



Putting health care in reach

communicare News

SUMMER 2006

MUSC Partners with Communicare to Enhance Smiles for a Lifetime

As part of a new program in Communicare's Summerton *Smiles for a Lifetime* Dental Center, two fourth-year dental students from the Medical University of South Carolina will do their clinical rotations each week under the direction of Dr. Mike Myers, a specialist in pediatric dentistry, and the Summerton *Smiles for a Lifetime* Dental Center on-site dentist.

Ken Trogdon, Executive Director of Communicare, and Dr. Jack Sanders, Dean of MUSC's College of Dentistry initiated this valuable partnership that allows students in their final year to learn from a pedodontist, while helping serve the Clarendon District I children that visit the center for dental care.

"It really is a win-win situation for everyone involved. The MUSC students get to study in an environment that caters to underserved children, and *Smiles for a Lifetime* has the opportunity to introduce the program to new dentists as a recruiting tool," said Georgia Famuliner, Operations Director of *Smiles for a Lifetime* Dental Centers.

The first students begin rotations in August 2006.

Communicare Makes the Move to Better Serve Patients

On May 11, 2006, Communicare's administrative offices and central-fill pharmacy relocated to a larger, all-inclusive space that houses all of Communicare's operations. Following months of planning and design, the new location enables a more efficient use of space, allowing for better communication and patient service.

Communicare opened its doors on June 6 for employees, friends and supporters to see what their hard work has done for an organization that was no more than an idea a decade ago. Now, the pharmacy and offices encompass nearly 9,000 square feet.

Executive Director Ken Trogdon said, "It's an exciting time for Communicare. As we've grown over the past several years, the number of patients we serve has also grown. With the new office and pharmacy we can assist more people than ever in a more effective way." ●



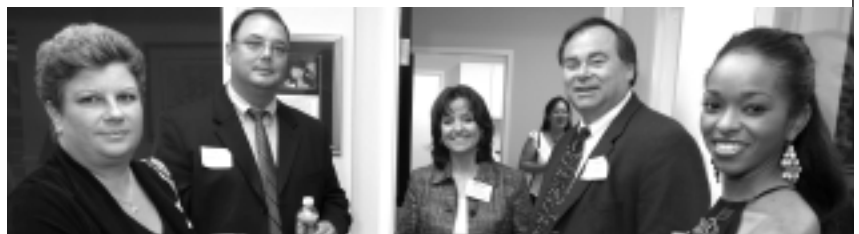
Pharmacy Technician, Adrienne Hamlet



Donna Northam (Colonial Supplemental Insurance), Anne Wilson (SC Bank and Trust), and Montague Lafitte



Robert Henry, Ann Henry (Summit Club) and Lee Mikell (Corporate DevelopMint)



Harriett Hobbs and Mark Edwards (Pee Dee Health Care, P.A.) DeAnne Rease (Communicare), Bob Dickes and LaJoia Broughton (Carolina Care Plan, Inc.)

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Communicare, a South Carolina non-profit organization, coordinates a network of healthcare providers and 11 pharmaceutical companies who donate services and prescriptions to qualified, working, uninsured citizens. Communicare also operates *Smiles for a Lifetime*, school-based dental centers to meet the needs of children in rural areas where access to oral health care is limited in Allendale, Charleston, Dillon, Manning, and Summerton Counties. Communicare services begin with a call to: 1-800-763-0059. Patient applications are available online at: www.commun-i-care.org.



KEN TROGDON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF COMMUNICARE

Communicare Expansion Starts Through Inspiration

It inspires us at Communicare everyday when we are able to offer help to someone who desperately needs it. Whether it's someone with high blood pressure that needs life-saving medication right away, or an elementary school student with a toothache, we are humbled to serve so many South Carolinians in such a simple, yet necessary, way.

With one in six Americans living without healthcare coverage, it is easy to see how Communicare fills a real need all over our State. That is why we are proud to have expanded our pharmacy and administrative offices to better serve the patients who depend on us.

As Communicare grows, the number of lives we touch each day grows with us. In 2006 alone, 44,491 prescriptions have been written by our volunteer physicians and mailed from our central-fill pharmacy, and 3,732 children have been treated at our *Smiles for a Lifetime* dental centers in Allendale, Charleston, Dillon, Manning and Summerton. Our success is in no small part due to the dedication of our staff and professional volunteers that work tirelessly to assist patients every day.

Communicare's loyal corporate and individual supporters have made it possible for us to be more efficient and effective, ultimately contributing to a healthier South Carolina. Working together we can continue and expand our mission to provide access to health care and prescription medication to the working uninsured. What lies ahead for Communicare is exciting, and we thank you for being part of our journey.

Communicare's New Outreach Coordinator



Chrystal Morris, new Pee Dee Regional Outreach Coordinator

Communicare has recently hired Chrystal Morris for the Pee Dee Regional Outreach Coordinator position. She is employed under a grant from BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina to provide outreach in rural areas of the State. A resident of Horry County for more than ten years, Chrystal has worked with numerous non-profit and State agencies throughout her career. Through this experience, she truly understands the plight of uninsured families that do not have adequate access to affordable health care.

Chrystal has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, a Masters of Arts in Counseling and a Master of Arts in Training & Development. She offers an array of experience and knowledge that includes working with Head Start, Horry County School District, Mental Health, and the State child support agency.

Chrystal has worked with several non-profits such as Parents Anonymous,

She truly understands the plight of uninsured families that do not have adequate access to affordable health care.

