

MH MarillacHealth

Committed to a Healthier You.

News for friends of Marillac • Spring 2018

30 years of pursuing health for our community

A hometown success story of leadership, compassion, and a legacy of caring



In the beginning

In the mid-1980s, the Grand Valley went through some tough times. What seemed to be a promising future had all but disappeared with the departure of a major employer and the collapse of the proposed oil shale industry. As hundreds of Mesa County families and individuals lost their jobs, many found themselves without access to health insurance and affordable healthcare. As the crisis grew, a handful of community leaders came together to find an answer. Their response? A health clinic that offered basic and affordable healthcare.

The vision of this tenacious group was realized when Marillac opened its doors on May 2, 1988 and began providing medical care to patients. Little did those early founders know that they had set in motion what would become a powerful legacy of caring that would transform the landscape of health care in the Valley. In time, the little clinic would become a nationally recognized innovator for the delivery of health care.

A vision for a new approach to healthcare

In 1989 Marillac added optical care and three years later, it added dental care. But 1999 marked the dramatic change that would bring national attention for Marillac and the Grand Valley. The Clinic piloted a new concept which to this day remains its hallmark: integrated care.

At Marillac, behavioral health providers are embedded (integrated) within medical teams so that during medical appointments, patients can receive a supportive behavioral care consultation to provide crisis intervention, problem-solving, goal setting and referrals to community resources. When desired, individual counseling and other therapies are also available. Integrated care is at the very heart of MarillacHealth's mission.

Changing with the times

Originally, Marillac was meant to serve only those without health insurance, but healthcare quickly became more complex and costly, and more, not fewer, people came to the Clinic in need of care. In the spirit of Marillac's founders, Marillac has continually adapted to each new challenge of healthcare in the 21st century.

While much has changed since 1988, one thing remains constant: Marillac's commitment to the health and well-being of the community we serve. In this, our thirtieth year, we celebrate this milestone and all who have played a part in this on-going journey of pursuing optimal health for our community.

SEE PAGES 4 AND 5 FOR A TIMELINE OF MARILLAC'S 30 YEAR LEGACY OF CARING

Meet our New Providers and Patient Care Staff



Rachael Jack, Dental Hygienist, is a Grand Valley native who grew up in Fruita, Colorado. After starting her college career at Mesa State College (now Colorado Mesa University), she completed her dental training in Rangely. Since 2007, she has not only been working in the career she loves, she has also welcomed three children and a number of animals to her family farm. Fun for Rachael includes camping and floating rivers. Rachael is inspired to work at Marillac in large part because of the relationships that staff build with patients to ensure good health.



Steven Martinez, Medical Case Manager, is a perfect fit at Marillac. He enjoys his new post here because he can be a bridge to the community for his patients. He knows it well: after growing up in Phoenix then serving in the Marine Corps for five years, Steven moved to the Grand Valley as a resident and then Colorado Mesa University student in the early 2000's. With a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Steven has decided he wants more education, so starting in July, Steven will begin pursuing a Masters degree in Social Work from Denver University. In his free time, "I like to unplug from everything and do outdoors stuff, I like hanging with family and listening to music and laughing. I am a huge Denver Broncos Fan"...which only adds to Steven being the "perfect fit" at Marillac.



Patty Simpson, Dental Case Manager, has extensive administrative background and compassion for others suits her well in her position as Marillac's only Dental Case Manager. Patty focuses on connecting with patients to help them understand their treatment plans, treatment costs and payment; she also manages our Senior Dental Program. Such assistance helps patients stay with the prescribed treatments and achieve healthier outcomes. Not only do the patients feel more cared for and ultimately healthier, Patty also finds happiness in their success. "I love working at Marillac, helping folks who can't get help anywhere else". When she's not helping others, Patty enjoys being active (she's part of a local triathlon club), reading and spending time with her family.



Sabrina Suazo, Health Coach, joined Marillac's staff in January. With a diverse background that includes wealth management, communication and marketing, a masters in Clinical Nutrition, and eight years of coaching private clients on health and nutrition, Sabrina works closely with our medical providers to help patients take charge of their own health through education, understanding, and goal-setting. When not supporting patients in their quest for good health, Sabrina leads weekly yoga classes for Marillac employees, gardens (and makes fantastic compost), and creates her own shampoos and soaps.



Sister Mary Denise

In 2017, the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth (SCL) awarded \$70,000 to our dental program. With gratitude, the Marillac Board of Directors dedicated a pediatric dental exam room in honor of Sister Mary Denise Sternitzke in April of 2018.

Sr. Mary Denise worked as an employee in Marillac's Finance Department for eleven years then as a volunteer for six years. She embodies the generosity, dedication and compassionate collaboration that SCL has shared with Marillac over the years.

