

Hope is found here

Volunteers busy converting former dry cleaning facility into home for Hope Clinic

BY KATHIE DICKERSON • Staff Writer • April 6, 2010

COSHOCTON -- The community continues to give to those less fortunate, and organizers with Hope Clinic of Coshocton were overwhelmed with a recent donation.

"We have this building through the generosity of the family who donated it," said David Lanning, director of finance and marketing with the clinic.

Renovations started this weekend at the former Davis Dry Cleaning building, 131 S. Sixth St.

"The building was donated to Hope Clinic of Coshocton in memory of Shawn Callahan," Rick Merrell, vice president of Hope Clinic, said.

More than 220 volunteers who include 10 physicians, one nurse practitioner and a physician assistant, have seen about 400 patients since the clinic opened last fall in the Coshocton County Career Center.

In all, about \$54,000 in services have been provided to people who have no insurance, Lanning said.

The new location, which Lanning hopes will be ready for a June 1 dedication, will have six or seven exam rooms and a reception area.

Merrell said it should give the organization an

opportunity to help even more people, and with its own location, there's a possibility the clinic could expand its hours.

There will also be a child care room and a prayer room.

The clinic is faith-based, and volunteers want to offer spiritual and emotional healing in addition to physical treatment, Lanning said.

Of the more than 300 clients who've visited the clinic, 166 of them also have spent time in the prayer room and 240 submitted prayer requests.

The organization is supported by many Coshocton County churches and even some outside the area who've made it their mission, Lanning said.

"It's all because of the generosity of people and the volunteers who want to help others in these tough economic times," he said. "We've been very blessed."

Hope Clinic of Coshocton also recently launched its Web site at www.hopeclinic.coshocton.org, and regular updates on work hours and the progress of renovations will be posted, he said.

Anyone who wants to stop by and help with cleaning or tearing some of the walls out is welcome, said Dave Boyer, president. They'll also welcome donations of construction materials such as lumber and paint.

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