# M+MarillacHealth

Committed to a Healthier You.

News for Friends of Marillac • Fall 2022

# **Expanding Access to Health Care with New Doors to Health**

#### It's time to share the news!

We will construct a new care facility that will house our integrated clinical care services (medical, dental, and behavioral health) together with administration, fundraising, IT, and financial departments. The building will also include new pharmacy services.

This is a facility whose time has come!

#### Why build?

A new care facility is needed for two patient-centered reasons:

- demand has outgrown the space at our current locations.
- over half of our patients live in Clifton, Fruitvale, and Palisade area and must travel to Grand Junction for care.

For over six years we have been trying to establish a clinic closer to Clifton and until now, attempts have been unsuccessful for a variety of reasons. However, late in 2021, the Mesa County Planning Division and County Commissioners invited Marillac to establish a care site within the future Clifton Community Campus — a neighborhood-based development that will include a library, early childhood education and care center, and a community hall, all adjacent to Rocky Mountain Elementary School — and we jumped at the opportunity.

The parcel initially offered, however, was not suitable. An alternate site, directly across from the school on D ½ Road, meets all our needs with room to grow. Currently owned by United Companies, they will donate 11.77 acres from the 80-acre gravel pit to Marillac for the new health center.

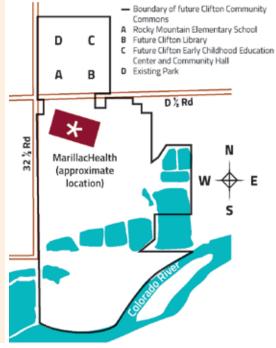
**Frankly, it is hard to overstate the need for this health care expansion project. Clifton is an area that is notoriously overlooked and under-resourced.** Unlike Grand Junction and Fruita where there are abundant health care choices, Clifton, Fruitvale, and Palisade area residents (of which there are 48,000) live in an area that is devoid of both primary and specialty care. In addition, 20,000 of the residents receive Medicaid; one-fourth qualify for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance, and one in five households are of minority status. **Marillac's presence will drastically improve access to health care for thousands of people.** 

#### **Notable project features**

- The building is being intentionally designed to serve persons of all ages in spaces that are
  welcoming, age-appropriate and culturally respectful, incorporating natural healing daylight and
  views of the outdoors. It will be integrated into the outdoor environs that include the nearby Colorado
  River, and spacious views in all directions.
- Will have a capacity to serve 5,800+ patients in two years, with room for future expansion
- Will create at least 15 new jobs
- · Existing Marillac care sites will remain open
- Cost is projected at \$13.5 million



In order to meet Mesa County's growing need for medical, dental, and behavioral health services for all people and especially those who are lower income and/or uninsured, Marillac has launched "New Doors to Health," a forward-thinking, the-time-has-come capital project to bring health care to Clifton and the surrounding underserved areas.





Simply scan this QR code with your mobile phone's camera or QR app and you will be instantly linked to a page with more information about this exciting new chapter.

#### Help us make this happen

Marillac's new care site in Clifton is a landmark civic project that will improve Mesa County's health care resources for decades to come.

Marillac's cash reserves and early grant and donation awards kick-started our campaign with just over \$4 million. Only \$9.5 million to go!

Your support matters! Help expand access to quality health care in Mesa County – give a gift of any size and help open New Doors to

**Health.** We would love to visit with you in person to chat more about the project and your support. Just give us a call to schedule – 970-200-1628.

#### TIMELINE

2022

planning & design

2023

springtime groundbreaking; fundraising all year

2024

mid-year: open new health center

# **The Warrior Wellness Center Update**

"If you build it, they will come." That has certainly proven to be true at Central High School's school-based health center. The numbers of users and visits tell part of the story:



total users total visits

3,674

The WWC is open each school day from 7:30 am – 4:00 pm, so students arrive throughout the day, either with or without an appointment. And that feels right to Rosa Gardner, Marillac's full-time Primary Care Provider at WWC. "We are seeing more and more kids becoming comfortable with the presence of a health center in their school. It gives them and their parents the opportunity to take care of their health when they need to."

It is easy to become a patient at WWC. In addition to the check-in area at WWC, parents can find and complete the registration and consent paperwork either on Marillac's website, Central's website or at school-sponsored events.

**Kids are coming to WWC for a variety of health reasons,** but behavioral health is their top concern. In Years 1 and 2, 40% of the visits were for behavioral health; this year those visits make up 65%. Visits for dental check-ups and cleanings are growing, too.

At a presentation to the SD51 School Board last Spring, CHS student and WWC Committee member Sydni King stated: "This center is some children's only source of mental health care and physical health care, due to a plethora of reasons. We really needed this in our building."

TOP SIX REASONS
STUDENTS ARE COMING
TO THE WARRIOR WELLNESS
CENTER:

- Depression/anxiety
- Stress at home
- Sports physicals
- Well checks
- Acute care (colds, etc.)
- COVID testing/vaccines

## "Night Hikes" Raised \$200 for the Warrior Wellness Center



"My name is Anna Respet and I'm a student at Palisade High. Many of my close friends attend Central HS and have benefitted greatly from the wide array of services provided by the school-based health clinic there [Warrior Wellness Center]. The clinic has even saved the lives of my peers, so I wanted to make a contribution to help ensure that those unique services remain accessible to students and hopefully even expand into more schools in the district."

Thank you, Anna, for your initiative and follow through!



We are heavily promoting our new Pediatrician, Dr. Rosling, with billboards on North Ave, Patterson Rd and Riverside Pkwy/Hwy 6 & 50, throughout the community and online.

## **Our Pediatric Service is Growing Up!**

Pediatrician Dr. Annette Rosling joined Marillac in August, offering care to children from birth to 18 years old at our County Clinic site. We have three, newly decorated-for-kids exam rooms, where she offers appointments 2 ½ days each week. Having practiced pediatrics for 18 years prior to coming to Marillac, Dr. Rosling says, "I enjoy working with families, helping them learn about childhood growth and development and helping them choose good health. It is a joy to work for an organization [Marillac] that doesn't turn anyone away for care. ALL kids deserve quality health care, regardless of their parents' economic status."



lan Kelley of Wine Country Inn and Anne Tally of Grande River Vineyards presented Marillac with a check for \$59,000.

#### **Edesia Events Raise More**

On behalf of the staff and patients of Marillac, we extend a BIG THANK YOU to **Wine Country Inn and Grande River Vineyards** for hosting three separate events this spring and summer **that raised over \$59,000!** Were it not for their generous hosting and in-kind donations of time and talent, the events would not have been as financially successful.

We are thankful to all the sponsors of Edesia. **Special thanks to our top level sponsors (\$2500 -\$7500) Alpine Bank, Dufford Waldeck Law, FCI Constructors, St. Mary's Regional Hospital, Timberline Bank, Whitewater Building Materials**