Bike to Work Day, 2018

Braving cloudy skies and risking a little sweatiness at work, twelve Marillac employees rode bikes instead of cars to work on Mesa County's Bike to Work Day! Unfortunately, not all were present for the picture, but we all love our matching t-shirts with Marillac's 30th Anniversary logo on the back.



LabCorps

MarillacHealth has partnered with LabCorps to offer cost effective, rapid and on-site laboratory services to our patients.

Always looking to improve on our services to meet the needs of our patients, this partnership allows for our providers to offer a wider range of testing at minimal, and in some cases, at no cost to the patient.

"We feel that by providing patients with options, we empower them to make decisions about their own healthcare."

– Sean DeVeau,
Medical Operations Director

Give Kids a Smile Day

February 9th was national Give Kids a Smile Day, supported by the American Dental Association. Marillac celebrated by providing free dental education, preventative and some restorative care to 27 uninsured local kids.

As an added bonus, Miss Colorado 2018, Chloe Brown, showed up and talked with kids and families about good oral healthcare and habits! As it turns out, Chloe - who grew up in Grand Junction - received her dental assistant certificate before starting her freshman year of college.



Donor Relations and Community Engagement



We are grateful to our Edesia sponsors and guests; visit edesiapalisade.com for a complete list of our supporters as well as pictures of the fun! Plan to come next year: April 7, 2019!

Edesia 2018 – La Bella Vita, indeed

What a day! Over 300 supporters showed up on April 8 at the beautiful Wine Country Inn to embrace the good life manifest in food, wine, spirits, friendship and giving to MarillacHealth. The result was not only happiness for all there, but also a \$33,000 donation to MarillacHealth!

The VIP Luncheon was served up by Executive Chef Michael Rodgers of Maggiano's Little Italy Italian-American Restaurant and included four courses, each showcasing different regions in Italy and accompanied by not one but two wines, just for comparison: one from Italy and one from Colorado. Guests to the Main Event in the afternoon were able to wander the grounds, sampling the wares of over 25 local vendors. The Silent Auction had over 70 items and frenzied bidding right up to closure!

Loki & Mesa County Physicians IPA (MCPIPA) Team Up to Raise Funds

Just in time for winter chill, LokiUSA and MCPIPA delivered Loki jackets and a \$3000 check to MarillacHealth in mid-December. In this fundraising campaign, these two entities partnered to offer discounted Loki jackets to MCPIPA member physicians, their practices and families, with a portion of the proceeds going to services provided at Marillac. Marillac staff purchased jackets and Marillac patients reaped the benefits. Thanks to all who participated!



Valentine's Day is Always Sweet with Cupcakes from Baker's Boutique

Imagine making 2,200 cupcakes! That's what Baker's Boutique did, and helped raise over \$6000 for the 8th Annual Gifts from the Heart fundraiser.

Thanks to our generous sponsors for another successful year: Vectra Bank, Blythe Group + co, Mesa County Medical Society Alliance, Joanna Little/REMAX 4000, and 1st Choice Real Estate Co Inc.

And of course we need to give a hearty shout out to those who purchased boxes of cupcakes for Valentine's Day – we are happy for your big hearts and sweet teeth!



Community Outreach

9 Health Fair, Fruita Community Center

In April Marillac joined dozens of other healthcare organizations and agencies to help provide health assessment and education for 1000 individuals.

Not only were numerous health screenings available for free or a reduced fee, many organizations provided education and support. Sadee and Kendra, two Marillac Medical Assistants, volunteered to draw blood, while Sheli and Anna were available to talk about Marillac's services and eligibility for them. It was a good day!



1st Annual Community Resource Fair, Dept. of Corrections, Division of Adult Parole

On April 24, at the invitation of our local Dept. of Corrections, Sarah Robles from our Eligibility Department and Steven Martinez, Medical Case Manager, spent the morning introducing parolees to resources and services available at Marillac. Out of the 60 participants, many were interested in eligibility. We look forward to being part of this event again next year.

Marillac Donates Safety Kits to Thunder Mountain Families

MarillacHealth is committed to keeping our Mesa County kids safe and healthy, so in late 2017, we partnered with Thunder Mountain Elementary School to sponsor over 500 ChildPrint ID Kits for their students.

These kits help parents log information about their children in one place. Items in the Safety Kit include a dental chart for primary and secondary teeth, forms to document each child's medical and personal info, including allergies & medications, blood type, height, weight hair & eye color, birth date, a 10-finger fingerprint chart, instructions for obtaining a DNA hair sample, storage bag for the kit as well as two pages of comprehensive safety tips, and a chart to note any unique physical features.



Pictured: Tanya Daniel, School RN, Kristy Schmidt, MarillacHealth, Diane Carver, Principal



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Celebrate with us!
Watch for upcoming events
celebrating Marillac's thirty years
of commitment to a healthier you!

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