GOOCHLAND CARES
Free Clinic and Family Services
and I Care!
GOOCHLANDCARES.ORG
FALL 2021

PATIENT ADVOCATE PATTY AYERS

Putting Patients First

Patient Advocate Patty Ayers specializes in billing resolution and the various financial assistance programs available to low-income patients.

Checking the wrong box or being unaware of financial assistance programs during a crisis could mean the difference in thousands of dollars for patients. With rocketing hospital bills, shortages in supplies, and staff crises, navigating the healthcare landscape is fraught with loopholes and unpredictable pricing.

Patty spent years in the healthcare industry. She mastered the intricacies of Medicaid, Medicare, and Disability to find the best resources to assist GoochlandCares clients.

Patty gives them tools to navigate the various systems, helping them contact the hospitals, submit their forms, and know what to expect next. She empowers clients with the tools and knowledge to lessen the emotional, financial, and administrative burden of obtaining care.

A GoochlandCares client, Anna, was living estranged from her husband after their separation. After an emergency room visit, she found that their collective income put her over the financial assistance threshold and sent her into billing purgatory. Patty provided consultation to the patient and helped her re-file the paperwork, noting her income, and therefore eliminating the stress of dealing with the daily calls from the bill collector. She could then concentrate on getting back on her feet.

After 14 years with Goochland Cares, we are lucky to have Patty on our team, whose dedication to our clients, knowledge, and drive continues to inspire us all.

Richmond Country Club presents

Jingle Bell Bazaar

benefiting GoochlandCares

Tuesday, December 7
10am - 8pm
Richmond Country Club
12950 Patterson Avenue

FREE admission * Open to the public
Plentiful, free parking * 50/50 raffle
Happy Hour shopping 5:30 - 8pm
featuring cash bar

Holiday Luncheon and Fashion Show
11:30am - 12:30pm OR 1pm - 2pm
$30 per person - RSVP by December 1
at www.bit.ly/JBBlunch2021
call 804-556-0714

COMMONSHARE NON-PROFIT PHARMACY

Expansion aims to ensure that more Goochland residents' needs are met

Will Weimer believes affordable medication is a social justice issue. He founded Commonshare Non-profit Pharmacy to help people get the prescription and over-the-counter medications they need at a price they can afford. Commonshare works extensively with the uninsured and underinsured to provide drugs at low or no cost.

Commonshare receives medications through direct donations from pharmaceutical manufacturers, other pharmacies, retail stores, and individuals. They re-dispense through their physical location and by mail order. They also distribute to free clinics, like GoochlandCares, allowing us to make needed medications available to our clients.

GoochlandCares seeks out and nurtures partnerships with businesses and other non-profits, like Commonshare, whose missions complement ours.

These relationships enable GoochlandCares to deliver expanded and additional services to our clients while requiring little or no extra funding or labor from us. Partnerships help GoochlandCares maximize the impact of your donations by allowing us to focus on our core services.

"Everyone should be able to get the medications they need at a reasonable price," says Will.

GoochlandCares is grateful for our partnership with Will and Commonshare and proud to join them in making affordable medications a reality for our neighbors in need.

Learn more about Commonshare at www.commonsharerx.org.

For more information on how to obtain these prescriptions, please go to **goochlandcares.org** or call **(804) 556-6260**.

GOOCHLANDCARES.ORG

SHARE HOPE

Become a member of the Mary Ross Reed Society

In this time of uncertainty, one thing is certain: your commitment to this community and to helping your neighbors. On the heels of National Estate Planning Month, including GoochlandCares in your estate plans is a way to continue your personal tradition of caring.

Planned Giving gives you an opportunity to create a legacy in support of GoochlandCares.

By including GoochlandCares in your estate plans, you help ensure our ability to deliver life-saving services to neighbors in need. Our Mary Ross Reed Society recognizes those individuals who have made provisions in their estate plans for GoochlandCares.

Since 1952, neighbors in Goochland have come together to help those in need. Mary Ross Reed played a founding role in GoochlandCares' history. Thanks to the seeds of hope that she planted many years ago, GoochlandCares has grown to provide a lifeline of 12 critical services to meet the needs of 2,000 plus neighbors each year.

Especially now, we hope you will consider extending the impact of your support far into the future.

"It is an easy way to be a part of all the good that GoochlandCares does for years to come." ---Mary Ross Fisher

Getting started is simple. Contact Adair Frayser, 804-556-0301, or afrayser@goochlandcares.org.

Visit our Planned Giving page at: **www.goochlandcares.org/planned-giving**.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Safety measures allow limited on-site volunteering

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you interested in volunteering? We have many opportunities to get involved. We are looking for volunteers to drive clients to appointments. We also need volunteer dentists and dental hygienists. And, as always, we have opportunities in the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet. Please contact Diane Reale at dreale@goochlandcares.org or (804) 556-0712 for more information.

*We're grateful for volunteer Johanna Thorkelsdottir for her time and talent in taking photos for our Volunteer Picnic at Lickinghole Creek Craft Brewery. You can follow her on Instagram @ jothorvisions.

DONATION NEEDS:

Clothes Closet
NEW underwear and socks (all ages/sizes), NEW towels and washcloths, sheets, blankets, winter clothing (all sizes), NEW children's shoes, and school supplies.

Food Pantry
Canned/boxed soup, canned beans (like baked beans or pork and beans), canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meat, bar soap, feminine hygiene products, and toilet paper.

Clinic
Band-aids, digital thermometers (non-contact, forehead type), finger pulse oximeters, OMRON upper arm blood pressure monitors series 3, AA and AAA batteries, masks (surgical, N95, and cloth), non-latex gloves, antacids, Boost or Ensure drinks, and vitamins.

Shop using **AmazonSmile** and earn rewards for GoochlandCares! Sign up now at: **smile.amazon.com**.

amazonsmile You shop. Amazon gives. Kroger community rewards

Kroger Community Rewards - Earn rewards for GoochlandCares every time you use your Kroger Plus Card. Enroll today. Go to: **kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow**.

GOOCHLAND CARES
Free Clinic and Family Services

2999 River Road West
Goochland, Virginia 23063

Family Services: 804-556-6260
Clothes Closet: 804-556-0202

Non Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #264
Richmond, VA

DONATE securely online at
GoochlandCares.org

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

"If you can learn something new and make someone smile, that makes a perfect day."

When Linda Vasquez and Jim Worley moved to Goochland in 2017, they wanted to get involved in the community. They joined a Bible study group and met Dr. Pam, who invited them to volunteer at GoochlandCares. They have volunteered in the Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Critical Home Repair, Medical Clinic, and performed special projects.

Linda and Jim have always been committed to helping people in need.

Jim built wood stoves in Guatemala so that families could have a safe way to cook meals. He also took mission trips to Mexico City. Linda worked in public health for 30 years and volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and a food pantry in Charlottesville.

Linda and Jim bring a wealth of skills to GoochlandCares in the Home Repair program and Goochland Habitat for Humanity. After working in the Food Pantry, they saw an opportunity to distribute food monthly at Gum Spring Methodist Church to further their giving.

Linda also volunteered as a Medicaid Navigator for patients. "I helped people find a new primary care physician as they transitioned to Medicaid. It was great to see them more confident as they left the appointment."

Jim said that volunteering at GoochlandCares means a great deal to him, adding, "Making people feel comfortable and valued is important to me."

Linda summed up her commitment to volunteering, "When I retired, I missed helping people. GoochlandCares is a place that shares my philosophy of helping the whole person."

To learn more about volunteering at GoochlandCares, contact Diane Reale, dreale@goochlandcares.org or 804-556-0712.