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AMA FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS TO 15 OUTSTANDING FREE CLINICS

Free Clinics Receive Up to \$25,000 Through the Healthy Communities/Healthy America Program

CHICAGO — In an effort to increase access to health care for the nation's underserved populations and support the incredible efforts of volunteer physicians, the [American Medical Association \(AMA\) Foundation](#) has awarded [15 physician-led free clinics](#) from across the country with grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

"These free clinics and their grant projects provide a unique and critical pathway to assist the most vulnerable populations, targeting low-income individuals, patients affected by racial and ethnic disparities, or those living in geographic isolation," said [Clarence Chou](#), MD, AMA Foundation President. "The AMA Foundation is proud to support the health and wellness of those who are most in need, and we invite individuals and organizations to stand with us and contribute to our efforts, increasing our ability to reach even more free clinics and support innovative and worthy grant projects."

The AMA Foundation's [Healthy Communities/Healthy American program](#) supports patient care and physician altruism, and has awarded almost \$1 million to 56 free clinics since the program began in 2007. In addition to providing resources for patient care, AMA Foundation grants provide free clinics with a boost in national recognition and public awareness, leading more than half of grant recipients to obtain new grant funds or individual contributions as a result.

Fifty million Americans are currently without health insurance, and hundreds of communities have developed free clinics that bring together health care professionals and other community volunteers to offer free or low-cost health care to low-income, uninsured and underinsured people. Funding for these clinics is generally raised at the local level with little, if any, government support. A recent AmeriCares survey found that increased demand and resource constraints have forced 56% of free clinics to turn away eligible patients.

The [Healthy Communities/Healthy America](#) program is supported by grants from the Walmart Foundation and Lilly USA, LLC. As part of the Walmart Foundation's national effort to address healthy eating habits, they provided support for nutrition education projects. Lilly USA works in numerous ways to address the increasing number of patients who are developing diabetes. They funded grants for diabetes education and self-management projects.

The following free clinics will receive grants to improve nutrition education and awareness:

- **The Breathing Association**, Columbus, Ohio
- **Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc.**, Atlanta, Ga.
- **Clinica Esperanza / Hope Clinic**, Providence, RI
- **Faith Family Medical Clinic**, Nashville, Tenn.
- **Free Clinic of Rome, GA, Inc.**, Rome, Ga.
- **Hope Health Clinic of Spalding County, Inc.**, Griffin, Ga.
- **MedStar St. Mary's Hospital**, Leonardtown, Md.
- **Mobile Outreach Clinic**, Gainesville, Fla.
- **St. Mary's of Michigan Center of Hope Free Clinics**, Saginaw, Mich.
- **Volunteers In Medicine – San Diego, Inc.**, El Cajon, Calif.

The following free clinics will receive grants to improve diabetes education and self-management:

- **Albany InReach Services**, Albany, Ore.
- **Community Health Clinic of Butler County**, Butler, Pa.
- **Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic**, Herndon, VA
- **Taylors Free Medical Clinic**, Taylors, SC
- **Volunteers in Medicine of Cape May County**, Cape May Court House, NJ

The [AMA Foundation](#), a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt foundation, is dedicated to improving public health by raising funds and providing philanthropic support to high-impact health and medical scholarship programs. Please visit www.amafoundation.org, follow us on [Facebook](#), or call (312) 464-4200 for more information.

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