

THE LUKE PROJECT 52 CLINIC NEWS



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No show rates? It's the Relationship

We are used to hearing in the arena of politics that **"It's the economy, stupid."** and in spite of a myriad collage of other issues that are in the news, that maxim seems to bear out as true. Well, in the arena of providing prenatal care in communities with high infant mortality and wide spread poverty the maxim is **"It's the relationship."**

The following text thread between a homeless patient who recently delivered and whom we arranged placement in a 2 year program that helps new Moms get the education and support they need to break the cycle of poverty, and one of our nurses illustrates the point:

Nurse: Just thinking about how much I love you and (baby). Praying for you for strength, wisdom, courage, and peace as you build a solid life with God's help for you and your precious child. You have so much to look forward to. We are always here for you. You rock on you future Luke Clinic RN. Can't wait to have you on our team!!!!

Patient: You are such a big motivation and I really appreciate you and love you for everything you have done for me. You guys have been on my side since I was still pregnant and now that (baby) is here our bond has grown so much more. I can't wait to become a part of the team. It will be such a 360 from my life. I'm excited and looking forward to it.

The failure to keep scheduled appointments has been an ongoing problem in delivering care in urban areas. I believe that our lower no-show rate at The Luke Clinic is because we believe it's all about building trusting relationships in an atmosphere of unconditional acceptance and love. **For us healthcare is NOT a business. It's a ministry!**

1. "The No-Show Rate in a High Risk Obstetric Clinic", Journal of Women's Health and Gender Based Medicine, Volume 9, Issue 8, 7/7/2004

2. "Providing Maternity Care to the Underserved: A Comparative Case Study of Three Maternity Care Models Serving Women in Washington, D.C.", The Urban Institute, January 2009

NEWS NOTES

Welcome to Sarah Miller RN, and Heather Beamon RN who will be attending clinic on Feb. 1st to orient

Thank you to Dr. Elizabeth Shih MD for assisting at clinic on 1/18

Patricia Crane CNM has joined our CNM team

Monica Lee (recent CUA graduate) will be assisting Dr. Gold in recording research stats.



Left: Dr. Gold with one of our favorite patients.

Right: New CNM Trish Crane at baby shower for two of our Moms.



Immediate need: Volunteers willing to transport a friend (patient) on clinic days. Last clinic we had 4 Moms that had to miss crucial appointments because their rides deserted them at the last moment. They called the Clinic begging for a ride, but we had no one available to transport. 2 weeks ago one of our Moms walked over a mile in single digit temperatures in flip flops to make her clinic appointment. We need to have a driver available in such circumstances. Call me at 734-646-8206 if you would be willing to help.

Children's Room workers: This continues to be an area of crucial need. If you or your church would be willing to help, you would be addressing one of the issues that prevent Moms from getting the prenatal care they need and you could be directly involved in saving a baby! Don't just march for women or life, serve for a woman and a life! 4 hours once every two months. CALL!