

Changing Spaces ~ Changing Lives Campaign
Case Statement

*AGCHC mission is to provide integrated, comprehensive, quality healthcare-
serving all in our community, regardless of ability to pay*

Avis Goodwin Community Health Center (AGCHC)

A 501(c)3 nonprofit and Federally Qualified Health Center with a proud tradition of identifying and meeting the health care needs of Strafford County for over 40 years.

What Do We Do?

- **Overall we provide primary and preventative care** – medical, dental, and mental health- to adults, teens, and children and infants. We administer on-site and outreach care and education to proactively build a healthy community.
- **Provide high-quality care**— we strive for excellence, follow best practices, and hire highly qualified, compassionate, and enthusiastic staff and providers
- **Open to all residents**—regardless of insurance status or ability to pay
- **Tailor services to fit the needs of our community**— proactively identify and deliver services through programs and outreach created specifically to solve challenges in the surrounding area
- **Serve high-need areas**—located in areas identified as having elevated poverty, higher than average infant mortality, lower health ratings, and limited access to primary care
- **Save our community money**—reduce expensive emergency, hospital, and specialty care costs with cost-effective preventative treatment saving the health care system \$24 billion a year nationally

Why are We Needed?

- Recent County Health Rankings place Strafford County the 3rd lowest in New Hampshire for health outcomes—outcomes based on how long people live and how healthy they feel. A major contributing factor is the low ratio of primary care providers to the population
- Community health centers in NH serve 83% of the population below the 200% poverty rate and 28% of the uninsured
- The recent economic downturn continues to have far-reaching consequences:
 - National unemployment has doubled triggering a ripple effect in the health care l
 - The number of uninsured and people living in poverty are on the rise
 - People are losing their health insurance, are increasingly underinsured and uninsured, and turning to health centers in ever-growing numbers

In 2009, AGCHC's new patient admissions have doubled monthly to over 80—we are now serving 1,000 additional patients yearly and many more people need our services.

In 2009, AGCHC:

- Provided almost \$900,000 in free care to the surrounding communities
- Served over 8,000 residents of Strafford County and surrounding communities—over 6,000 are under- or uninsured and 40% are below the age of 20
- Infused over \$6.5 million into the community through direct and indirect spending

The new building is coming just in time:

Already at capacity, we've converted every possible space into exam rooms and offices—including bathrooms and storage closets, to accommodate the growing demand for health services. And at that:

- doctors share offices or have no offices
- nurses have no offices at any of the clinical sites
- the prenatal team transfers from office to office on a daily basis
- staff and medical assistants share desks and have to schedule their use
- it is difficult to provide much needed privacy to patients
- communication between sites, including scheduling and billing, takes extra time and resources
- many people in need can't be accommodated due to lack of space to add new providers and prohibitive waiting times

Why a New Building?

Strafford County residents are in greater need for access to quality health care—it's AGCHC's goal to respond to that need. Our new 32,000 square foot building empowers us to seize opportunities and solve challenges. With our new building and additional 8,000 sq. ft., AGCHC can:

- Respond to the community's growing need for quality health care—more space allows additional health providers to 12,000 patients in the surrounding area
- Increase access to care—centrally located facility with all services under one roof on a public transit stop
- Strengthen patient-centered care—new state-of-the art facility improves medical standards, patient flow, enhances privacy, and elevates patient's experience for improved care and faster service
- Bolster staff communication and productivity—provides staff with upgraded working conditions and tools
- Improve efficiencies to reduce overhead by over \$250,000 annually:
 - consolidating 4 sites saves leasing costs
 - an energy efficient building will further reduce energy costs
 - one location will dramatically reduce transportation and communication costs

- Bring an additional 8 long-term and 35 short-term jobs to the area
- Accommodate the agency's needs for at least the next 5 years—the lot is large enough to expand as needed and is proactively considered in the current design
- Lease out additional space to:
 - **Great Bay Mental Health Associates, Inc.** : an interdisciplinary out-patient mental health facility and an AGCHC for-profit subsidiary.
 - a **Community Lab** to serve the surrounding area

A new building will allow AGCHC to further strengthen our community:

- Keep more children and adults healthy with comprehensive, quality, and cost-effective care
- **Stimulate the economy**—with over 120 staff and a budget of \$6.8 million, we infuse over \$8 million into the local economy through direct and indirect spending and support local jobs
- For every \$1 million invested in a Community Health Center, \$1.7 million in new economic activity is generated
- Increased preventative medical and dental care helps avoid unnecessary emergency room visits, medical and oral treatment, and hospitalization costs

How Do We Realize Our Dream?

Changing Spaces ~ Changing Lives Campaign: This campaign is the biggest fundraising effort in our history. Our goal is to receive local, state, and national support and funding to complete the \$6.6 million construction project for our new building

- We applied for and received a \$4.97 million stimulus grant through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to respond to the increased demands for health care in Strafford County for the newly under- and uninsured
- AGCHC has funds committed to this project from appropriations and AGCHC Board-designated money
- We've already received generous support from community leaders prior to publicly announcing our capital campaign

AGCHC is 80% of the way to its goal!

Do you want to help us build a healthier community?

We invite individuals, corporation, families, foundations, and businesses to become major donors and philanthropic leaders in our community to help us reach the remaining \$1 million plus needed to complete the building. We need to get started helping 12, 0000 people get vital preventative care and reduce community medical costs while we help build a better community...**Won't you join us?**

"We need to improve the community for the next generation"