



Health Intervention Services
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Health Intervention Services

Healing for today.
Hope for tomorrow.

www.hisgr.org | Spring 2015

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Thank you Sodium Dental last year's lead sponsor!

They specialize in providing high technology equipment repair, and training to dentists across the country. They donated a refurbished sensor to HIS, and repaired another of the same model saving us almost \$5,000.

Their work was excellent! Thank you Sodium Dental!

**12TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
AT THORNAPPLE POINTE
ON AUGUST 10TH, 2015**

- Per golfer - \$150 paid by July 27th, \$170 after July 27th
- 8:00 am Shotgun Start
 - Continental Breakfast
 - Lunch at Thornapple Pointe
- 1:00 pm Shotgun Start
 - Bag Lunch
 - Dinner at Thornapple Pointe
- Best Ball Scramble
- Prizes Awarded to Top Teams
- Hole-In-One Challenge
- Raffle Prizes

HIS is grateful for our 2014 Golf Sponsors

Double Diamond Sponsors

- Sodium Dental;
- Diamond Sponsors**
- Spectrum Health Medical Group:
Concierge Medicine

Gold Sponsors

- Anonymous Friend of HIS (2)
- Commonwealth Commerce Group, Inc.
- Pridgeon & Clay, Inc.
- Van Wyk Risk Solutions
- VanderWeele/Stewart Group
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Silver Sponsors

- Aal Chem
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- UFCW Local 951 Foundation
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The Jesus We Need to Know

In his award winning book *The Jesus I Never Knew* Philip Yancey classifies Jesus' ministry of healing as a "snapshot of the Supernatural." Yancey notes three important themes we can learn through these "miracles."

First, Jesus challenges bad medical beliefs – and worse theology – by contradicting the idea that illness and disabilities were a direct result of personal sin. In doing so Jesus "overturn[ed] common notions about how God views sick and disabled people." Jesus didn't ask why or look for blame; rather he saw an opportunity to glorify God.

Yancey also states "you can view disease as a mechanical breakdown of bodily cells, or you can view it ... as a state of dis-ease involving body, mind, and soul." When viewed holistically suffering is more often about emotional, relational, and spiritual pain than it is about physical pain. Jesus' response to the social stigma of leprosy broke all the rules, and broke barriers. Jesus touched the leper and "that one touch from Jesus brought his state of dis-ease to an end. Shalom was restored."

Finally, in the healing of the paralyzed man who was lowered through the roof by his friends to have access to Jesus, Yancey sees both the power of relationship and the importance of healing body and soul. A man, who comes to Jesus with the help of his friends for physical healing, walks away being healed **and** forgiven.

This Jesus – the one who challenges wrong ideas about health and disease, who breaks through social stigma, who takes delight in relationships, who heals us body and soul -- this Jesus is the Jesus that those we serve at HIS need to know.

The people we serve are those who cannot find a place in our society's health care system. They are often stigmatized – sometimes by their diseases, sometimes by their lack of income, sometimes by how they enter this country. The people we serve feel emotional and spiritual pain in addition to their physical pain. The people we serve need help with their medical and dental needs, but they need as much help with their emotional and spiritual needs.

They need to know the Jesus Yancey describes.

But it is not just the people served who need to know this Jesus. Those of us – volunteers and staff – serving also need to know this Jesus. We need to see situations in new and unconventional ways. We need to reach out and touch with care and compassion. We need to offer healing in a holistic way – body, mind, and spirit.

When we do, we will know this Jesus. And it is the Jesus we need to know.

Getting to know Bill...

Bill Paxton joined the staff of HIS as its new President in February. Bill brings to HIS 35 years of non-profit management experience. For the last nine years Bill, and his wife Judy, have lived and worked in Traverse City where Bill was Director of Northern Michigan Services for Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services. Prior to relocating to Northern Michigan Bill worked in Grand Rapids for a variety of non-profits including serving as President/CEO for Pathfinder Resources a Christian non-profit that provided substance use disorder services. Bill has also provided extensive management consulting and training services throughout his career.

Bill is a graduate of Calvin College earning a BA in education and communication. He also has a masters in social work from Michigan State University, and a masters in management from Aquinas College. He has specialized certificates in smoking cessation and in change management.

Bill has been involved in many community and professional activities, and along with Judy has been very active in their church. While enjoying outdoor activities such as golf, fly-fishing, hiking, and snowshoeing, Bill most enjoys time with his family that includes three daughters, two sons-in-law, and 2 – almost 3 – grandchildren who affectionately know him as "Bumpa."

HIS Volunteers Part of "Miracle" for Indian Missionaries



We shouldn't be surprised when "circumstances" just happen in the right order so that someone experiences healing. We clearly saw a chain of events that tells the story of how HIS impacts the lives of those in this community. Missionaries Hannah and Jonathan Victor who were on leave from India came to HIS for a check-up before going back.

Here is the story in their words...

"We did not anticipate this extensive of medical care but our hearts are filled with gratitude for God's amazing guidance in this whole situation. God led us to the best team of doctors and hospital. Dr. Susan Radecky [volunteer physician at HIS], who has been to India on a medical missions trip, guided us to Health Intervention Services where the doctors provided excellent care. From that initial exam Victor was sent to Dr. Joel Green [also connected with HIS], a missions-minded surgeon, who gave Jonathan an immediate appointment for check-up and scheduled the surgery the very next day. The minor surgery revealed a hidden tumor and the rushed lab test showed the diagnosis of cancer. Dr. Green prayed with Hannah and our friends who were in the waiting room and then proceeded to conduct the more extensive surgery with much diligence. Dr. Green was concerned that Jonathan's voice be preserved because he is a preacher of God's word. We give God all the glory who beautifully orchestrated everything."

