

JEANIE SCHMIDT FREE CLINIC
Transitions To
HealthWorks for Northern Virginia



HealthWorks for Northern Virginia



Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic

Dear Community Partners,

I am writing to give you an update on the merger of the Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic with the Loudoun Community Health Center.

First, we have a new name! In recognition of our now having three health centers, including two in Loudoun County and one in Fairfax County, our new overall name is **HealthWorks for Northern Virginia**, and we are now known as **HealthWorks for Northern Virginia Herndon**.

A brief recap of the **background** for this merger:

- JSFC is now a full time primary care provider to approximately 1,500 patients from the Northwest part of Fairfax County. All of our patients are low income and lack any type of health coverage or health home. In addition, all of our adult patients have diabetes and/or hypertension, so they are very ill and have many challenges. For some time now we have been thoughtfully examining how we could provide care to more patients, since we are very near capacity because of space and provider resources. There are approximately 140,000 individuals in Fairfax County who are low income and uninsured, and there is a concentration of higher need in several specific geographic areas, including Herndon, Reston, and Centreville.
- Earlier this year we began talking with the Loudoun Community Health Center (LCHC), which is a not for profit health care provider with two locations in Loudoun County, providing care to 6,000 low income patients. LCHC is what is known as a federally qualified health center (FQHC). LCHC receives approximately 12% of its funding from its federal grants; it is not a government program nor a government clinic. The remainder of its funding comes from sources very similar to JSFC's, including local government, foundations, community groups, United Way/CFC, and donors.
- In 2010, at the invitation of Fairfax County, the LCHC applied for a federal grant to open a site in Herndon, focusing on this area because of the large number in need. The grant was not awarded. However, in the summer of 2012 LCHC did receive the grant. At that time, after much deliberation and consultation, the Board of Directors of the Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic voted to join with the Loudoun Community Health Center and to open a much larger health center in the Town of Herndon.

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WHERE WE ARE NOW

- On October 1, 2012 the JSFC and the LCHC formally merged to become one entity - with extraordinary teamwork and collaboration, we merged two medical practices and electronic medical records into one system, completed the hiring of all JSFC employees by the Loudoun Community Health Center, and began to think of ourselves as a new, much larger entity.
- All current JSFC patients have been transitioned with no disruption in their care or care provider.
- We continue to gratefully welcome and utilize volunteers throughout our programs.
- Within our Herndon site, we will have the *Jeanie Schmidt Center for Excellence in Diabetic Care*.
- Once we are certified, we will begin to accept Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance at the Herndon site; these are already accepted at the Loudoun Centers.
- For now, we are continuing to provide patient care in our current location off Sunrise Valley Drive in the shared nonprofit center, Connections for Hope. In early January we will move into our new and much larger Center on Elden Street in Herndon, next to the Amphora Diner.
- Our new Center is within walking distance of many of our patients' homes. We are across the street from the Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center, which will give us the opportunity to continue our strong commitment to working collaboratively to ensure our patients' access to numerous public and private human service programs.

We look forward to continuing and growing our community partnerships to provide high quality, professional and comprehensive health care services to our community, and thank you for your support.

For more information, please call:

Carol Jameson, MSW

Volunteer Executive Director of Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic (handling final fiscal and reporting duties)

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