Fatherhood Engagement Initiatives, and Community Coalition of Horry County to address the issues of health and education of children, families, and parents, and has worked as a researcher for the University of Michigan to gain more insight on the health issues of Americans and South Carolinians after 9-11. She is an advocate for those affected and living with HIV/AIDS and has worked as a health educator for the Waccamaw District, offering education and HIV testing for many people living in rural areas that do not have access to resources and information. She is a South Carolina Guardian ad Litem and volunteers her time with groups such as Rape Crisis, Citizens Against Spousal Abuse, and the American Red Cross.

Chrystal's enthusiasm about creating awareness for Communicare in the Pee Dee area makes her a very welcome addition to our team. ●

Communicare's Pharmacy Provides Valuable Training

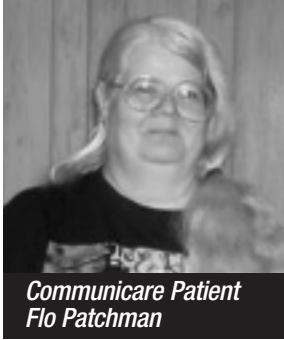


Communicare pharmacy intern: Heather Davenport

Communicare participates with the University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy Experiential Training Program where students rotate for one-month intervals throughout the summer interning in Communicare's central-fill pharmacy. Heather Davenport is studying pharmacy at USC. After graduating from Batesburg-

Leesville High School, Heather completed two years of pre-pharmacy school.

Heather says, "I am very excited about being a part of Communicare. As an intern, I will have the opportunity to experience basic principles of prescription processing, drug product knowledge, and problem-solving pertaining to daily activities." ●



**Communicare Patient
Flo Patchman**

Flo Patchman became a Communicare patient in November 2005. At 52 years old, she, like many South Carolina residents, has a family history of diabetes. Her grandmother and mother both had the disease and now Flo is experiencing diabetes herself. She also suffers from high blood pressure, osteoporosis and arthritis.

Because of her limited mobility, Flo works from home as a telephone solicitor for the Sunshine Thrift Store, which benefits Palmetto Children's Hospital. In this position, she schedules appointments for the thrift store to pick up useable, donated items. Flo earns \$2.50 for each appointment that results in donated goods. Her monthly income averages \$400. Unfortunately, donations are down as a result of Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters and this directly impacts her income.

Because of her multiple ailments, Flo takes five prescriptions. Without Communicare, her medication would cost close to \$275 per month, more than half of her monthly income. Until she found Communicare, Flo tells us, "If I had the money, I got my medication; if I didn't have the money, I did without." She wishes

"Communicare has helped tremendously," says Flo. "It means I can take my medication on a regular basis rather than skipping doses."

Communicare had been around for her mother, who eventually died from diabetes complications. "Communicare has helped tremendously," says Flo. "It means I can take my medication on a regular basis rather than skipping doses. It means I can manage my health and avoid complications like heart disease, unlike my mother, who couldn't afford her medication. Communicare has been a Godsend."

Communicare's outreach programs are making it possible to locate and inform those who desperately need life-saving medications. Thanks to Communicare employees and supporters, patients like Flo are helped every day. ●

Our staff makes it possible for thousands of patients to get the health care and medication they need. Because of their hard work and dedication, Communicare has grown to serve more people each day.



Cheryl O'Grady - Community Services Staff



Pharmacy Staff - Scott Padgett - Pharmacist In Charge, Eronn Amick, Susan Blau, Alisha Wideman, Sandra Peloso, Adrian Frierson, Heather Davenport, Adrienne Hamlet, Stuart Williams



Kim Parris - Accounting Director



Pharmacist-in-charge Scott Padgett



Victoria Hollins - Human Resource Director



Stuart Williams, Pharmacist



Rick Taylor - IT Director



Community Services Staff - Meredith Bruce, Lauren Williams, Jena Strange, Eugenia Beach - Community Outreach Director - Diane Chavis, Courtney Cooper



Bauer Westeren - Database Coordinator

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Ken Trogdon, Executive Director
Communicare, Inc. – Columbia, SC

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Charlotte Berry – Honorary Chair
Anne Wilson – South Carolina Bank & Trust
Laura Jordan – Event Coordinator

Communicare Welcomes the Following New Employees:

Lisa Foster – Pharmacy Technician
Adrian Frierson – Pharmacy Technician
Adrienne Hamlet – Pharmacy Technician
Chrystal Morris – Outreach Coordinator
Bauer Westeren – Database Coordinator
Lauren Williams – Campaign Assistant

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Communicare is...

Answering more than 120,000 calls for assistance from the working uninsured

Providing approved patients with access to physician care and prescription drugs

Serving more than 15,400 patients in all 46 South Carolina counties

Partnering with a network of 2,500 volunteer physicians, eleven pharmaceutical companies, pharmacies, hospitals, schools, businesses and community donors

Operating five pediatric dental centers for 5,000 children from limited income families

Dispensing approximately \$27.7 million in donated prescription drugs

Saving tax and health care dollars

About Communicare: a private non-profit organization, Communicare serves more than 15,000 South Carolinians through a provider network which includes more than 2,500 volunteer health care providers and 20 Free Medical Clinics. Eleven national pharmaceutical companies donate more than 362 prescription medications to Communicare's William E. Murray central-fill pharmacy. In 2005 Communicare's pharmacy dispensed approximately \$27.7 million in donated prescription medications.