Jonathan & Hannah Victor

SAVE THE DATE!
HIS SPRING LUNCHEON

June 2, 2015 is the date of our first
(and maybe annual?) Spring Luncheon.
Our supporters, volunteers, and potential "new friends" will hear stories about lives being changed and hearts being connected.
You will also learn how you can help transform patient's lives!

Noon - 1:00 p.m. at the Goei Center.
Plan on coming – and bring a friend!

To Register call 616-475-8446 ext. 107
Questions: Thressa at 616-475-1326

Look for a mailing soon with details!

Delta Dental Foundation Grant Awarded to HIS

HIS recently received \$2,200 from the Delta Dental Foundation through its Brighter Futures Community Grant Program.

The funding will help support the dental hygiene program.

HIS provides dental care for people who desperately require dental treatments but have few personal resources to pay for their care. Long term neglect of dental needs and ignorance of appropriate dental hygiene jeopardize the patients' health with potentially life threatening consequences.

HIS continues to be the "safety net" for those who might fall through the cracks of the dental health care system.

Francisco Gonzalez A Volunteer with Many Goals

Francisco, a resident of Grand Rapids for 21 years, came to HIS as a volunteer in 2009. He was working as a Medical Assistant and Spanish interpreter at Spectrum Hospital when he met an HIS volunteer physician.



In addition to helping people, Francisco's personal mission is to be an example in the Hispanic Community that volunteering is a good thing to do as a way of giving back and a way to integrate into the larger community. Francisco also wants people in his culture to see that male nurses are a good thing!

Soon after coming to HIS, Francisco began losing his hearing which led to losing his job. He has since undergone successful cochlear implant surgery. We were pleased when Francisco returned to HIS after adjusting to his new hearing. He is professional, great at detail and managing patient flow. He is willing to come in on short notice if we need him and offers to help out in various ways. He brings in his own equipment that allows him to read blood pressure levels instead of listening for them. Francisco appreciates being able to continue using his nursing skills and HIS appreciates him for his generous giving spirit!



As an Americorps VISTA at HIS, I'm so grateful for the opportunity I have to help the underserved and impoverished community in Grand Rapids. After graduating from Michigan State last May, I had planned to take a year off before starting medical school. I was unsure of what exactly I wanted to do, but a friend recommended me to apply for Americorps programs after I told him I wanted to spend my year making a difference. After getting the call that I was offered the position at HIS, I packed up and moved to Grand Rapids.

I was unsure of what exactly my duties would be at the clinic when I accepted the position. Now, however, I really enjoy and put my full effort into every way I can help out HIS patients and providers. With the Patient Assistance Programs, I'm able to obtain medications that would normally be extremely expensive, i.e. insulin and asthma medication, to uninsured patients for no charge. I'm also a Certified Application Counselor for the Michigan Medicaid and the Healthcare Marketplace applications, and I've been able to help many patients sign up for insurance that they would not have been able to otherwise. My other main job at HIS is scribing for providers and setting up a volunteer scribing program. I'm happy to help out the volunteer doctors, many of whom are retired and do not wish to learn an entirely new Electronic Medical Records system. Overall, I'm incredibly appreciative of the experience and knowledge I've gained from being a VISTA at HIS. I know that I'll be able to use and apply the skills I've acquired here for the rest of my life.

Sam Foran

WE ARE SEEKING

Volunteers who are:

- Optometrists
- Opticians
- Billing/ Coding Specialists

If you can volunteer, please let Nancy know at 475-8446 ext. 116

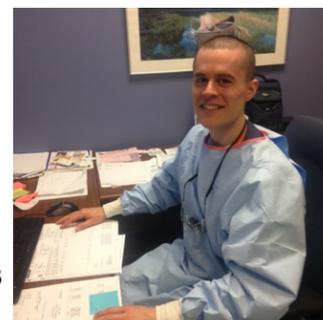
We also need donated equipment:

- Laptop computer for our medical lab
- Presentation projector for training and presentations
- "Bunn" coffee pot system
- "Dorm size" refrigerator for break room

Call Thressa 457-1326 or Bill 475-1363

Dr. Daniel Armstrong Promoted to Dental Director

We are pleased that Dr. Daniel Armstrong has accepted the position as Dental Director for HIS. Dr. Armstrong has previous work experience at the Cherry Street Health Services Clinic. Since 2013, Daniel has served HIS as a staff Dentist and most recently as Assistant Director. President Bill Paxton welcomed Dr. Armstrong by saying, "Daniel's compassion, professionalism, and enthusiasm are tremendous assets for his work and we look forward to his leadership."



HIS is a very special clinic for me and my family. We have been coming for three years. I had problems with my teeth and gums, now after good care and education, my teeth and health are better.

In the dental area we get dental cleaning, fillings and the care we need for our overall dental health. The personnel are truly professional. Every time we have appointments the dental personnel informed us of the procedures being done that day. The dental fees are very affordable and the service is excellent. I am thankful they are bilingual. Thanks HIS for the dental care you provide for me and my family.

Luis E Ruiz-Gonzalez

