

**Report of St. Benedict Health and Healing Ministry
To the 130th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado
October 12-14, 2017**

**Respectfully submitted:
Rev. Sally Bowersox, Executive Director**

***Behold, I will bring to them health and healing;
I will let my people see peace.
Jeremiah 33:6***

Our **mission**: St. Benedict Health and Healing Ministry is an oasis of care, offering an environment of hospitality as we respond to the real human need for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

Our **vision**: We envision a community where suffering is alleviated, where holistic health and healing are available to all.

St. Benedict Health and Healing Ministry provides no cost basic health care to medically underserved and underinsured adults in Boulder County. 14% of the population in Boulder County is below the poverty level (Boulder County Trends Report 2015). This equates to over 43,380 individuals. According to the National Journal January 2016: Every day a half-million people are without a stable place to stay, up to 3.5 million experience this at some point during the year. Those without a home die decades younger, typically in their 60s. The sick and vulnerable become homeless and the homeless become sicker and more vulnerable.

Executive Summary

Our annual strategic planning session in June 2016 focused on: program development, marketing, community relations and sustainability. The Board of Directors is examining the best way to remain viable and healthy as a small Colorado non-profit organization. We are blessed to have a strong and diverse Board of Directors who continue to lead this organization toward success. One critical way in which we measure that success is by our patient satisfaction. Over 50% of our patients are return visits which tells us we are trusted and meeting our goals of treating every individual with dignity and compassion. That said, many of our volunteer health care professionals have been with SBHBM for over 10 years! That tells us that this group of dedicated, faithful physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, physical therapist and Spanish translators feel good about the work they do and can practice within their scope of licensure in a satisfying and rewarding way. This group is the very backbone of SBHBM and we would not exist without them. Personally, I appreciate each and every volunteer immensely.

The need for health care services has only risen in the almost 12 years SBHBM has served adults in Boulder County. We see a patient population that crosses every age and ethnic range, both men and women. We learn that anyone of us could in fact experience homelessness, destitution and lack of health care. Health care costs continue to be the number one cause of bankruptcy across the United States. None of us are immune.

In February of this year our Annual Heart Art Fundraiser welcomed over 150 guests to the Avalon Ballroom, raising over \$26,000! Dr. Dennis Lewis, CEO for Dental Aid spoke about the need for dental care, particularly among the underserved. Mr. Greg Pennock, a recipient of SBHHM's Medical Financial Assistance Program, spoke about how this financial assistance has enabled him to receive the extensive dental treatment he needed. Mr. L.D. Whitehorse spoke to us about Boulder Overflow for Homeless Outreach and the partnership with SBHHM serving their Emergency Warming Centers.

New developments in 2016 include beginning our second clinic with Boulder Housing Partners at their Walnut Place location, moving into our new office space at the OUR Center's beautiful new building in Longmont and continuing to welcome new physicians and registered nurses to our volunteer team. The move to our office space at the OUR Center has afforded us to have a clinic office with a sink and plenty of space for files, medical supplies and educational materials.

As we look toward 2017 we will be evaluating the need for a Contemplative Program and piloting this at our clinics with Boulder Housing Partners. At clinic at the OUR Center we will be evaluating the need for bilingual health care education classes on topics such as diabetes, hypertension, diet, exercise and general health and well being.

2016 Highlights:

- ✓ Over 25 volunteer Health Care professionals, Spanish translators and other volunteers provided greater than 8300 Health Care services to guests via 12 Free Clinics per month and the Don Burt Community Care Program!
- ✓ Over 45 key volunteers provided over 3000 hours of volunteer time equating to \$93,145 Value of Volunteer Service Time! ☞ This breaks down as follows: \$46,773 in Clinical Value for Volunteer Service Time and \$43,372 in DBCCP hours and non-Clinical Value for Volunteer Service Time.
- ✓ 344 Physician or Nurse Practitioner visits were provided at no cost.

SBHHM is enthused and excited to be a critical link on the health care continuum for Boulder County, a point of access to health care and a safety net for those who would otherwise fall through the cracks in the health care system.

Board of Directors and home parishes:

Dr. Jeska Albuisson

Mr. Neil Borman, Treasurer. St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, Boulder

Rev. Sally Bowersox, Executive Director. St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, Boulder

Dr. Eugene Chu, Medical Director

Ms. Beth Dickinson. St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, Boulder

Mr. William Eliason, President. St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, Boulder

Mr. Erik Holbrook, Secretary

Mr. Matt Kapinus

Mr. Jim Podolak. Bishop's Representative Nominee. St. John's Episcopal Church, Boulder