

Home



Search

Go

Hot Topics[Brown County hosts maple syr...](#)

NEWS SPORTS SALARIES/STATS

Dental services now provided at Volunteers in Medicine clinic

By Dann Denny

331-4350 | ddenny@heraldt.com

September 30, 2010, last update: 9/30 @ 5:46 pm

Thanks to a \$30,340 grant from the Indiana State Department of Health, a local dentist, and a team of dental hygienists, the Volunteers in Medicine clinic is now offering its patients an expanded array of dental services — X-rays, cleanings, extractions, fillings and root canals.

"I am thrilled," said Elizabeth Sturgeon, the clinic's executive director. "When we opened in 2007 we felt strongly that we wanted to build our dental program into more than it was. Making that happen has taken a while, but it's been worth the wait."

Dr. Jeffrey Jones of Liberty Family Dentistry in Bloomington will volunteer one day each month at the clinic to do fillings, extractions and root canals. His visits to the clinic will vary each month, depending on his schedule.

"People can call the clinic (333-4001) to find out what day he will be here each month," Sturgeon said. "But they still need to apply to become a patient here before they can receive dental services."

Sturgeon said Jones is no stranger to volunteering as a dentist, pointing out that he regularly donates time at a clinic in Indianapolis and various clinics in Mexico.

The X-rays and cleanings are being provided one day each month by dental hygienists Barbara Kearby, Deborah Nixon and Jennifer Mobley; along with several Indiana University undergraduate students who've been trained as dental assistants and are members of the Hoosier Dentists Club.

"We'll start offering the cleanings and X-rays on a monthly basis until we get more volunteer hygienists," Sturgeon said. "We bought some ultrasonic scalers that clean the teeth with a high-powered jet stream of water."

The grant also enabled the clinic to buy a new dental chair, lights, electrically powered dental tools, vacuum lines, air lines, and a vacuum pump.

Sturgeon said last year the clinic saw 507 dental patients.

"I imagine we'll see about the same number of dental patients this year, but the number of services we provide for them will go up," she said. "A patient may come in for an assessment, and be referred to Dr. Jones for a filling or an extraction or to one of our dental hygienists for a cleaning."

Free assessments still offered

Sturgeon said Bloomington dentists Tony Kenworthy and Robin Roberts will continue to take turns providing dental assessments at the VIM clinic every Monday morning — and making referrals to Jones or other dentists in the area for certain procedures.

She said the expansion of VIM's on-site dental services will lower the number of patients that will have to be referred to local dentists for care. There are now 36 dentists who take referrals from the clinic.

"We'd like to have more because it would help spread the referrals out to a wider number of dentists," Sturgeon said. "If there are any dentists interested in participating, we'd love to hear from them."

Sturgeon said a number of oral surgeons in the area are taking VIM clinic referrals, but are having a hard time keeping up with the demand for oral surgery.

"The oral surgeons have very busy practices, so clinic patients may have to wait several months for their surgery," she said. "We'd really love to see another oral surgeon move into the community."

Copyright: HeraldTimesOnline.com 2010



The VIM clinic at 811 Second street.

Jeremy Hogan | Herald-Times

More From This Site

[HeraldTimesOnline](#)

From Around the Web

[What Does A Stage 4 Melanoma Diagnosis Mean?](#)
(HealthCentral)

[Men Having Trouble "Down There" Should Watch This Slideshow](#) (HealthCentral)

[Expressions of animals before and after they were adopted \(24 Photos\)](#) (theCHIVE)

[Dizziness: First Sign of MS](#) (MultipleSclerosis.net)

[Must-Have Golf Clubs Being Sold for Next to Nothing](#)
(LifeFactopia)

Recommended by  Outbrain

Curtis Orthodontics

Dr. Tod Curtis--Braces for All Ages. Celebrating 15 Years!
(812) 279-9473

<http://www.bedfordbraces.com>

ANDERSON CHIROPRACTIC

Get in, get adjusted, and get moving! THE Downtown
Chiropractor. 322-3567

www.thedowntownchiro.com

Healthplanbrokers.com

Get Fast & Free Health Insurance Quotes From Several
Companies 812-333-2126

www.healthplanbrokers.com

put your ad here with **DIRECT TEXT**



heraldtimesonline.com

Phone number: 800-422-0070

E-mail: webstaff@hoosiertimes.com

Address: 1900 South Walnut

Bloomington, IN 47402

SECTIONS

[Home](#)
[News](#)
[Sports](#)
[IU sports](#)
[HS sports](#)
[Opinion](#)
[Obituaries](#)
[Living](#)
[A & E](#)
[Data](#)
[Weather](#)

SERVICES

- [About Us](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Print subscription rates](#)
- [Manage home delivery](#)
- [E-edition](#)
- [Mobile version](#)
- [Area business profiles](#)

SEARCH

Search in:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All | <input type="checkbox"/> Living |
| <input type="checkbox"/> News | <input type="checkbox"/> Data |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School Sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Photos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IU Sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Video |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A&E | |

View all stories for a date: 1 1 2013 [GO](#)

© Copyright 2013, **HeraldTimesOnline**, Bloomington, ID. Powered by BLOX Content Management System from TownNews.com [[Privacy Policy](#)]