

Christ Clinic

Christ Clinic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Christian organization that provides charity healthcare to adults and children in the Katy/West Houston area who do not have health insurance or other means to obtain medical care. Its motto is “A Reflection of God’s Love and Healing Grace.” As a ministry of Memorial Lutheran Church in Katy, Christ Clinic opened its doors in October 2000 and by the end of 2007 it had served over 8,000 patients at an ever increasing rate. Christ Clinic is funded by grants, corporate contributions, church and individual donations, and some fundraising.

While some of the licensed providers are paid staff, most of the staff are volunteers and together they provide both acute and chronic care to the Clinic’s patients. Most of the prescribed medications are free because they have been donated by area physicians or they are the new low-cost generic drugs available at local retail pharmacies. In addition, the Clinic maintains its own Class D pharmacy for certain brand-name medications and conducts a large Medical Assistance Program (MAP) that coordinates drug assistance from pharmaceutical companies who are willing to provide patients maintenance-type prescriptions. Christ Clinic not only takes care of physical needs but also provides chaplain guidance for those in need of spiritual support.

Christ Clinic is attempting to meet the ever-increasing demand for charity healthcare in our community. Current economic conditions and the fact that Texas ranks last among the 50 states as to population having medical insurance all suggest that the demand for the Clinic’s services will continue to increase. Early last year the Clinic moved from the church gymnasium to some leased space in the Stanberry Plaza in downtown Katy. This allowed an expansion of clinic hours. For the year 2008 alone Christ Clinic is projected to record over 3,800 patient visits and provide over \$670,000 worth of medications to those they serve. This spring the Clinic began holding diabetes and nutrition classes open to the public to help keep patients in compliance with their medication program, and it now offers physical therapy to its patients when prescribed by its providers. In addition, Christ Clinic provides immunizations to children each Friday morning and has offered sports physicals since classes commenced this fall.

Another significant achievement of Christ Clinic was brought about by Hurricane Ike. Within hours of its landfall, Christ Clinic teamed up with Heart-to-Heart, an international disaster relief organization, to become a distribution center for medications (mostly diabetic drugs), disinfectants, insect spray, home health packs, first-aid kits, and similar products to the disaster victims in the Galveston area.

The year 2008 has truly reflected remarkable growth of Christ Clinic. Nevertheless, its goal is to continue to expand its services and clinic hours for patients as funding is available. Like many of the members of the Houston Christian Chamber of Commerce, we remain committed to a vision of the future for our community that enlivens the compassion of our shared faith and enriches our souls. It is in this commitment we move devotedly forward in humble service and gratitude.