



James T. "Jim" Robinson

BA, University of Virginia, 1970

MBA, Babcock Graduate School of Management, Wake Forest University, 1976

Jim Robinson, Drs. Ernesto de la Torre and Bill Satterwhite, Jr., with the backing of the Forsyth-Stokes-Davie County Medical Society, founded the Community Care Center in 2000. Jim has served as its Executive Director since the beginning. He wears other hats as well, serving as executive director of both the Forsyth-Stokes-Davie County Medical Society and the Forsyth County Bar Association. He also serves as the current president of both the North Carolina Association of Free Clinics and SORT (Special Operations Response Team).

Under Jim's leadership, Community Care Center has become the largest free medical and dental clinic in North Carolina, serving residents of Forsyth, Stokes and Davie Counties whose family incomes are less than 200% of the federal poverty level and who do not have Medicaid, Medicare or private insurance. The clinic depends upon over 300 active volunteers, both medical and dental professionals and non-professionals, to provide free primary and specialty care. The clinic adds about 40 new patients per week and projects nearly 20,000 patient visits in 2009! Applicants must first be screened for eligibility. [Information is available on their website ([www.cccforsyth.org](http://www.cccforsyth.org)) or by calling 336-723-7904.]

Multi-specialty services available in-house include: Cardiology, Dermatology, Endocrinology, Gynecology, Gastroenterology, Ophthalmology, Optometry, Otolaryngology, Neurology, Pediatrics, Podiatry, Psychiatry (limited), Psychology (limited), Rheumatology and Urology. Dentistry is available to clinic patients on an emergency basis. Physicians have access within the clinic building to: X-rays, Ultrasound, EKG, Laboratory, Physical Therapy, Minor Surgery (limited), Dispensary, and Pulmonary Function Tests. The Breast Clinic Mammogram van visits CCC eight times each year.

The average cost of a patient visit at Community Care Center – primary care and specialty, with medicines, lab tests, diagnostic testing and physical therapy – is slightly less than \$50. The average cost to treat a patient in the emergency room, where many were receiving their care before, is around \$600! This is due to the many volunteers who share their skills and talents with Community Care Center, the in-kind donations of supporting organizations and medications secured for patients through the Medication Assistance Programs of pharmaceutical companies.

The clinic depends upon donations, United Way support and grants for funding of its \$1.4 million budget. Novant/Forsyth Medical Center and its foundation have been major supporters, providing the medical facility for \$1 per year and financial support. Medical professionals from both Forsyth and WFU/Baptist Medical Centers volunteer their services. Community Care Center has a supportive relationship with the WFU DEAC medical student clinic, which uses its facilities on Wednesday evenings. The clinic has collaborative relationships with many organizations, including WSSU, Cancer Services, Forsyth Tech, Forsyth County Health Department, The Breast Clinic, HealthCare Access, and others.

Community Care Center has been challenged to do more than ever in 2009! By early 2008, medical staff felt that the clinic had reached its capacity. Knowing that demand would not slacken, management explored ways to increase the efficiency of providers. Some modifications were made to the facility. A caseworker was added to pick up tasks unrelated to medical care, such as referrals to community organizations for food, clothing and shelter. As a result, when job losses increased demand in late 2008, Community Care Center was ready. In 2009, patient visits are up 15% and new patients added are up 33%!