MISSION

Powered by passionate volunteers, BVMI meets the medical needs of low-income, working, uninsured adults in Bergen County by providing free, comprehensive, patient-centered primary healthcare.

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“It’s not just about the patient. It’s about the whole family.” That’s a firm belief of BVMI’s Case Manager Rosa Flores-Campos, MSW. “Our BVMI team is skilled at discovering someone’s broader issues, beyond physical care,” she said. “We’ve gathered community resources and formed strong partnerships, to see how we can make life easier for our patients. When other members of the family or household can also use these resources, it’s the best kind of ripple effect.”

SNAPSHOT OF THE MOST CRITICAL “NON-MEDICAL” NEEDS OF BVMI PATIENTS

Food on the Table

Enough food for everyone in the household is a must. BVMI is helping patients navigate their way to food security by connecting them with organizations and programs such as:
- Center for Food Action
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- Local food pantries

A Place to Call Home

Too many BVMI patients struggle to pay their rent or mortgage, due in part to job losses and underemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic. We’ve been providing information on:
- Home energy assistance programs
- Rental assistance programs such as those offered by the Greater Bergen Housing Coalition (GBHC) and the Women’s Rights Information Center
- Moratoriums on evictions/foreclosures

A Job Today, A Better Tomorrow

Education and training can move a person from basic survival to prosperity. BVMI has been linking patients and their families with continuing education programs and job training opportunities. Examples include:
- Greater Bergen Community Action – offers free English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, which 38 of our patients have been attending.
- Bergen Community College – through partnerships with sponsor companies, paid apprenticeship training is available for careers as certified nursing assistants, machine operators and pharmacy technicians.
- Child care
- Disability
- Domestic violence
- Family relationships
- Household goods

And More...

So many other resources are also needed by BVMI’s patients. Here’s a partial list of other connections we’ve been helping them make:
- Immigration issues
- Legal support
- Mental health
- Pregnancy
- Transportation

“Whatever it takes... ready willing able...”

“We know we can’t fulfill every need,” said Rosa. “But we’ll keep working to improve our patients’ overall health and well-being in any way we can.”

Amanda Missey, President/CEO amissey@bvmi.net 201-618-4848

DEAR FRIEND

It’s quiet here as I write this. Once again, BVMI has had to temporarily close our clinic doors due to COVID-19. But with more vaccines on the way and by continuing safe practices, we hope to reopen soon after you receive this newsletter.

We’re pleased (and relieved) that our patients have become comfortable with the option of telehealth visits. Once we can bid the pandemic a not-so-fond farewell, telehealth will remain a good tool wherever it’s needed.

BVMI is also trying to speed up the vaccination process for our patients, and residents of Hackensack. In partnership with the Hackensack Health Department, we have established a vaccine clinic, which opened March 3.

Our Case Management program continues to grow, as we uncover new resources for patients’ non-medical needs, also known as Social Determinants of Health (SDoH). Our 2021 Prevent Diabetes Program sessions are in full swing with technology working even harder for us this time around.

The participants approve! This all happens because of your generous gifts to BVMI. Strong leadership is also key, and we’re grateful for the incredible guidance that Andrea Costa Egan has provided us as Chair of BVMI’s Board of Trustees. Will be counting on her continued support as we welcome our new Board Chair. Michael G. Faust, MD, Valley Center for Women’s Health.

Ready. Willing. Able. We love the sound of that.

Amanda Missey, President/CEO amissey@bvmi.net 201-618-4848

DEAR FRIEND
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“Cheers to BVMI”

May 19, 6:30pm
The Alementary Brewing Co., Hackensack

Lift your glass to BVMI with craft beer at Hackensack’s very own brewery. Plenty of outdoor seating and fun for all! Your ticket includes swag, beer and a ticket to the food truck.

BVMI Golf Outing

July 26
Arcola Country Club, Paramus

Join us for our inaugural golf outing! The day includes a scrumptious lunch on the patio, shotgun start at noon, 18 holes of golf, refreshments on the course, and a cocktail hour with passed heavy hors d’oeuvres and decadent desserts.

12th Anniversary Gala

Honoring Becton, Dickinson and Company

September 23, 6:30pm
Edgewood Country Club, River Vale

You’re invited to help us honor BD and celebrate BVMI’s 12th anniversary. You can attend the event in person (following NJ COVID-19 guidelines) or from the comfort of your home. Registration details coming soon at bvmi.org.

Healthy, Wealthy & Wise

Monthly virtual mini-series focusing on women’s physical and mental well-being, hosted by a variety of experts on these topics. Registration details at bvmi.org

2nd Annual Paddle Tournament

On February 21, at the exclusive Upper Ridgewood Tennis Club, BVMI held a members-only 2nd Annual Paddle Tournament. Guests enjoyed round-robin play and a margarita and meal-to-go from the famous NYC Bierra Mexican Food Truck!

Lynn Diamond Healthcare Center

75 Essex Street, Suite 100
Hackensack, NJ 07601
201-342-2478
bvmi.org

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A new day begins

to continue delivering the high-quality healthcare that our patients rely upon - and deserve.

willing...
to do whatever it takes to provide programs and services that make life better - and healthier - for our patients and their families.

able...
to truly fulfill BVMI’s mission – thanks to our generous donors, committed volunteers, and dedicated staff.
Anna and Joseph Schattauer Paillé are givers, in every sense of the word. They give of themselves to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church in Wyckoff, where Joseph officially serves as Pastor. They serve the broader community as volunteers with nonprofit organizations. They donate to worthy causes they believe in.

BVMI has gratefully accepted the monetary gifts that Joseph and Anna have personally made to us. But the giving hasn’t stopped there. When it was time for the couple to buy a new car, BVMI received their existing one. They even thought of us when they recently found themselves with a surplus of copy paper!

How did we get so lucky? “When Joseph and I toured BVMI’s healthcare clinic, we saw how passionate the staff and volunteers were,” said Anna. “They understood that each patient has different needs, and not just medical ones. For every ‘But what about…?’ question we asked, they had a partnership or resource to help. And we were impressed with how carefully BVMI uses each dollar it receives.”

Advent Lutheran Church has also been a friend to BVMI. When Joseph provided us with the opportunity to speak to the congregation, it resulted in some new donors. We’ve even received endowment grants from the church for the past two years – one for our Women’s Health Initiative and the other for our Telehealth efforts.

“BVMI takes care of as many people as they can, including our immigrant community,” said Joseph. “It’s important for each of us to think about how we can show love to all of our neighbors – not just the ones who live next door.” We say Amen to that, Pastor.

“Sam was tenacious, focused, and determined. Just the characteristics needed to create something as forward thinking as BVMI. Vivian and I are happy to do our part to help secure BVMI’s future by joining Sam’s Legacy Society.”

- VIVIAN AND NEIL ABITABILIO

To receive your helpful guide to legacy giving and the Dr. Samuel A. Cassell Legacy Society:

1. Return the enclosed reply card.
2. Call Amanda Missey at 201-518-8484 or email amissey@bvmi.net.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND YOUR COMMITMENT TO BVMI!

BVMI gratefully acknowledges donors who made contributions November 1, 2020 - January 31, 2021

Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to BVMI!