# 2024 Sannual Impact Report





HELPERS MEDICAL REE CLINIC

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. Matthew 25:40

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#### Our Mission

The mission of Willing Helpers Clinic is to provide quality healthcare to individuals who have no insurance and are unable to pay for medical services. Our purpose is to spread the gospel by being the hands and feet of Jesus and meeting health needs in our community.



Dear Friends,

As we reflect on this past year, we're excited to share the incredible things God has done through Willing Helpers Medical Clinic in 2024—and to give you a glimpse of what's ahead in 2025.

This report is more than just a list of achievements—it's a reflection of how your generosity and God's perfect timing have worked hand in hand to care for our neighbors. We've seen His provision in the most unexpected ways—like surprise donations arriving right when a need arose or medical supplies showing up just a day after a diagnosis. Over and over, we're reminded that God is watching over His ministry, and that our community truly cares for one another in a powerful way.

Because of your support, 2024 was a year of exciting growth. We expanded our reach to include residents of Walton and Jasper counties, introduced telehealth services, and began offering primary care—not just chronic care. That means we're now able to help even more people with annual checkups, vaccinations, and acute needs.

Behind the scenes, we've also been hard at work. We've improved how we manage patient records, streamlined our processes, and updated our policies to reflect the evolving healthcare world we live in today. All of these changes are helping us serve our patients more efficiently—and with the same compassionate care you've come to expect.

Nutrition has always been an integral part of our care at Willing Helpers, so when we were contacted by BD and Open Hand Atlanta to run a test program of delivering medically tailored meals to our most vulnerable diabetic patients in an effort to lower A1C levels through food, we were thrilled! We now have our first group of patients receiving meals and providing feedback, with a waiting list of new patients eager to join.

We've also expanded our reach online by starting an Instagram and YouTube channel, where we've been highlighting some of our patients' testimonies and giving more insight into what goes into a patient encounter at the clinic.

#### Goals for 2025



Go Paperless



Dental Clinic



Provider Referrals



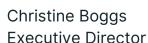
Nutritional Counseling

One of our favorite updates? We're no longer being called Newton County's "best-kept secret." Thanks to new partnerships and community connections, more people than ever are finding their way to us through online marketing, referrals from friends and family members, and community members - and that means more lives are being touched.

We also continue to invest in the future of healthcare through student mentoring programs with Georgia State, Southern Crescent, Augusta University, and Oxford University. Our externship program gives aspiring medical students hands-on experience and the opportunity to see what compassionate, Christ-centered care looks like beyond the textbook.

Looking ahead, we know the needs in our community are only growing—and so is the cost of care. But with your continued support, we can keep saying "yes" to those who need us most. Your donations help us provide completely free medical care to uninsured and low-income adults right here in our community.

From all of us—our staff, students, and volunteers - thank you. Your generosity, your prayers, and your belief in our mission make this work possible. You are living out Jesus' command to love God and love your neighbor, and together, we're making a real difference.





## Goals Progress Update

2023 2024

Expand our mental health options by adding new referral sources locally and virtually

We now partner with four different mental health providers to meet the demand for services

Increase telehealth to benefit those with transportation challenges and allow acute care Increased telehealth appointments by 450% to serve acute care patients

Offer primary care, not just chronic disease care, opening our doors to more patients

Opened up to primary care and new patient applications doubled

Add additional specialty providers in areas of need

We are actively recruiting new providers to our specialty network

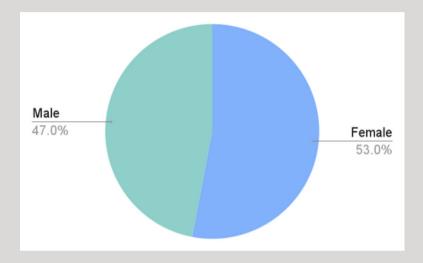
Reinstate and expand our nutritional counseling for our most vulnerable patients with diabetes Partnered with Open Hand Atlanta to provide delivered meals and nutritional counseling

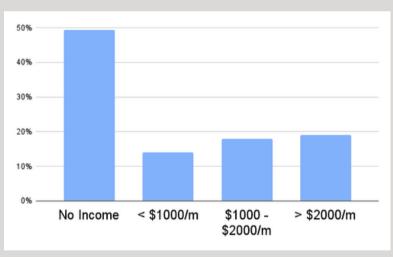
#### Who We Serve

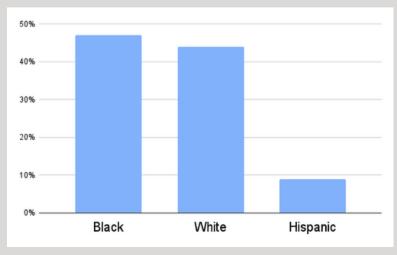
#### **Patient Demographics For 2024:**

Active patients: 654

New patients: 196







About half of our patients are employed but do not earn enough to provide for their families and purchase medications, especially for chronic illnesses such as diabetes or hypertension.

Additionally, many employers do not offer health insurance.

The other half of our patients who have no income were once employed but have suffered a loss in life, such as the loss of a job or a home due to circumstances beyond their control (such as a fire or increasing rent).

Many have a loss of health, resulting in long waits for disability approval or an inability to receive Medicare coverage due to age.

