



OUTREACH IS WRAPPING UP FOR 2024

Every Wednesday, nurse Julia Doucet gathers her outreach team of volunteers, and helms ODC's exam van down the highways and byways of Addison County. In 2024, they'll make a total of 49 visits to 42 different farms, orchards, and other organizations and businesses. On arrival, the team sets up to provide vaccines, health screenings, and medical visits to all in need.

Outreach visits continue ODC's tradition of serving those on the farm, regardless of insurance status or cultural background. Our new exam van enables us to refer patients immediately to a provider for a medical consult, right there in the field. So far this season, we've provided 416 vaccines, seen 344 patients, and provided 61 on-farm medical appointments with a doctor or nurse practitioner. Says Julia, "We're so grateful to our wonderful, committed outreach volunteers, who come out with us in all weather to serve patients where they live and work!"



STEWARDED COMMUNITY GIFTS

"The Open Door Clinic is sustained by our community. I am extremely pleased to share and acknowledge that we received a transformational gift in late May. Given anonymously, it has set us on a path of strategizing about long-term financial planning and organizational sustainability. Our board is in the process of reviewing and formulating a plan to ensure that we have the most prudent and effective strategy for managing our financial assets. This plan will include our operating capital, funds set aside for intermediate and long-term projects, and the potential development of a pool of assets that can provide stability and income in the future. It is our intention that this strategy will help us leverage other gifts and grants as we continue to grow and respond to the dynamic and changing needs of our community. Although we do not know the donor's identity, I am hopeful that they will know how thankful and deeply appreciative we are for this remarkable gift and investment in our work and mission." - ODC Executive Director Heidi Sulis

SHARING DESIRABLE FOOD

All the services at ODC are offered free of charge, but patients without ready access to transport may pay handsomely for a ride to the clinic and back home again. Recognizing this, and addressing the social determinants of health, we try to add value to each patient's visit, offering culturally desirable shelf-stable food and winter coats for arriving adults in our little free store, the *mercado*. Then, we connect people to our community partners, like HOPE and Junebug.

Previously, the shelves of the *mercado* were stocked with food contributed by an anonymous donor. When they were no longer able to assist, our cupboard became quite bare. Staff reaffirmed the *mercado*'s value, and Director Heidi Sulis reached out to a Middlebury-based grantor, who made a \$5,000 gift to restock the shelves. Hearing of this story and gift, a longtime ODC friend and donor matched it!

Thrilled to be able to stock the shelves once again, we hope to make the funding last for a year. We're off to a good start and are heartened to see that the *mercado* continues to be well and regularly utilized. Patients are grateful for the opportunity to find a warm piece of clothing, set of gloves or a hat, and pick up some welcome and needed food.



Fiona Galán Reinhard
Clinical Social Work Intern

WELCOME FIONA!

Fiona Galan Reinhold is a second-year MSW student who will be serving as ODC's Clinical Social Work Intern, providing vital mental health services. As a second-generation Argentinean-American, Fiona has spent considerable time in Argentina visiting family and has lived in Nicaragua for a year with her husband. She has worked with children both in school systems and in their homes as a behavioral interventionist. Over the past year, Fiona has focused on supporting refugees and asylum-seekers, assisting them in navigating complex systems and providing mental health counseling. Fluent in Spanish, Fiona is passionate about delivering culturally sensitive care and serving the Spanish-speaking community in their native language. As a trauma-informed provider, she is dedicated to collaborating with individuals to develop healthy coping strategies and foster joy and hope in their lives.

APPRECIATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

ODC volunteers are an integral, daily presence: interpreting medical visits at both ODC clinics and in specialty practices, accompanying outreach, treating patients at our weekly clinics, or supporting our nurses with filing and data entry. Collectively, ODC volunteers contributed over 2,400 hours in 2023 and we're on pace to exceed that number this year! These hours are incredibly consequential: our dozen staff members comprise less than six full-time equivalents among us.



Plenty to smile about: Dental coordinator Fernanda Canales, with ODC dental assistants Max Hopper & Izzie Smith, celebrate UVM dental resident Christian Joacham (L) on his last day on the job. Hosted & supervised by Drs. Adam Fasoli & Peter Hopper at Middlebury Dental Group (MDG), residents like Christian have contributed over 110 hours of ODC patient care since July 2024. Their presence complements that of University of New England (UNE) dental externs at the site, expanding our capacity to meet patients' needs & deepening our long positive relationship with MDG. In the past 18 months, our program has been served by 5 UNE externs & 3 UVM residents.

Since volunteer coordinator Susannah McCandless joined ODC in April 2023, we've onboarded more than 50 new volunteers, who join a loyal cohort of more than 60 tenured volunteers. Our newest additions comprise at least 22 Spanish-English interpreters, 21 general volunteers, and 12 healthcare providers. And we're not stopping there! Twenty-five Middlebury students and community partner representatives participated in our fall volunteer training on November 9th, and a dozen have already applied to volunteer with us!

We celebrated our volunteers at American Flatbread Middlebury Hearth on November 14th with more than 40 volunteers and staff in attendance. We gathered to connect, have fun, and toast our talented volunteers with tasty local fare. A deep bow of gratitude to you! We couldn't do this critical work without you. We're so grateful for everyone's energy and care!





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Gail Borden has generously donated these original 5"x7" mini-collages. Mail, frame, gift, or collect these unique greeting cards, made of reused or recycled materials. Purchase one for \$12, two for \$20! Please see them in detail at [instagram.com/opendoormidd](https://www.instagram.com/opendoormidd) and email your order to hsulis@opendoormidd.org!

