

Community CONNECTION



DECEMBER 2018



VIM Launches “Season of Services” Campaign”

In conjunction with #GivingTuesday, a national day of Giving, VIM has launched a social media fundraising campaign, “Season of Services” that will run through the end of 2018. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving (in the U.S.) and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. Since its inception in 2012, #GivingTuesday has become a movement that celebrates and supports giving and philanthropy with events throughout the year and a growing catalog of resources. With the help of IU SPEA’s Service Corps Fellow, Steve Chybowski, and an undergraduate class in Public Relations, VIM has recently upgraded its Facebook page and has also created a VIM page on Instagram and Linked In. Through social media we hope to expand awareness of the life-saving work VIM offers to those falling through the gaps in the healthcare system to the new generation of philanthropists that use social media and the internet as a primary means of communication and information gathering.

We are hopeful that this campaign will harness the potential of social media and the generosity of people locally and through our shared contacts across the country to help VIM fund life-saving medications, diagnostic labs and imaging, dentures, and essential medical and dental supplies. Social media provides a platform for us to encourage the donation of time, resources and talents to address local healthcare challenges. It also brings together the collective power of a unique blend of partners— nonprofits, civic organizations, businesses and corporations, as well as families and individuals—to encourage and amplify small acts of kindness.

Help Us Get the Word Out!

Please like Volunteers in Medicine of Monroe County to receive updates from us! You can find us on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VIMMonroeCounty/>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/vimbloomington/>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/volunteers-in-medicine-in-monroe-county>



With Gratitude

One of the joys of Thanksgiving is the opportunity to express gratitude. VIM is sustained by a local network of community, city and county leaders, organizational partners, employees, volunteers, donors, and the board of directors all of whom support our mission. I thank each of you for your commitment to promoting a culture of caring with health care and dignity for all.

Nancy E. Richman
Executive Director

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VIM Welcomes New Staff



Nubia McVey, NP

Nubia brings to VIM over 15 years of diverse clinical experience in healthcare. Having grown up in Brazil, South America, Nubia moved to this country in 1998. *"I remember when I first moved to this country. I needed translators to see a doctor. I am so pleased to be able to provide services in people's native languages."* Nubia is bilingual in Portuguese and Spanish. Nubia graduated from the Indiana Wesleyan University with her B.S. in nursing in 2010, followed by her master's in 2017. Beginning with volunteer nursing in Brazil as part of church mission work, she went on to positions in this country in critical care, inpatient medical-surgical, and hospice. Most recently, Nubia worked at the Heritage Trail prison where she treated a wide variety of acute and chronic conditions.



Rebecca Taylor, FNP

Rebecca Taylor is the newest member of the VIM team, working part-time covering our walk-in clinic. Rebecca is also fluent in Spanish having lived for two years in El Salvador and a year in Costa Rica. *"The best part of working at VIM is the family atmosphere and team approach to providing care which allows us to do a great job caring for patients as a whole person."* Rebecca brings a background in women's health and forensic nursing providing compassionate care for victims of violent crimes and sexual assault. Rebecca graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Science and Nursing from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2008. In 2017, Rebecca graduated with a Master's Degree in Family Practice Advanced Practice Nursing.



Clara Malone, Medical Assistant

Three months ago the clinic welcomed Clara to the VIM family. We met Clara when she came to VIM seeking a volunteer position. In talking with her it became clear that she had the interest and skills to learn the ropes of a medical assistant – a position we had open. *"I chose to work with VIM because I truly believe in the mission statement – that everyone, no matter their background or income, deserves quality healthcare in an environment where they are treated with respect."* Clara, fluent in Spanish, also brings an international perspective with her having lived in Nicaragua for two years and in Columbia for nearly that long. Clara has taken so well to the VIM clinic environment that she is now exploring going to nursing school!

Kroger Community Rewards

Do you shop at Kroger? Do you carry a Kroger Plus card? Now you can help support VIM when you shop at Kroger. Just register your Plus card at the website below and 2% of your purchases support VIM each time you shop. Follow the link below to register your card today! <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>. You have to register your card once each year, so please do it today for the rest of 2018, and again in early 2019. Thank you!



