

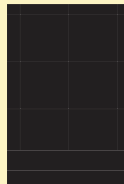
checkup

2024 | NO. 2

BECAUSE EVERYONE DESERVES HEALTHCARE

SPECIAL EDITION

GARFIELD EXPANSION



15 YEARS

BUILDING A BVMI FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



Meet Maria,
a Garfield resident and
long-time BVMI patient

Maria lives in Garfield with her 12-year-old son and has been receiving primary and gynecological care at BVMI for over 10 years. Originally from Poland, she has been living in the United States for 20 years. Although she has a chemistry degree from her home country, she has been cleaning houses since she came here because it allowed her the flexibility to care for her son.

Maria learned about BVMI while cleaning the home of a long-time BVMI donor. And, as “small world” stories go, she also knew BVMI founder Dr. Sam Cassell and his wife Carol, having helped the Cassells serve Passover dinner to their guests for several years.

When Maria found out that BVMI is opening a clinic in Garfield – about a three-minute walk from her home – she was delighted, noting that going there will be

easier for her, saving time and travel costs.

She is also happy to learn that Garfield Unity Pantry – a choice food pantry – is at the same location, administered by the Community Food Bank of NJ. She currently picks up food from an Englewood food pantry, which is more than 10 miles and nearly a half hour away.

BVMI strengthens our patients’ lives in other ways. For example, BVMI’s Case Manager, Rosa, suggested that Maria find an international credential evaluator to help translate her Polish chemistry degree to use in the United States. Rosa is connecting her to employment services to put that degree to use and find a job working in a lab.

Your support provides a lifeline for hundreds of patients like Maria, and makes our community a better place to live.

When asked why donor support is so important, Maria said,

“

BVMI helps a lot of low-income people like me who cannot afford health care; donations make this all possible.

– Maria

“

By bringing BVMI to Garfield and to the south Bergen area, we bring opportunity to these people that they didn’t have before. It’s a game changer, a lifestyle changer and I’m proud to be part of it.

– Tom Duch, Esq., Bergen County Administrator, former Garfield Mayor and 2024 BVMI Gala Honoree

Speaking directly to the necessity of our Garfield clinic, Mayor Richard Rigoglioso noted that,

“

This is a blue-collar town, a hardworking melting pot of diversity. This is the town I grew up in and for many people it’s a ladder to the American dream. BVMI is going to make our community stronger.

– Garfield Mayor
Richard Rigoglioso



There are 32,412 residents in Garfield. Although they represent only about 3% of the total Bergen County population:

16.7%

16.7% are uninsured, compared to 6.7% in Bergen County

14.8%

14.8% live in poverty, compared to 6.8% in Bergen County

\$72K

The median household income is \$72K, compared to nearly \$119K in Bergen County

Building Broader Access to High-Quality Health Care

BVMI@UnityHealth is Coming to Garfield in Early 2025

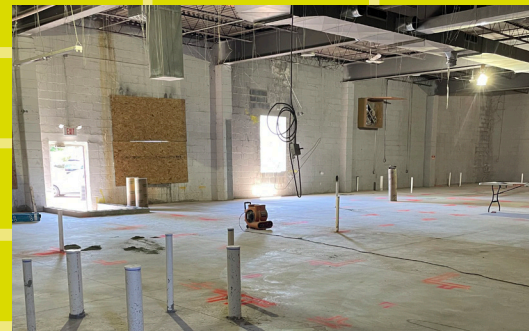
The excitement is growing as we look forward to opening BVMI@UnityHealth, our second clinic being built in Garfield to address the healthcare “desert” in southern Bergen County.

We are dedicating significant resources to BVMI@UnityHealth to bring free, high-quality healthcare to working, uninsured adults in Garfield and surrounding Bergen County towns in early 2025. Patients will have access to the same excellent primary care and wellness support programs offered in Hackensack, plus a new vision care program.

In preparation for the Garfield opening, we are investing in medical equipment, hiring staff, and recruiting more clinical and general volunteers. At the same time, we are working diligently to expand services to hundreds of new patients with complex medical needs.

Through our network of healthcare and community partners, we aim to double the size of our patient population to meet the increasing need. We cannot accomplish any of this without our generous supporters, who ensure that BVMI has the necessary resources to improve the health and lives of thousands of residents in need.

With construction underway, we invite you to become an essential building block in a BVMI for tomorrow as a donor, corporate sponsor, or volunteer.



Donate Today!

You can make a difference for patients:
BVMI.org/Donate



Amanda

Amanda Missey,
President/CEO

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Dear Friend,

Demand for healthcare is growing, and so is BVMI! We are honored to be a partner in Unity Health—a unique initiative created to provide more resources to people who live in southern Bergen County. BVMI@UnityHealth in Garfield will expand access to high-quality, free healthcare for our low-income, uninsured neighbors. Patients there will experience exactly the same compassionate, culturally-sensitive care that's provided in our Hackensack clinic. To meet the ever-growing demand for medical care, we need your support in this vital expansion campaign. Your gift will help ensure that both clinics have adequate resources to provide more people with timely attention and treatment. Can we count on you?



Honoring

Thomas Duch, Esq.
Bergen County
Administrator

Tom is proud to be a driver in the effort to open BVMI@UnityHealth in Garfield.

**TICKETS NOW
ON SALE**

**BVMI'S 15TH
ANNIVERSARY GALA**

Sept 26th, 2024
The Venetian
Garfield, NJ

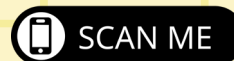
**SCAN HERE
FOR TICKETS**



Join Us! The gala is our biggest fundraising event of the year. We are excited to share our expansion plans to care for more Bergen County residents as we honor Tom Duch who played an instrumental role in getting BVMI@UnityHealth off the ground.



Scan to Donate Today!



Scan the code to support our expansion campaign for BVMI@UnityHealth in Garfield. Any amount is appreciated and will be well utilized!



We are proud to announce that BVMI is now a BBB Accredited Charity, having met all 20 BBB standards of charity accountability after completing a rigorous evaluation. Check out our new BBB seal and give to us with confidence.

Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/w7smx6tc>



Mission: Powered by passionate volunteers, BVMI delivers free, high-quality healthcare to Bergen County's working uninsured, helping them live healthy, productive lives.

BVMI.org

Follow Us!

