



## Dear All,

If you celebrate Valentine's Day at your clinic... consider this a big, fat Valentine for you and your grand staff and volunteers! 😊

### 1 – 2024 FCOM Membership Dues

Stacey Doyle (stacey@gcfhc.org) has sent out the renewal membership application. Last year 43 clinics joined, which was over 50% of all the clinics we knew were operating in the state. I would love to beat that number this year! **IF you did not get the renewal packet**, email Stacey, she will send it out to you.

NOTE: There are dues increase based on your annual budget this year: **\$75** - clinics with budgets less than \$75,000; **\$150** - budgets between \$75,000 and \$150,000; **\$200** – budgets over \$150,000

### 2 – NAFC Clinic Data & Quality Standards Survey

**The survey is out!** If you did not receive an email from Ariana, email her. She will send it our directly. [ariana@nafclclinics.com](mailto:ariana@nafclclinics.com) OR use the one attached to this Update. We had a great return last year; 36% of all of the clinics (members or not) completed the survey.

Our AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, Elyse Cady will be available to help any clinic complete the survey.... Yes! you and she will work out a schedule of calls, in clinic assist.... whatever you need. She has been contacting clinics letting all know that she is available. If she hasn't contacted your clinic, email Elyse at [elysecady@gmail.com](mailto:elysecady@gmail.com).

*The survey due date is February 22, Thursday.*

### 3 – AmeriCorps VISTA Member Change

Nimesha Liyanage has finished her year with us but will continue as a volunteer. It has been just wonderful getting to know her and working with her. She is in her second semester of medical school at CMU. All of us just wish her the best and, of course, are so pleased that she wants to continue working with us.

We have contracted again with AmeriCorps and have chosen Elyse Cady as our VISTA member. She comes with grant writing and media experience! If anyone has any questions about the VISTA program, contact me. Without question, the paperwork is minimal and the cost more than pays for itself.

### 4 – Roadmap to Health Equity – NAFC, AmeriCares and Loyola U project

For quite a while Julie Darnel at Loyola, AmeriCares and NAFC have been working on health equity issues. We have two clinics currently working with them: City On A Hill, Zeeland, Christine Plummer CM and Dr. Gary Burnstein Community Health Clinic, Pontiac, Mary Lewis CEO. Christine sits on the Partner Committee, Mary on the Pilot Committee. The Health Equity Project is attempting to demonstrate the health improvements in populations not served percentage wise in other clinics when they become patients at our clinics. The report has the first set of data, see attached report.

IF your clinic would like to be of this project, contact Ariana Gordillo [ariana@nafclclinics.com](mailto:ariana@nafclclinics.com). There are special provisions for clinics using paper charts.

## 5 – New Clinic opening soon!

American Integrated Clinic in Grand Rapids, Rev. Dondo Pewee organizer. I have sent the Midwest Region their contact information and have met with them. They hope to open later this year!

## 6 – NAFC Conference 2024 Atlanta September 29 through October 1st.

Mark your calendars. More information will come in later months.

## 7 – More resources

### Grants

- a. Skillman Foundation – President’s Award category
- b. Wayne County Medical Society, Rhoades Foundation. This is only available to Wayne County clinics.

## 8 – FCOM – Outreach to Your Own & Surrounding Communities

More opportunities publicize your clinics locally:

1. Have you opened conversation with the local American Cancer Society? Local diabetes support groups? The whole list of local physicians and specialists?
2. When was the last time you held an area-wide Open House?

## 9 - Clinic Valuation Survey

At the last State Manager’s meeting, the NAFC Board has requested Nicole have an agreed upon document by the

time of the Board’s October meeting. As I have said before, this is long in the making.

To be safe and to have a Valuation Document for next year’s data collection, we will continue reviewing other state’s documents and have a recommendation for our clinics if NAFC’s document is not yet ready. Mary Lewis, CEO at Dr. Gary Burnstein Community Health Clinic is the chair – Valuation Committee. A lot more to come as we get into this project.

This is the last leg of documentation; clinic data, Best Practice review and cost benefits to the community and to the patients.

## 10 - Medicaid Unwinding Continues.... until next May unless they extend the program

Michigan’s website with current information [www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/end-phe](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/end-phe) .

According to the website 70% of previously covered in Michigan have been renewed.

## 11- Region Meetings Calendar

**Southwest** and Southeast's next regional bi-monthly meeting is: SE Feb. 13 Tuesday, 10AM – Zoom and SW Feb. 13 Tuesday, 1PM – Zoom

**Midwest** monthly regional meetings are quarterly : ME June 18, Tuesday at 10AM

**Midwest Region** also meets about quarterly but independently of FCOM. Their next meeting is in person February 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are in the Midwest region, contact Jeff Compagner [jcompagner@hfhclinic.org](mailto:jcompagner@hfhclinic.org) he will gladly add you to their region list. **They are holding an in-person meeting on Feb 13**

**North Region** meets in person. Contact Laura Schorn [freeclinic@ogemawhills.org](mailto:freeclinic@ogemawhills.org) if interested

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: on next page**

### *Assistance from FCOM:*

- A) Carolyn Barr -- FTCA submission paperwork/questions [cbarr240@comcast.net](mailto:cbarr240@comcast.net)
- B) Christine Rainey -- Pharmacy/dispensary/medications/ questions [crainey@ferncare.org](mailto:crainey@ferncare.org)
- C) Ann Heler -- Clinic operation issues/questions [admin@fcomi.org](mailto:admin@fcomi.org)
- D) Mary Jo Byrne -- FCOM Board President/ everything [mjbyrne@fountain-clinic.org](mailto:mjbyrne@fountain-clinic.org)
- E) Elyse Cady – VISTA member, data survey/office assistance [elsyecady@gmail.com](mailto:elsyecady@gmail.com)
- F) Nimesha Liyanage -- FB posting, editing, and website [liyanage.bn@gmail.com](mailto:liyanage.bn@gmail.com)

## Legislative Update

We are making a concerted effort to increase our state appropriation. Our last increase was in 2019 when we went from 250,000 to 400,000. We are asking for \$400,000 more.

I will be sending out the FCOM legislative packet soon asking each of you to call your state representative or senator and introduce yourself and your clinic and to either or both email the packet or meet. Each email will indicate if your representative or senator is on either one of the three Appropriations or Health Policy Committees in the House or Senate.

IF your elected officials are not on one of these six committees... this is still valuable! You don't know who they know, hang around with, eat lunch with...

- **March 5th and 6th Washington DC Advocacy Meetings**
  - o **NAFC is organizing an Advocacy Day for State Association Managers. Dan Martin, Board Member and Chair of the Legislative Committee will be attending and meeting with Michigan's senators and representatives.**

This is the first time NAFC has organized an event of this kind. Usually Nicole and her legislative/advocacy specialist, both based near Washington, do this work. There will be report on the outcomes of those meetings in the March Update.

### Current Legislation

HB 5966 – Carrie Rheingans, (D) Ann Arbor – Universal publicly funded health care for all Michigan residents. No updates.

Broadband expansion – We continue to support all the work to extend broadband capability across the state. The work is on-going, and we will support this until capability is available to every inch of Michigan. No committee updates but funds continue to support the extension.

House Bill 5166 – Stephanie Young (D) Detroit and others - Creating a perinatal quality collaborative. We support the bill and strongly support having our ob/gyn dedicated and other clinics offering obstetric care represented on the collaborative. FCOM sent a letter to Representative Young suggesting member clinics we recommend for the collaborative.

NEW House Bill 5114 – Carrie Rheingans (D) Ann Arbor -Expanding the definition of mental health providers to include Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants. 30 other states already have this provision.