



## Community and volunteers step up to make Clinic move a reality

The Lake Area Free Clinic has moved into its new home at 856 B Armour Road! March 10 was the first day of operation at our beautiful new facility. The receipt last year of a major donation and ongoing support commitment from the Walter L. and Grace M. Merten Charitable Trust made it possible to move to the larger, 4,500 square foot facility, and also expand our services.

Numerous community volunteers are also directly responsible for our ability to move to the new facility. "In addition to the major donation from the Merten Charitable Trust, we have been truly blessed by the number of dedicated volunteers who have helped with the remodeling of our new space," stated Mary Reich, the Clinic's executive director.

"The level of their commitment is truly amazing. We have also had numerous contractors and their employees donate their labor and offer materials at discounted prices. Without everyone's selfless dedication, this move to the new clinic would not



The spacious patient waiting area at the new Clinic

*"It has been a really moving experience to work with such dedicated people..."*

have been possible," added Reich.

Mark Knickelbein, the Clinic's construction manager for the project, is overwhelmed by the generosity of the volunteers that have stepped up to donate their time, talents and hard work. "It has been a really moving experience to work with such dedicated people and I'm really proud to be a part of it," Knickelbein explained.

The new Clinic facility features six patient exam rooms, three offices, a conference room, lab and drug dispensary. For the first time, the Clinic will offer eye exams and diabetes screenings in our new ophthalmology exam room.

In 2008 the Clinic handled 2,684 patient visits — about an 8 percent increase over last year. However, due to the fallout from the economic crisis, it is expected that those numbers will dramatically rise in 2009 as more people lose jobs and health care coverage. This January, the Clinic treated the largest monthly total of patients in our history. Plans are being formulated to extend service hours in the new facility to accommodate this anticipated need.

To help fund our move and expanded services, the Clinic will continue to seek the support of the community through public appeals and fundraising events. Additional volunteers, both medical professionals and lay people will also be sought. Because the community has not let us down in the past, we are hopeful our appeals will be answered.



A patient exam room — one of six in the new Clinic

## You're invited — upcoming Clinic events — mark your calendar

You're invited! We can't wait for you to see our new Clinic — we've planned two open houses so everyone can come and see the result of the dedication of many volunteers and donors. In addition, to help us in our efforts to expand our services in the new facility, two fundraisers are already on the calendar for 2009. Watch for more information about these events in the future.

### ✘ Clinic Open House for volunteers and donors

April 26—12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

### ✘ Lobster Fest at Lord of Life Lutheran Church to benefit the Clinic

June 20—Time to be determined

### ✘ Clinic Open House for the community

July 11—10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### ✘ Fifth Annual Clinic Gala (location to be determined)

October 9—5:00 p.m. to midnight



## Need trees? Mapleton Lake Nursery program to benefit Clinic

With spring approaching, do you need trees for planting in your yard? Are you a landscaper needing a variety of quality trees for your customers? Do you want to support the Clinic? Now you can purchase quality pine and spruce trees and support the Clinic at the same time.

In 1994 Bob and Diana Schowalter bought a former dairy farm in the Town of Oconomowoc. They began to plant various tree and shrub seedlings to re-establish the wildlife habitat on the farm.

Today, the Schowalters give back to the community by donating the funds from the sale of the several thousand trees growing on the farm to charity.

When you mention the Lake Area Free Clinic when pur-

chasing a tree from the Nursery, 100 percent of the proceeds go to the Clinic. Examples of the Nursery's stock include white pine, Colorado blue spruce, Norway spruce, Black Hills spruce, white spruce and others.

The Nursery encourages landscaper and developer referrals and quantity discounts may apply. Trees are currently priced at \$20 per foot.

It should be noted that trees make a wonderful tribute in memory or in honor of a loved one. A tree also makes a thoughtful housewarming, wedding, anniversary or graduation gift. Nursery gift certificates are available as well.

Those interested in purchasing a tree to benefit the Clinic should contact the



Proceeds from the Mapleton Lake Nursery program will help fund vital Clinic operations such as dispensing medication through the new Clinic drug dispensary shown above

Nursery to arrange for pick-up. The Nursery is located at N71 W35498 Mapleton Lake Drive (immediately east of AngelsGrace Hospice) in Oconomowoc. The Nursery can be reached at 262-370-0015.

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**MAPLETON  
LAKE NURSERY**  
Bob and Diana Schowalter

