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Nurses, medical assistants, mental health professionals still needed

By Dann Denny
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Dr. Eric Bannec, the VIM clinic's medical director, said the clinic needs more registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, medical assistants and mental health professionals.

"We are hiring an extra nurse specialist to help us with the nursing shortage, which is cutting into our budget," he said. "More nurse volunteers will really help us in the long run."

Bannec said 18 mental health workers — psychologists, psychiatrists and social workers — have volunteered their services.

"Those are pretty good numbers, but not enough to provide daily, on-site evaluation of patients," he said.

"So we'll start off offering mental health services once or twice a week, and referring difficult patients to psychiatrists in the community."

Nurses or mental health professionals wishing to volunteer should call 353-3533 or e-mail info@ViMMonroeCounty.org.



Dr. Rajih Haddawi, right, applauds the ribbon ceremony Friday celebrating the opening of the Volunteers In Medicine clinic on Miller Drive. Joining is Dr. Eric Bannec, medical director for the clinic. David Snodgrass | Herald-Times

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