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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

VINA Community Dental Center

WHAT IS VINA?

VINA Community Dental Center is a non-profit that provides dental care to Livingston County residents with limited finances. VINA improves quality of life, oral health and overall health through quality oral care and education. "VINA" stands for Vision, Integrity, Need, Action, which is what we're all about!

PATIENT SPOTLIGHT

VINA is constantly looking for ways to help our patients. For example, seniors make up a large portion of our patient population, and we noticed many of our senior patients could not afford the cost of prosthodontics.

There is a list of patients who need prosthodontics such as partial and full dentures, flippers, and other prostheses. These patients will put off coming to the clinic for a fitting of the necessary piece because they do not have the money to pay for the cost of prostheses. In order to help these patients get their smiles back, we requested grant funding for a program that would allow us to lower the cost of prosthodontics, making them more affordable for senior patients with low incomes, like Greg.

Greg came to the clinic in need of a partial denture. Before getting fitted for his denture, Greg was hesitant to share his smile and unable to eat properly.

The other day, Greg came in and finally got a correctly fitting partial denture. Not only will he now be able to maintain better eating habits, but he will also be able to smile without feeling self-conscious about his missing teeth.



Greg before and after being fitted for his partial denture

VINA by the Numbers

3 RD QUARTER	2018 (YTD)	2019 (YTD)	% INCREASE
PATIENTS	982	1046	7%
NEW PATIENTS	80	124	55%
APPOINTMENTS	1071	1170	9%
VETERANS	13	29	123%
COST OF TREATMENT	\$226,000	\$269,667	19%

Save the Date for The Tailgate

Michigan State Team Captain Sheriff Mike Murphy and Michigan Team Captain Buddy Moorehouse will be co-emceeing this year's Tailgate.

The night will be filled with delicious treats and sweets, unique auction items, and friendly competition between the two teams to raise the most money for the clinic. Tickets are available online at the VINA website and Facebook page.

VINA's 11th annual The Tailgate to benefit the clinic will take place Thursday, November 14 at Crystal Gardens from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. #VINAbreakthetie



SECURING VINA'S FUTURE

We were in a tough spot and you responded!

VINA has been able to operate uninterrupted serving the community for 11 years, but a confluence of situations arose this summer that could have put that in jeopardy.

We first brought attention to this crisis in June 2019, when we had no grants coming in and our upcoming fundraising events were far off. We asked our regular donors if they could step up during the summer and fall of 2019 to help us raise the \$20,000 we needed to get us through this temporary situation while continuing to offer affordable dental care to those in need.

I am happy to report that YOU answered the call...THANK YOU!

To date, we have received just over \$21,000 in donations to get us through the summer cash flow desert.

So, VINA will serve over 1500 of our neighbors this year with quality dental care that they wouldn't otherwise receive because of their limited income. We will not slow down the momentum that we've experienced this year with our senior programs, our dental home program, or our emergency dental program.

We greatly appreciate all of you who make VINA a shining light of hope for people in need of dental care with nowhere to turn. Consider this not only a thank you from us at the clinic, but from each of them as well.

As one of them recently said about VINA, "Without VINA our dental needs would not be addressed. We have other medical needs such as cancer treatment and joint replacement that drain most of our finances."

Because of your generosity we are changing lives. Thank You.

Jim Gilmore
Director of Marketing & Development
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ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE - QCD

If you are 70 and a half years or older with an IRA, you are required to withdraw a percentage of it annually. This Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) goes right to the Income line on your 1040 form, so the federal government can collect the tax that was deferred when you contributed to the IRA during your working years.

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows certain IRA holders the opportunity to withdraw up to \$100,000 annually from their traditional IRA and deliver the funds directly to a qualifying charitable organization, resulting in a tax-free distribution that may satisfy your RMD. Because income from this charitable distribution "bypasses" the Income line on your 1040, QCDs can be used to help keep your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) and taxable income lower.

Many of you write checks to VINA during the year and then count that toward your Charitable Contributions on your 1040. With the new rules and minimum standard deduction of \$12,200 for individuals and \$24,400 for couples, you may not have enough in deductions to qualify to itemize. If you are in a position where you are required to take the RMD, a more tax-efficient move may be to use funds from your traditional IRA to fund the QCD.

Of course, you'll want to check with your tax professional and your financial advisor to assure this will work for you and to make sure the paperwork is properly documented.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at VINA. If you don't have tax and/or financial advisors, we can recommend some that you will have something in common, supporters of VINA.