

REGULAR AGENDA

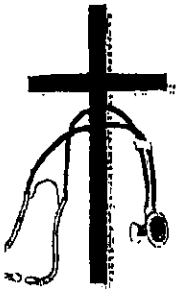
AGENDA ITEM 14

Hear presentation and proposal by Samaritan Ministries regarding County health care needs.

Ernest Balla, CEO of Johns Community Hospital, and Dr. Richard E. Wilcox, Vice President of the Samaritan Health Ministries Board, discussed a joint proposal from the Samaritan Health Clinic in Cedar Park and the Health Center at Johns Community Hospital in Taylor for funding for the care of uninsured patients in the county.

Commissioner Heiligenstein recommended that Karen Wilson, Director of Williamson County and Cities Health District, be given the proposal for review and revisit this agenda item in a few weeks.

<Attachment>



Samaritan Health Ministries

Home for Hope, Health and Healing

P.O. Box 133,

700 W. Whitestone Blvd., Cedar Park, Texas 78630-0133

512-331-6410

**Samaritan Health Ministries
Proposal to the Williamson County Commissioners (WCC)**

Request to the Williamson County Commissioners Court May 25, 2003

Request Summary

Samaritan Health Ministries (SHM) presents this request in conjunction with the three other clinics serving the people of Williamson County (Georgetown Community Clinic, The Health Center at Johns Community Hospital in Taylor, and Round Rock Health Clinic).

SHM respectfully requests that the Williamson County Commissioners Court provide partial funding to the clinic for our treatment of those people residing in Williamson County whose income is up to 150% of the Federal poverty guideline. The funding request is at a rate of \$20 per uninsured patient visit to the clinic up to a cap of \$34,000 that will provide partial coverage of 1,734 patient visits who represent the Williamson County residents whom we serve.

The present request is a follow up to one submitted on January 21, 2003 (and included as an appendix for your convenience). Because we have been successful in obtaining grant funds from the Greater Williamson County United Way for this year, we are able to reduce our request to you for partial reimbursement.

Background Information

Samaritan Health Ministries (SHM; formerly, Hill Country Medical Ministries) is a non-denominational, not-for-profit organization that, with the Lord's help, provides (a) quality urgent and chronic healthcare (medical, pharmaceutical, and dental) to the uninsured of Williamson County and other nearby areas and (b) an opportunity for healthcare professionals and other interested volunteers to give their time, talents and resources to support this healing ministry (93 volunteers currently). We also provide breast cancer screening, referrals, and education, and education about diabetes. The SHM is the only facility serving the greater Williamson and northwest Travis counties that provides free medical care and medications to the uninsured and is the only clinic serving their acute dental needs.

From 1999 through 2002, we have had approximately 4180 clinical visits. One-hundred percent of these patients were uninsured and living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level.

Demand for service has been increasing at a rapid rate. We were open initially each Monday evening. We are now open each Monday and two Thursday evenings each month for chronic care patients. Typically, our limit of 30 patients (25 adult and 5 pediatric) is reached at or before 5 p.m. We have had to turn away patients. Alternatively, when the ill person is a child, our volunteers have stayed well beyond 9 p.m. Approximately 30% of our clients are children, 40% Hispanic, and 55% female.

RECORDERS MEMORANDUM

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At our current rate of clinic usage we will see 2040 uninsured patients living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. Of these, approximately 612 will be children (and 1428 adults); of the 2040 approximately 480 will be chronic care (diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, and 1560 acute care). SHM is the "medical home" to several hundred families residing in Williamson County. Of the total of 2040 patient visits, 485% (1734) will be from Williamson County.

Currently, we have approximately ninety-three volunteers staffing the clinic: 13 physicians, 6 referral physicians, 4 dentists, 5 other dental personnel, 16 registered nurses, 12 registered pharmacists and other pharmacy staff, 7 intake volunteers, 3 interpreters, 7 diabetes educators / dieticians, 2 volunteers who run our Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer screening and education grant, 1 fund raiser, 2 regular student volunteers, 4 volunteers for the Patient Assistance Programs, 2 administrative assistants, and 9 board members not already listed. (Many of these people also serve other roles.) SHM has an active 14- member board of directors comprising medical and other professionals.

