to his accountant and he would have a check for me to use for the good of the community however I saw fit! It was enough to cover the exact amount needed by the family without work, with a bit left over! Tears were shed when this envelope containing money and hope was given! I used the remaining amount to provide food for one of my needy families!

And the last but not the least of the Christmas Miracles of 2022; I received a call from one of my Board members who said she wanted to provide food for 3 families. Three! The exact number of remaining families on my mental list! The last family came by on Dec 24th, after we had gone to bed. My phone rang and it was my former patient standing on my front porch. "Which bag do I take?" I was able to say, "All of them! They are all for you! Merry Christmas!" She began to cry.. with relief, with joy, with gratitude.

Christmas morning, as I reflected on the past few days filled with awe inspiring events, I discovered I no longer heard the angry voice of the woman in Walmart, instead I heard the laughter of excited children anticipating a Christmas like none they had ever experienced. I remembered the hug I received from the family who was out of work, the unbelievable gratitude of those who were gifted food.

I no longer remember that day in Walmart. I remember the moments that I am privileged to experience nearly every single day BECAUSE I live in a community filled with generous loving human beings who genuinely care for one another. These ARE my people!

Thank you for restoring my faith when it was flagging. Thank you for making life so much better 365 days a year for those who come to Open Arms Clinic for medical assistance. . I am grateful. I am blessed and humbled to live among each of you.

Love, Sherry

*THERE ARE PEOPLE WHOM ONE LOVES IMMEDIATELY AND FOREVER.
EVEN TO KNOW THEY ARE ALIVE IN THE WORLD WITH ONE IS QUITE ENOUGH*

NANCY SPAIN

VOLUNTEERS

PROVIDERS/PHYSICIANS

- MEDICAL DIRECTOR: DR. THOMAS YATES, NGPG
- DR. HARRY MCDONALD
- DR. LENKA NOVOTNA
- DR. ROBERT QUICK
- MEDICAL DIRECTOR: DR. JIM WADE, SCHPG
- DR. TOD BETHEA
- CAMILLA CORREIA, PA
- TRAVIS DOBBS, PA

DENTISTS

- DR. SAMUEL CASTILLO
- DR. VASCO LOWERY
- DR. BETH LOWERY

OPTOMETRISTS

- DR. LINDSAY MARTIN
- DR. KEVIN VANDERHOEF
- DR. KEN SCHNEIDER
- DR. ASHLEY FORTNEY

PHYSICAL THERAPY

- DEBRA YATES, PT / PHYSICAL THERAPY SPECIALISTS
- ANGIE KING, PT / SOUTHERN REHAB

PHARMACY

- STEVE SPRUILL, RPH
- JEB WATKINS, RPH
- SAMMY BROWN, RPH
- MADDOX DRUGS

NURSING

- CALLIE SMITH
- JUDY GARNER
- CAROL DONNELLY
- MARIE MAYNER
- SUZANNE MCDONALD
- SHARI JALOVICK
- DEANA BETHEA
- BEVERLY GARSIDE
- JOY MCCOLLUM
- BOB KARRAM

RECEPTIONISTS

- MARGARET GUNN
- KAREN CONKLE
- SUSAN MAGEE
- WINDY CHARLES
- CAROL GRUBER
- SUSAN PATTON
- JAYNE SNELL
- ROSEMARY BALLARD
- LAKIE MEEKS
- SHARON BROWN

REGISTRARS

- JOHN "BARNEY" COLLINS
- FRANK PATTON
- AL KOLE

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS/INTERNS

- PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDENTS, BRENAU UNIVERSITY
- KRISTEN JARRETT, GA SOUTHERN COLLEGE OF NURSING

MISC. VOLUNTEERS

- DAVE SCHREIBER
- KELLY STANCIL
- JIM DONNELLY
- JERRY SNELL
- PHIL GRUBER
- PHIL GRUBER
- GEORGE BEAVERS
- DOUG ALLEN
- BILL STEPHENS
- MEN OF THE COMMUNITY
- ...AND MANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO SHARE THEIR TIME, WHEN NEEDED

MEAL PROVIDERS

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT, A LOCAL RESTAURANT DONATED MEALS TO FEED OUR VOLUNTEERS



STAFF

- SHERRY BEAVERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- VANESSA SMITH, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & REFERRAL COORDINATOR
- LARAINÉ BETTS, ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
- DONNA DISQUE, LEGACY LINK
- SHERRI STEPHENS, LEGACY LINK

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- MICHELLE JAMIESON, CHAIR
- JOHN "BARNEY" COLLINS, CO-CHAIR
- PHYLLIS AYERS, TREASURER
- STACY MILLER, SECRETARY
- KAY ROYAL
- FREDDA WHEELER
- BRIAN ROCKWELL
- DENNIS WILSON
- SHARLEEN STINESPRING
- JOLEY STRICKLAND
- DELISA CHRIST
- GAIL FRY

SPECIALTY REFERRAL SERVICES

- STEPHENS COUNTY HOSPITAL
- NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL
- NEGMC
- NGPG
- AVITA
- GIVINGHEALTH

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- NEIGHBORS 4 NEIGHBORS
- STEPHENS COUNTY CONNECTIONS
- SALVATION ARMY
- NINTH DISTRICT
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
- LIONS CLUB
- UNIFIED HEALTHCARE FOR THE RURAL UNDERSERVED
- CHURCHES OF THE COMMUNITY



Proud Member of
Georgia Charitable Care Network
&
National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics

TO OUR NEWSLETTER RECIPIENTS:
YOU ARE OUR GREATEST AMBASSADORS. PLEASE SHARE OUR STORY WITH YOUR CHURCH, YOUR NEIGHBORS, AND CO-WORKERS.