Benjamin Factor Health and Wellness Clinic

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Abstract

Through research, a need was identified in Huron County, Michigan, for increased preventative care. This county is relatively composed of rural communities with a decrease in access to healthcare; therefore a plan was developed in which a group of health care providers would implement a mobile health and wellness center. This clinic will be focused on providing immunizations, simple lab testing, blood pressure screenings and education regarding disease processes. Medical records will be kept along with the arrangement of follow-up if indicated. Primary care providers will be arranged if the patient does not have one. The goal of the clinic is to provide compassionate nursing care, focusing on health and wellness, to the underserved rural populations of Huron County.

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**Assessment of Internal and External Environment**

Huron County is located in the lower peninsula of Michigan, it is considered to be in the “thumb” region, in which it is surrounded by Lake Huron. The majority of the population is composed of farmers. Recently, the new technology of windmills has been becoming more popular. Health care services are limited; there is only one fully licensed acute care facility, Huron Medical Center (Huron Medical Center, 2012). There are two other hospitals located in Pigeon and Harbor Beach. Huron County also includes a Veterans facility, acute care rehabilitation facilities and also elder care facilities.

In 2010, there were 33,118 people that populated Huron County (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, Dec 23). According to Huron County Health Department in 2009-2010 only 1,241 people were immunized against the flu, leaving 73.3% of the population unprotected. As a group, we propose to develop Benjamin Factor Mobile Health and Wellness Clinic of Huron County. Vaccinations are available to the public from the health department and local physician clinics, but we feel due to the rural community setting, the community would benefit from a health and wellness clinic that offers immunizations. Vaccination clinics would be offered at the different township halls and also to people that are homebound. No other service agency was found that offered these types of amenities. By operating within our scope of practice, we would be meeting the American Nurses Association (ANA) guidelines of promoting wellness, optimizing health for individuals, families, community and populations (ANA, 2010).

Due to the fact that only 27% of the residents of Huron County received flu vaccines, we believe there are many other basic health prevention services that these residents may not be receiving. (Huron County Health Department, 2012) The services we view as lacking and would like to provide are listed in our mission statement and our philosophy.

**Mission Statement**

 “Nurses caring, compassionate, and willing to stand up for the underserviced and homebound in our community will provide health screenings and vaccinations to the residents of Huron County in order to promote their health, wellness, and create a community that cares.”

**Philosophy**

Our philosophy here at the Benjamin Factor Mobile Health and Wellness Clinic of Huron County is to provide free, competent, and compassionate health services to the residents of our county. These services include, but are not limited to, health screenings for high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol, and diabetes. Flu shots and vaccinations will also be provided. All of these services and more will be made possible regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, or gender. These same services are available to homebound residents by appointment.

**Organizational Goals**

* Ensure flu vaccines are available to all residents of Huron County.
* Ensure all vaccines are available to all eligible adults and children.
* Keep records of immunizations received and send reminders to patients when new ones are due.
* Maintain and keep up to date electronic health records including current patient allergies.
* To provide competent testing for diabetes, high blood pressure and elevated cholesterol.
* Provide education on all borderline and abnormal test results.
* Provide referral service in order to help patients find a primary care physician as needed.

**Organizational Objectives**

* To administer flu vaccines to a minimum of 50% of the high risk residents of Huron County.
* To provide Synagis shots to all eligible infants in Huron County.
* To have 90% of patients registered in MCIR (Michigan Care Improvement Registry).
* To have 75% of patients current on immunizations.
* To arrange proper physician follow up for all testing results that require follow up.
* To locate a primary care physician for all patients as needed.

**Job Descriptions**

 At the top of the organizational chart is the Benjamin Factor Foundation Board of Directors. After that is the Nurse Manager/Board Liaison, a physician partner, executive secretary, RN’s, receptionist, and a cleaning crew.

 The job of the Board of Directors is to oversee and provide the financial foundation of the wellness center. The Nurse Manager/Liaison oversees the day to day operations of the clinic including hiring and dismissing of employees. This manager is the liaison between the clinic and the board of directors. The liaison is responsible for presenting the budget to the board of directors and getting proper approval. The clinic also has a physician partner than can be consulted at any given time. This is a licensed physician within the state of Michigan and will be available during operating hours of the clinic regarding needed testing and test results.