VIM Victory

Over the summer a 31 year old woman came to VIM as a walk-in. She met with Eligibility and discovered that she was over income for the Healthy IN Plan and the Marketplace insurance doesn't begin until Jan. of 2019. She was falling through the gaps of the healthcare system. When she met with the nurse practitioner covering walk-in she described feeling extreme fatigue, sleeping for several days and vomiting. In the past she had thyroid issues but had not been taking medication. Immediately, labs for thyroid were ordered which came back at a critically abnormal level. Her diagnosis: severe hypothyroidism with renal (kidney) failure. This was an emergency that needed immediate intervention.

VIM staff tried to reach her by phone with no luck. We called the woman's employer but she wasn't working that day. We called the patient's mother and left a message on her machine to tell her daughter to go to the emergency department immediately. Several hours later we still had not heard back from the woman. The VIM eligibility director called the police who eventually located her. She called VIM and we told her to go to the emergency department which, thankfully, she did.

In consultation with a local nephrologist and endocrinologist the woman is now on multiple medications, which VIM provides, and VIM pays for her weekly labs to monitor her condition. The VIM medical director regularly consults with the specialists. VIM referred her for an ultrasound of her kidneys (and paid for the diagnostic test). In six weeks, with medication and continuous monitoring, this woman's labs have returned to normal.

Being out of work for so long due to her serious condition resulted in her income dropping and she now qualifies for the Healthy IN Plan. The VIM eligibility director is helping her find a local practitioner. Unfortunately, the wait for new patient appointments is 4-5 months. However, VIM will continue to support and monitor her until she has a primary care appointment.

This is VIM – a compassionate and caring team going over and above to care for the people who, otherwise, would fall through the cracks of the medical system, and in this case may have died.

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VIM Thankful for Community Support

VIM is grateful for the tremendous community support that makes our life-saving work possible. In addition to generous donations from individuals, congregations, and local businesses, during 2018 VIM was awarded grants from the Psi Iota Society, City of Bloomington Jack Hopkins Social Services, SCI Operation Round-Up, Delta Dental, Monroe and Owen County governments, the IN State Department of Health, the Community Foundation of Monroe County, the Bloomington Health Foundation, and the Monroe County Health Department. VIM is also thankful for our medical and community partners that help us by providing free or discounted services: Southern IN Radiological Associates, Southern IN Dermatology, Shredding Unlimited, Smithville Fiber, and BioReference. In addition, we are very grateful to Drs. Ricardo Vasquez, Fadi Haddad, Rebecca Brewer, Matthew Fornefeld, John Labban, Timothy Devitt, Timothy Pliske, David Howell, and Austin Starr for their generous donation of off-site services for VIM patients.

Since VIM's inception, the Bloomington Health Foundation has provided VIM with fundraising & audit support, gift administration, NAP credits, and investment support. We appreciate the Foundation's partnership. Finally, VIM would not exist today without the tremendous support provided by Indiana University Health Bloomington, CFC Properties, and the Cook Medical Group.

Please help us sustain free health care for the uninsured and medically underserved by donating using the enclosed envelope today!



Holiday Wish List

- Printer paper
- Compression socks, L & XL
- Diabetic socks
- Small Dixie cups
- Keebler cheese crackers with peanut butter
- Quart Ziploc baggies
- Small paper lunch bags
- Distilled water
- D batteries

Donated supplies help us help others!

Please call
812.333.4001

P.O. Box 2568
Bloomington, IN 47402

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BLOOMINGTON, IN
47401
PERMIT NO. 100



Visit the VIM Clinic:
811 W. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47403
812.333.4001

Visit us on the web:
vimmonroecounty.org



United We Fight. United We Win.

United Way and its member agencies fight for everyone in our community to learn more, earn more, and lead healthier, safer lives. Will you join the fight?

Every day United Way, Volunteers in Medicine and 24 other certified member agencies fight for our neighbors so everyone has a true chance at a better life. United Way supports a range of services in Monroe, Owen, and Greene counties like healthy meals, after-school programs, job supports, senior services, financial stability, safe housing, and health care that can help people create wins, both large and small. When our community works together, everyone is stronger. Donors like you are turning lives around every day.

One in three lives in our community are impacted by your gift. Your donation stays local, ensuring people get the help they need right away and address underlying issues they face. Change doesn't happen alone - when we team up together, the people in our community win! Please give generously today. To see how your donation is fighting for your community throughout the year visit www.monroeunitedway.org/MyImpact.



**Volunteers
in Medicine**
OF MONROE COUNTY