Signature of authorized official

5-25-2003

Date

Name/Title: Richard E. Wilcox, Ph.D., VP – SHM Board, & Grant writer

RECORDERS MEMORANDUM

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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RICHARD E. WILCOX**SAMARITAN HEALTH MINISTRIES****Home for Hope, Health and Healing****P.O. Box 133,****700 W. Whitestone Blvd., Cedar Park, Texas 78630-0133****512-331-6410****HOME****(512) 250-5614****12508 Turkey Ridge Court****Austin, TX 78729****UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS****Richard E. Wilcox, Ph.D.****Professor & Doluisio Fellow****Division of Pharmacology & Toxicology****College of Pharmacy, PHR 5.224D****The University of Texas at Austin****PHAR-Pharmacology****1 University Station A1915****Austin, Tx 78712-0125****and****Neuropharmacology Program Head****Institute for Neuroscience****University of Texas at Austin****Phone: 512-471-5199****Fax: 512-475-6088****E-mail: wilcoxrich@mail.utexas.edu****<http://www.utexas.edu/pharmacy/divisions/pharmtox/faculty/wilcox.html>**

AGENDA ITEM 15

Discuss and take appropriate action on request for variance for a 20 acre tract of land designated at Tract B in the John Bailey Survey No. 7.

Moved: Commissioner Boatright

Seconded: Commissioner Hays

Motion: To grant a variance to the requirement that the 10 acre tract of land, designated as Tract B in the John Bailey Survey No. 7 and referenced in Document No. 9661003, be on a public road.

Vote: 5 - 0

< Attachment >

June 9, 2003

Ref: Land in Bailey Survey – Request of Variance

Dear Commissioner Boatright,

I am writing for your help with a situation that has developed over 10 acres my Husband and I have been trying to purchase from Mr. Russell Williams. We have spent over 3 months getting an updated survey and the necessary information for costs on getting a well and septic system. Also, I have been working with Steve Gilmer, at the Williamson County Health Department to get the necessary information for the septic permit. The loan has been approved and we are ready to close.

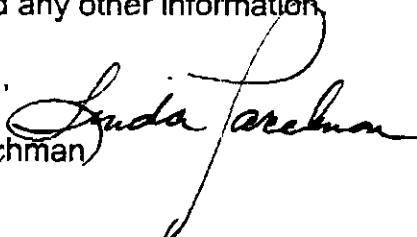
During the appraisal of the land by Rob Randig, with the Texas Land Bank, he realized there was a problem with plat requirements. Vicki Swasey-Griffin, with Coldwell Banker, and I met with Joe England, the Williamson County Engineer, to see if the problem could be resolved. It was determined that Mr. Frank Stephenson who had sold the land to Mr. Williams had illegally subdivided the land and therefore we are not able to get a septic permit if we were to purchase the land. And during the conversation we were told this is not the first time Mr. Stephenson has been involved in this illegal action. Neither the owner to the front (John A. Smith) or behind us (Lex Henderson) can sell us the 30" easement to Hwy 183 so we can meet the requirements to be on a public road.

We have been taxpayers in Williamson County for over 13 years. Our two Daughters graduated from Leander High School and we have 3 Granddaughters attending Leander schools. So you can see we have invested not only tax money but also our time and family in Williamson County. We currently have our home in Cedar Park on the market. The money we will make from the sale we had planned on re-investing in the property in Florence. This would make the land more valuable as tax revenue. And as a taxpayer I would like to think the County should be concerned about this. Since Mr. Stephenson has been illegally subdividing property, he should be penalized instead of Mr. Williams who bought the property in good faith from him.

I would appreciate your help in taking an exception to this property and granting us a variance. I would like to think that some action could be taken against Mr. Stephenson to stop this practice. We have spent money to purchase this property and without your help we will loose that investment. Please let me know if you need any other information.

Thank you,

Linda Parchman



approved 6-17-03
John C. Daefler