

Rhode Island Free Clinic, Inc.

Mission Statement

The mission of Rhode Island Free Clinic is to offer high-quality medical care and preventive health services to individuals who do not have health insurance or cannot afford to purchase those services. Toward this goal, the clinic will be staffed by volunteers and will also serve an educational role for trainees in health care fields, providing services under the supervision of clinicians from leading academic institutions in Rhode Island.

- *Statistics*
 - Operating as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
 - Opened in June 1999 at one evening per week; increased to two nights in October 1999
 - Podiatry clinic added in 2001; women's clinic in 2002; diabetes and health maintenance clinics in 2003; uninsured artists clinic and mental health services in 2004; a pre-employment physicals clinic and a cardiology clinic in 2005
 - Licensed by RI Department of Health as an Organized Ambulatory Care Facility
 - 7,850 patient visits since opening; visits increased by 8% in 2003 and 42% in 2004
 - Patients number 1,541; new patients added as capacity allows
 - Estimated value of patient care provided: \$443,394 in patient visits during 2004; more than \$1.7 million in patient visits since opening (greater than \$3 million with tests, treatments, and medications included)
- *Operations and staffing*
 - Staffed by volunteer physicians, nurse practitioners, interpreters, students, and others
 - Volunteer hours average 130 each week (providers at 25). 5,337 volunteer hours provided in 2004—a 52% increase over in 2003 and value of \$184,583
 - Full-time employees include an executive director, bi-lingual (Spanish) RN, a development assistant and an Americorps/VISTA volunteer as volunteer coordinator
 - In-kind support donated by Rhode Island Hospital (lab work, imaging), Lifespan (employee salary/benefits, malpractice for affiliated physicians), Women & Infants' Hospital (lab/follow-up for women's clinic, malpractice for affiliated physicians), Saving Sight, Rhode Island Medical Imaging, Open MRI of New England, University Cardiology, Providence Physical Therapy and other agencies and donors; **No public support received**
 - Academic relationships with Brown Medical School, URI's Colleges of Nursing and Pharmacy, RIC School of Nursing and medical residency programs at Memorial, Rhode Island, and Women & Infants' Hospitals
- *Services*
 - Providing a cost-effective "medical home" for uninsured, medically underserved populations and a gateway to the mainstream health system
 - Primary and preventive health care, including physical examinations and follow up
 - Disease management through follow-up visits, medication and health education
 - Free medications for most patients through donated samples and indigent patient drug programs. Prescriptions are written rarely; many patients lack the ability to pay
 - Facilitated referrals to specialty health and social services and clinics and patient education programs
- *Patient Population: all are uninsured*
 - Relatively evenly divided between men (54%) and women (46%)
 - 66% Hispanic, 13% Caucasian, 10% African American, 3% Asian, and 8% other
 - Nearly half (44%) of patients are employed
 - The majority of our patients live in Providence (77%); with others coming from Pawtucket (9%), Central Falls (5%), Barrington, East Greenwich and cities and towns across the state