 Registered Nurses are available to meet and greet patients, take vital signs, do lab draws and make home visits. The nurses also provide education verbally and written regarding elevated blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol. They also provide education in many other areas including heart disease, pregnancy, and other issues. The nurses also can help find a primary care physician if needed and arrange for further follow up of abnormal test results.

 There is an executive secretary that works with everyone at the clinic, especially the nurse manager/liaison. The secretary duties include scheduling of all employees, advertising of clinic location, placement of health information into the electronic health record, recording of vaccinations into MCIR (Michigan Care Improvement Registry), and payroll. Also helping with secretarial duties is the receptionist. The main duties for this employee is to schedule appointments, answer the phones, meet/greet the incoming patient and help with data entry in the electronic health record.

 At the end of the day there is a cleanup crew that comes to the mobile clinic after hours to thoroughly clean the facilities and to restock needed supplies. This crew does routine maintenance on the vehicle as well as keeping the gas tank filled. This crew is also responsible for moving the clinic to its next destination. See appendix A for an organizational chart.

**Advertising**

Advertising in the American Journal of Nursing would cost $5,270.00 for a half page ad to run for one month. Advertising in the Grand Rapids Press would cost $10.92 per line, per day.

Other avenues of advertising to be considered include radio and internet sites such as M-live.

 See appendix B for the advertisement.

**Budget Proposal**

The budget for the Benjamin Factor Health and Wellness Clinic includes provisions for one full time office/nurse manager, one full time receptionist, and three part time RN’s. Clinic hours will be Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from noon to 8 p.m. The clinic will be closed should a holiday fall on one of these weekdays. The nurse manager will make $60,000/yr. salary and receive full benefits including health and dental insurance, six paid holidays, and two weeks of vacation per year. The full time receptionist/secretary to nurse manager will make $40,000/yr. salary and also receive full benefits including health and dental insurance, six paid holidays, and two weeks of vacation per year. The three part time RN’s will make $27/hr and will work 16 hours per week. These positions will provide a benefit allowance of $200/month to be used towards insurance or used as extra pay. There will not be paid holidays for the part time RN’s and there will only be one week of vacation.

 Funding will also be provided for a cleaning crew three nights a week, office and medical supplies, and maintenance and driver for the clinic. The cleaning crew will be paid $300 per week and the maintenance contract which includes a driver will cost $200/month. Another expense related to transportation will be that of reimbursement for the nursing staff of $.50/mile when they drive their own vehicle to provide care for patients unable to come into the clinic. (Appendix C). Office and medical supply costs will be variable throughout the first few months until we know more about how much will be needed. For the first month $2,000.00 will be provided and this amount will be reassessed on 7/31/12 by the office manager and the chairman for the Benjamin Factor Foundation and adjusted as needed to comply with clinic needs. The clinic itself will be provided through Provost Motor Homes Inc. and purchased with privately donated funds specific for this project. Advertising will be provided through local media at a cost of $500/month. (Appendix D)

 As this is a fairly new concept for Huron County, the costs associated with this project are mere estimates at this point. The Benjamin Factor Foundation has graciously agreed to adjust costs as needed over the first year as how much business it will do is yet to be determined. The nurse manager will be responsible for keeping track of expenses along with the receptionist. A written report will be presented to the chairman of the board at each monthly meeting for approval.

**Summary**

Our goal at the Benjamin Factor Health and Wellness Clinic is to help people live well. When designing this clinic, our focus was to provide quality health care to the underserved population of rural Huron County. With our focus on primary and preventative care, we are hoping it will prevent hospitalizations, promote vaccinations, and increase the overall health of the people that we serve.

**References**

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Appendix A

Organizational Chart

Appendix B

Advertisement





Appendix C

Mileage Reimbursement Form

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Miles | X$.50 | Total |
|  |  | X$.50 |  |
|  |  | X$.50 |  |
|  |  | X$.50 |  |

Appendix D

One Year Budget Proposal

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Quarter | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th |
| Salaries | $25,000 | $25,000 | $25,000 | $25,000 |
| Benefits | $5,800 | $5,800 | $5,800 | $5,800 |
| RN Pay | $16,848 | $16,848 | $16,848 | $16,848 |
| Cleaning Fee | $3,600 | $3,600 | $3,600 | $3,600 |
| MaintenanceDriver | $600 | $600 | $600 | $600 |
| Mileage Reimbursement | $1,300 | $1,300 | $1,300 | $1,300 |
| Advertising | $500 | $500 | $500 | $500 |
| Supplies | $2,000 | $2,000 | $2,000 | $2,000 |