

SHERIDAN COUNTY
APPLICATION FOR ONE CENT OPTIONAL TAX FUNDS

FISCAL YEARS 2011 TO 2015
(July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2015)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Free Clinic of Sheridan County, Inc. **PHONE:** (307) 674-6995

CONTACT PERSON: Cathi Kindt, Director **ADDRESS:** P.O. Box 682, Sheridan, WY 82801
(Physical address: 1428 W. 5th Street, Sheridan, WY)

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: \$10,000/year **AMOUNT APPROVED:** _____

TAX STATUS: 501 (c) (3) **FEDERAL ID NO:** 20-1389307 **EMAIL:** clinic@actaccess.net

DESCRIBE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF YOUR ORGANIZATION:

The mission of the Free Clinic of Sheridan County is to provide professional, non-emergency acute and chronic medical care to qualified Sheridan County residents.

The Free Clinic of Sheridan County opened in March 2005 to fill a gap in health care and provide a safety net for disadvantaged people in the community. The target population are uninsured, low-income Sheridan County residents 19 - 64 years of age who meet the financial guidelines. The household income cannot exceed 185% of the federal poverty level. The Clinic serves people who do not qualify for Medicaid or other government programs such as VA or Indian Health Services. All individuals seeking service must go through an eligibility process before medical care is rendered. Documentation of household income and proof of Sheridan County residency are part of the eligibility process. All patients are assessed every six months to ensure eligibility for service.

Most of these at risk persons are members of low-income households for whom health care coverage is not available from their employers and otherwise beyond their means to purchase privately.

The Clinic offers a comprehensive approach to medical care that includes basic diagnostic lab tests, radiology, medications, dietary consultation, respiratory education, wound care, research for prescription assistance programs, and referrals for specialty care are part of the service package

A volunteer physician assistant manages the patients with diabetes by providing monthly consultation.

CSBG grant monies awarded to the Clinic has brought the opportunity to offer a temporary, part-time Nurse Case Manager Program from January 2010 – September 2010. The Nurse Case Manager has a caseload of 24 patients with multiple chronic illnesses. The goal of this program is to provide one-on-one case management with an individualized care plan to promote self-management to improve health.

The Nurse Case Manger Program was the solution to improve patient outcomes diagnosed with the seven chronic illnesses tracked in the patient outcomes study. This trend in managing patients with multiple chronic illnesses was alluded to in the Clinic's request for One Cent Optional Tax funding dated April 28, 2009.

The Free Clinic of Sheridan County has a suggested donation of \$10 to encourage financial support from those receiving service.

All of the volunteer medical professionals are covered for malpractice under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) for free clinics. Under the FTCA, free clinics cannot refuse medical care to qualified individuals even if they are unable to make a donation.

Medical care is provided during clinic on Thursday evening from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. During regular business hours patient follow-up, research for prescription assistance programs, and other administrative tasks are performed.

DESCRIBE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SELECTION PROCESS:

In 2009, a matrix was created to identify areas of expertise needed to diversify the board of directors. Interested individuals complete information to identify areas of interest and/or expertise. Potential members are invited to attend a board meeting for an interview and to answer any questions. The executive director provides a tour of the clinic while it is operating to give the candidate the opportunity to learn about clinic operations, the services offered, and to meet the volunteers.

NO OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Currently, there are seven board members. The current by-laws state that the number of directors shall be no less than five and not more than eleven persons.

TERM: The by-laws were revised in FY2009-10 to have an elected Director serve a three-year term. All Directors are eligible for re-election as a Director for an additional three-year term.

LIST NAMES OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Peggy Callantine, President
Director of Nursing Services – Memorial Hospital, Sheridan, WY

Terri Lindsey, Vice-president
Department of Family Services, Sheridan, WY

Mary Beebe, Secretary-Treasurer
Sheridan County Community Health, Sheridan, WY

Dr. Seymour Thickman, Medical Director
VA Medical Center, Sheridan, WY

Sally LaBore, Director
Memorial Hospital, Sheridan, WY

Karla Mallo, Director
Assistant Director – VA Medical Center, Sheridan, WY

Timothy Tarver, Director (Term will begin in April 2010)
Attorney-at-law, Private Practice

BRIEFLY LIST PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES FOR REQUESTED FUNDS (Indicate if the funds are to be used for an operational subsidy or for one-time expenditures such as a project or equipment acquisition or capital improvements; indicate whether other sources are available and been applied for; indicate the reason County, rather than the City, Optional One Cent Sales tax funds are appropriate; if possible, estimate the number of citizens that will benefit):

The number of individuals needing care for chronic illnesses has affected the Clinic. The funds will be used to support diagnoses through a prescribed medication regimen, routine diagnostic testing, patient follow-up for return visits, and referrals for either on-site services or specialty care.

The Clinic has established solid relationship with local foundations and members in the community for funding. These resources will continue to be solicited for financial support.

The Free Clinic of Sheridan County serves people living within the city limits and in the county. Both the City and County will receive funding applications.

Table II in the section asking for accomplishments and benefits shows the trend in growth for the people served by the Free Clinic since July 2007.

OBLIGATIONS:

ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES OF APPROVED FUNDS (Indicate amount per year and years for which funds are requested):
The \$10,000/year funding request is to help support the following program services.

