

**Social Ministry Focus for November – Health Care**  
Bread of Healing Clinic – Financial Donation

Barbara Horner-Ibler is coming to St. Matthews on November 16 to discuss the Bread of Healing Clinic that is run at Cross Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. Below is a short description of the clinic and how your donation to them can make a difference.

The Bread of Healing Clinic is a free clinic, serving 800-1000 patients each year, none of whom have medical insurance, most of whom are working in jobs that do not provide insurance. Established in 2000, initially as a ministry of Cross Lutheran Church, it is now an independent 501c3 organization and is located at three sites: Cross Lutheran Church, the Agape Community Center, and Eastbrook Church. The clinic will offer almost 4000 patient visits this year, over \$1M in medications to patients, and more than \$1.2M in volunteer hours from both health care professionals and non-professionals.

All of the work of the Bread of Healing Clinic is funded by private donations and a few contracts. About 34% of our budget comes from a contract for teaching services provided to medical students and resident physicians. 36% comes from grants, given by local philanthropy organizations. About 30% comes from donations from individuals and from churches.

There are two primary areas that require investment from the clinic. The first is in the area of supplies and medications. There are some medications that are only available as generic medications and must be purchased; this is a cost of about \$2500/month. There are some diabetic supplies that are not available through any pharmaceutical companies' "patient assistance programs" (glucose testing strips); that cost is about \$1000/month. To support the rest of the cost of medication, we sign up our patients for the pharmaceutical companies' "patient assistance programs," and receive free from those companies medications totaling about \$12,000/month.

The second area of investment from the clinic is in the area of staff salaries. There is an Executive Director, who is also a nurse for the clinic; he was part-time in 2007, and has moved to a full-time position in 2008. There is one full-time Lutheran Volunteer Corps member, who works at the clinic 40 hrs/week, for whom we pay \$15,000/year; this year's LVC'er is also a nurse. One volunteer pharmacist is paid for part-time work, as he coordinates all of our medicine donations and the medicine dispensary. One volunteer physician is paid for part-time work as the medical director and for teaching medical students and residents.

The total budget for the Bread of Healing Clinic in 2007 was about \$300,000. 10% went to office expenses and general operations cost; 42% to direct support of patient costs; and 48% to salary support for 5 part-time individuals. In-kind expenses total well over \$1M (donated lab services by Aurora Clinical Lab and Dynacare, volunteer hours, medications from pharmaceutical companies, etc.). Because of our reliance on volunteers, we are able to provide very cost-efficient care, but we are dependent on donations and volunteers just to maintain, not to mention increase, our services.

To make a donation to the clinic, you can send a check to St. Matthews and in the memo line, put Cross; Bread of Healing Clinic and we will make sure it is routed correctly. Or make the check out to the Bread of Healing Clinic and mail it to:

Bread of Healing Clinic  
1821 N. 16th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53205

To learn more about Cross Lutheran Church, go to [www.lutheransonline.com/crosslutheranchurch](http://www.lutheransonline.com/crosslutheranchurch)

To view other organizations that St. Matthews supports through our outreach, go to <http://www.stmattslutheran.org/what/social.html>