

PLEASE COME TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING

The public is invited to attend our annual meeting on Monday, January 23, 2017, at The Community Center in the Meadow Mall, 185 Townsend Ave, Boothbay Harbor, beginning at 7:30 P.M. or immediately following a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Boothbay Region Health and Wellness Foundation.

Boothbay Region Health Care, Inc. is a Domestic Non-profit Corporation for the public benefit incorporated in the State of Maine on March 18, 2014. Directors of the Corporation are: Carl J. Hamrin, Gerald M. Homer, and Elizabeth Lussier. Our mission is to create a comprehensive primary health care system under community governance, driven by the needs of the people we serve, which is accessible, affordable, and sustainable, and unites patients and providers alike to achieve good health for all ages.

We propose to provide primary health care in a new way — using a team approach that is patient centered where the patient is empowered to work together with the providers to reach their personal health goals. Patients are held accountable for doing what they can in their daily lives to achieve better health. Visits to the doctor are made easier with walk-in availability and extended hours to help avoid going to the more expensive Urgent Care or ER. Relationships are developed as patients are supported and encouraged to attain and maintain better health. Additionally, the health care needs of the community are addressed. Currently, substance abuse treatment is a great need and our plans are to include all aspects of addiction treatment as part of the overall services available. This plan involves a transformational change - a change that moves away from fee-for-service and 5 patients per hour demands on practitioners. Transformational change does not come about easily. If we want to effect the status quo, we need to think differently about how health care is provided in this community.

As we have met with folks to discuss our community health center concept, we are often asked, "Where is it going to be?" We are pleased that in January we secured a "right of first offer" on about 5,300 sq. feet of vacant space at the Meadow Mall. This space is located between the House of Pizza and Key Bank, a very central location, in the middle of the prime shopping and traffic center, with plenty of parking and grade level access.



Liz, Carl and Jerry review the facility plans. RCrink photo

Our planning team worked with WBRC Architects and Engineers to design a work space that fits into the available area and gives us maximum flexibility to grow and adapt to changing conditions and to implement a collaborative team practice, patient-centered model for primary care. Take a virtual tour of the proposed facility: <u>http://boothbayhealthcare.org/our-new-health-center/</u>

With a space plan in hand, we began working on a capital fund appeal/public awareness campaign which we kicked off with a series of articles in The Boothbay Register, appearing May 5, May 12 and May 19. The first was titled, "Boothbay Region Health Center - What It Is" The second unveiled our facility plan for the Meadow Mall. And the third addressed the issue of emergency services, "Boothbay Region Health Center - What It Is Not". These three newspaper articles were followed up with a mailing to approximately 5,000 addresses in the towns of Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor, Southport, and Edgecomb. This mailing included a new brochure and a letter requesting financial support. The appeal led to 70 contributions averaging \$143 each for a total of \$9,989. In addition, we received generous in kind contributions of legal services and medical office furniture and supplies and a \$10,000 gift in support of our Fit, Flexible and Strong program. While we are pleased with this response, we feel the need to have the support of an even larger number of members of the community to use as leverage when asking foundations or large donors for their help.



We need support from a broad cross-section of our community. We need you to come together joining others like Billy Hallinan to make this work. RCrink photo

In June, Cornelia Seybold, a high school senior, volunteered to assist us to convert our spreadsheet database of contacts and donors to DonorSnap, a fullfledged donor management software program. Thanks to Cornelia for completing that project.

Also in June, we received a Letter of Determination from the Internal Revenue Service awarding BRHC tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This now allows donors to deduct their charitable contributions on their personal income tax returns.

We continue to participate in Maine Quality Counts and in various webinars and educational programs, monitoring programs and services and community needs, learning about best practices and how to effectively meet the community's needs for health services. We met with Dr. Dora Mills at the University of New England and with management of HealthReach, a system of Federally-Qualified Health Centers based in Waterville and associated with Maine General. We had a preliminary meeting with the physician practice administrator for LincolnHealth to find areas of common interest. We received a briefing about Federally-Qualified Health Centers from representatives of the Maine Primary Care Association. We continue to enjoy having help and support from Penobscot Community Health Centers, Ken Schmidt, their CEO, and Dr. David Loxterkamp at their Belfast health center.



Dr. David Loxterkamp makes a home visit. Photo credit: David Grubin Productions

In August with help from Jason Sheckley and The Harbor Theatre and with the kind cooperation of David Grubin Productions and Dr. Loxterkamp, we hosted a preview of the film, Rx: The Quiet Revolution, featuring Dr. Loxterkamp and the Seaport Community Health Center in Belfast. Approximately 60 persons attended. A good question and answer discussion with Dr. Loxterkamp followed the film.

Throughout the year we have maintained visibility and communication by regular electronic newsletters to a growing database of supporters. In October, we outgrew our Email system and migrated the database to MailChimp.



Fit, Flexible and Strong encourages folks to take responsibility for regular exercise and good diet to develop greater cardio-respiratory fitness, more musculoskeletal flexibility, and increased muscular strength. Stock photo

Also in October we kicked off a medically-based, individually-tailored fitness and exercise program called Fit, Flexible and Strong directed by fitness instructor, Mary Baudo. Twenty seven folks initially signed up for the program and went through the initial medical screening and fitness testing. Twenty five people ultimately enrolled in the six-month prototype program designed to engage clients in their own fitness and well-being.

As we come to year's end, the closing of the Full Circle Family Practice in Damariscotta portends more upheaval and change in the local health care delivery system. Dr. Teel is moving on to be Director of Innovation at Eastern Maine Medical System. Drs. Gold and Einstein are going to try a Direct Primary Care model of practice out of their Damariscotta office. The immediate result is a number of their former patients are looking to establish a new primary care relationship.

We also look forward anxiously awaiting policy changes at the Federal level which threaten the progress toward universal health insurance coverage achieved under the Obama Affordable Care Act. The likely result of repeal of ObamaCare is that many folks who gained health insurance coverage under the Act will be thrown back into the ranks of the uninsured and dependent on the hospital Emergency Department or Urgent Care Center for their primary care.

Thanks to Carl Hamrin and Liz Lussier who serve with me on our interim Board of Directors. Also thanks to Charlie Perry, Joyce Sirois and Marcia Soler all of whom have contributed their time and support to our Board. And thanks to all who have contributed to the planning and support of the Health Center. A list of Endorsers is on our website. Foillow the link below.

Respectfully, Gerald M. Homer, Director



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