	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
1.	\$5,000	Pharmacy Support (Medication & Prescription Assistance Program)
2.	\$3,000	Diagnostic testing/medical supplies
3.	\$2,000	Clinical Coordinator (Patient follow-up/referrals)

The \$10,000/year will cover approximately 8% of the projected operating budget. Annual pledges from the One Cent Optional Tax Funding have helped the Clinic to develop the fundraising plan and ensure there are adequate dollars to keep the clinic viable.

GOALS AND BENEFITS TO THE SHERIDAN AREA COMMUNITY RELATING TO THE EXPENDITURES LISTED ABOVE:

1. **Goal:** Provide medication to patients using a generic formulary and/or prescription assistance programs

Benefit: Patients will receive the appropriate medication for acute and chronic illnesses.

2. **Goal:** Provide laboratory testing

Benefit: Diagnostic testing supports medical diagnosis. The management of chronic illnesses requires periodic testing to ensure the prescribed medication is achieving the desired therapeutic effect.

3. **Goal:** Provide nursing oversight

Benefit: The Clinical Coordinator collaborates with the providers and other health care professionals to ensure patients are informed of the results of diagnostic testing, any changes in the medication regimen, and makes referrals for on-site services or for services not provided at the Clinic.

DESCRIBE LAST YEAR'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND BENEFITS ATTRIBUTED TO CURRENT ONE CENT OPTIONAL FUNDS RECEIVED (if applicable):

The Clinic's fiscal year is July 1 – June 30. The following statistics reflect the period from July 1, 2009 – March 25, 2010. The monies received from the One Cent Optional funds helped to serve these individuals.

Table I represents the number of patients to benefit from diagnostic testing, the current number of programs successfully accessed for prescription assistance programs through a pharmaceutical company, and the number of prescriptions written for patients.

TABLE I

TYPE OF SERVICE (July 1, 2009 – March 25, 2010)	NUMBER
Prescriptions (number dispensed)	1,251
Patient Prescription Assistance Program (number of programs)	65
Diagnostic testing (number of patients)	294

To date, 1,411 Sheridan County residents have received service since the clinic opened in March 2005. The number of people receiving medical care during the Thursday evening clinic averages 25 patients/week.

Table II represents a comparison of new patients and patient visits for the past two fiscal years.

TABLE II
(The Clinic's fiscal year is July 1 – June 30.)

PATIENT VISITS	FY2007-08	FY2008-09
Total Patient Visits	1,158	1,311
Total of New Patients	244	279

At the end of the March 25th clinic, a total of 916 office visits have been provided for FY2009-10 and 169 new patients have been registered to receive medical care. Eighty-five percent (85%) of the new patients seen in FY2009-10 has been diagnosed with one or more chronic illnesses.

The Free Clinic has succeeded in providing preventative care and collaboration with other providers for other services. Table III represents a comparison of the number of referrals/on-site services provided to patients from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009.

TABLE III

Type of Referral/Service	FY2007-08	FY2008-09
Colonoscopy	4	17
Sheridan County Community Health	3	4
Dental Hygiene Program	44	26
Diabetic Education	7	14
Emergency Room	3	1
EMS (Rocky Mountain Ambulance)	0	0
Eye Exams	7	9
Family Planning	5	10
Flu Shots (in-house)	28	43
Laboratory	239	242
Mammography	17	5
Mental health	12	23
Nutrition Services (in-house)	50	41
Prescription Assistance Programs (some patients on multiple programs)	38	54
Prescriptions filled	1,641	1,844
Radiological services	68	69
Respiratory Education (in-house)	Began in Sept. 2008	22
Smoking Cessation	11	28
Specialty Physicians	10	6
Wound Care (in-house)	20	26
Wyoming Breast & Cervical	7	13

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOUR ORGANIZATION IS APPLYING FOR THE CITY OF SHERIDAN OPTIONAL ONE-CENT TAX FUNDS. IF SO, THE AMOUNT REQUESTED AND FOR WHAT YEAR(S) AND PURPOSE.

The Free Clinic of Sheridan County will be applying to the City of Sheridan with the same request for \$10,000/year. Currently, the City is giving the Clinic \$5,000/year.

The Clinic serves qualified Sheridan County residents. Proof of Sheridan County residency is part of the eligibility requirement. This information shows physical addresses within the city limits and in the county. All zip codes in Sheridan County have been served.

It appears that the County and City have adopted the same application for the One Cent Optional Funds. The information submitted on the application for One Cent Tax funds to the County and City will be similar.

The Free Clinic of Sheridan County can provide a track of accountability for the use of public funds and is willing to provide any information required by the County to demonstrate good stewardship and continued funding.

****PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF YOUR LAST FISCAL YEAR AUDIT (Or a Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement).** A copy of the current financial statements prepared by Harker Mellinger (February 28, 2010 and 2009) is attached.

The Free Clinic has a contract with Harker Mellinger for services. An independent audit is not required each fiscal year.

****PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.** Copy Attached

****PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF THE LATEST IRS FORM 990 (If Applicable)** Copy Attached

SIGNED: Cathi Kindt
Cathi Kindt

Title: **Executive Director**

Date: March 29, 2010

Please complete this application. You may provide additional information if you wish.