Average Age: 48 years old

Most of our patients visit every 3 months due to the chronic nature of their illnesses

## County By County

#### **Walton County**

Population: 106,702 Uninsured: 13,551

Persons In Poverty: 10,777

Diabetes: 11,737

Hypertension: 38,092

#### **Newton County**

Population: 120,135 Uninsured: 15,497

Persons In Poverty: 14,176

Diabetes: 15,618

Hypertension: 42,888

#### **Jasper County**

Population: 16,455 Uninsured: 2,287

Persons In Poverty: 2,435

Diabetes: 1,975

Hypertension: 5,874

Data Sources: US Census July 2023 County Health Rankings, 2023 America's Health Rankings, 2023

## Community Financial Impact



Wound Care Visits

Value: \$24,500



Specialist Referrals Value: \$500,000

Value: \$653,575

1218



Value: \$285,082

765



Telemedicine Visits

Value: \$156,650

1938



Medical Visits

Value: \$1,844,600

4037



**Prescriptions** Written

Invaluable

440



Patients Needing Prayer

Total amount of care provided by our clinic in 2024: \$3,464,407

#### Our Team







**Technician** 

Joan Selby Registered Nurse



Smith, FNP Nurse Practitioner





## Our Board Members

Mike Franklin, President
Dr. W. Norris Little, Vice President
Melanie Bell, JD, Secretary
Henry Little, Treasurer
Josh Franklin, Board Member
Larry Cheek, DMin, Board Member
Vernon Bell, Board Member
Charles Guerrero, Board Member



### Our Volunteers

The value our volunteers bring to Willing Helpers Clinic is beyond measure. They are the heart of our mission—ensuring that every patient who walks through our doors is met with care, compassion, and dignity. Our volunteers are essential in expanding access to healthcare for those who need it most, easing the load on our limited staff, and promoting lasting wellness across our community.

Medical volunteers provide expert care and clinical support, allowing us to serve patients with professionalism and grace. Administrative volunteers help with everything from record-keeping to guiding patients through their visit, creating a warm and welcoming environment. And our spiritual care volunteers play a vital role as well—offering prayer, encouragement, and discipleship to those who seek it, helping to meet not only physical needs but emotional and spiritual ones, too.

Together, these dedicated individuals form the foundation of our mission. Their generosity of time and heart enables us to serve more people, more deeply, and with greater impact than ever before.

#### Medical Volunteers

Bobbie Baggett, PA-C Dr. Christy Blanchford

Dr. Kwon Choe

Carrie Fleming, NP

Wendy Fuller, NP

Dr. Donna Groover

Belinda Herndon, RN

Dr. Joshua King

Dr. Kevin Lanclos

Dr. Norris Little

Dr. George Park

Dr. Henry Patton

Dr. Daniel Riley

Dr. George Smith

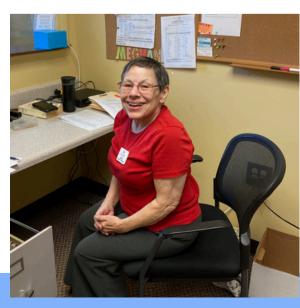
#### Administrative Volunteers

Melody Hughes
Doris Horton
Caroline Johnson
Brenda Lackey

Pat McConnell Mardie McIlmoyl Fran McWilliams

#### Spiritual Volunteers

Charlene Samuel



## Learning Opportunities

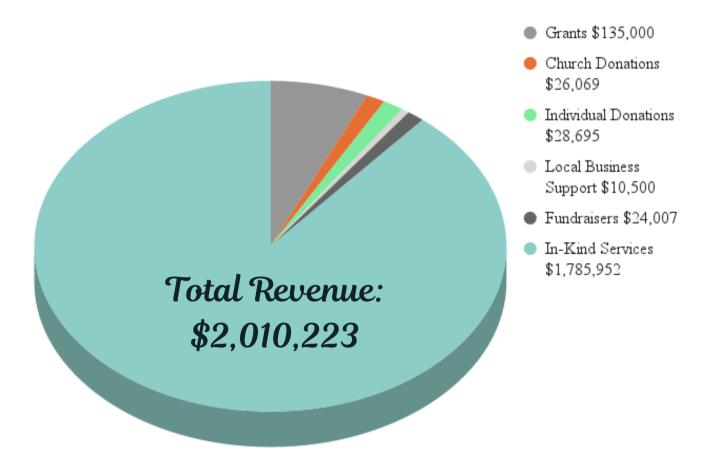
Partnering with local universities has been an invaluable asset to our clinic and the broader community. Through collaborations with Georgia State University, Emory/Oxford University, Augusta University, and Southern Crescent University, we provide hands-on learning opportunities for nursing and medical students while expanding our capacity to serve patients. These partnerships allow students to gain real-world experience in a compassionate, community-based setting, while we benefit from their energy, knowledge, and support. Together, we are not only investing in the future of healthcare but also ensuring that underserved populations receive the care they need today.



The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my saviour; my God is my rock, in whom I will find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety.

Psalm 18:2 11

## 2024 Financial Performance



## Value TO our local hospital system:

Free medical clinics save money for our local hospitals by drastically reducing the amount of non-emergency visits to the ER. This can be for prescription refills, flu shots and vaccinations, UTIs, or colds and flu. The value of all our services rendered saves our hospitals roughly

#### Value FROM our local hospital system:

Through the charitable efforts of several local providers, we can refer our patients who need care outside of what we can provide. We are very selective about whom we refer but we believe the value of all of the donated services rendered by our hospital to the benefit of our patients is roughly

## Contributors To Our Success



Georgia Baptist

Health Care Ministry Foundation

























TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH









Grace Baptist Church
Shiloh Methodist Men

## Looking Forward To 2025



Open a new dental clinic that will provide routine cleanings, fillings, and extractions



Update our electronic medical records and go paperless with charts and documentation

Start a new round of nutritional counseling diabetic patients with Open Hand Atlanta



Add additional specialty providers in areas of need:
 dental, rheumatology,
 gastroenterology,
 neurology & gynecology





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To Donate