



**Clarkston Community Health Center Inc.**

3700 Market Street, Suite E1 Clarkston, GA 30021

Phone: 678-383-1383

[www.clarkstonhealth.org](http://www.clarkstonhealth.org)

February 17, 2023

Dear CEO Thurmond and Board of Commissioners,

**The Clarkston Community Health Center (CCHC) budget request is for \$1,518,583 to provide critically needed support to allow CCHC to dramatically expand our services and impact in 2023.** The detailed budget to support this request is below. **With this level of support, once we are fully staffed, CCHC will be able to open our doors 5 days a week, provide holistic care, leverage significantly more volunteers and partnerships to make every dollar go farther, launch a much-needed free dental clinic, and substantially expand the number of individuals we serve in DeKalb County every year.** With a seven year track record of success in serving our community with compassion, with a model that leverages the power of volunteers to the tune of over \$750,000 in value every year, and with a board and community that is committed to bringing our strategic plan to life, CCHC is poised to become a critical player in the healthcare ecosystem of DeKalb County in the years ahead when we secure the necessary funding to scale up our work.

As background, the Clarkston Community Health Center (CCHC) is a free health clinic with a mission to provide a compassionate, welcoming medical home to uninsured individuals in and around Clarkston, Georgia, in order to unlock the inherent dignity and opportunity of those we serve. Located in a state that has the third highest rate of uninsured individuals in the country, in a county where 1 in 6 individuals do not have healthcare, and in a city - Clarkston - where half of the population reported in a recent survey done by Georgia State University that they did not have access to healthcare, CCHC is advancing an innovative, sustainable healthcare model that is meeting a clear need in our community. Through primary and preventive health care, specialty clinics (including vision, dermatology, cardiology, mental health, and more), and free medications from our on-site pharmacy, our services seek to provide comprehensive care to those who otherwise have none. By making each patient healthier, we are working to transform the health of our entire community.

Since opening our doors in 2015, CCHC has served more than 7,500 individuals with patient-centered, culturally competent healthcare. Thanks to your generous support, CCHC received an investment from the CARES Act, which we used to maintain our operations through the pandemic – offering thousands of COVID tests and vaccines while gradually re-opening our primary care services to the community.

Our patients come from dozens of countries - refugees and immigrants who have come to our shores seeking safety and opportunity - as well as from the United States. We serve all who come who do not have health insurance and are living at or below 200% federal poverty level. Our staff and volunteers speak over 10 languages, and we have created a culture where everyone is respectful, curious, and humble - allowing us to meet the unique needs of this diverse area. CCHC is working to build a world where healthcare is a right for all, and where patient care draws on the best of our country's core values: welcoming, respectful of diversity and of the dignity of every human soul, human-centered and holistic. Our services are provided in a highly under-resourced community to historically marginalized populations. Despite these challenges, we do not view Clarkston as a community of deficit and burden, but rather as a community of abundance and opportunity.

Our model is built on partnerships that allow us to multiply the impact of every dollar we raise. Our strong collaborative partnerships with top-tier institutions include Emory University (the University itself, as well as Emory University Healthcare, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, the Institute for Health Improvement, and the Rollins School of Public Health), the University of Georgia, Morehouse School of Medicine, Mercer University, Clayton State University, the University of North Georgia, and the CDC. Thanks to our valuable collaboration with students



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and physicians, CCHC sees more than 700 patients every year (4,000+ total patient encounters) with only two part time paid nurse practitioners. Our 75+ medical professional volunteers provide hundreds of hours of pro bono service, equating to over \$750,000 in value.

CCHC is at a critical moment in our history. With a seven-year track record of success in helping to make our community healthier, at a time when healthcare is an urgent need in metro Atlanta with the closing of Atlanta Medical Center, we have a proven model that needs critical support to significantly scale our impact. Thanks to the incredible support of our partners and supporters, we have purchased a 2.5 acre piece of land in Stone Mountain (on a bus route from Clarkston) and we have raised over \$4,000,000 for this project - over half of our capital campaign goal - allowing us to break ground in 2023 on our new, state-of-the-art facility. Our goal is to open the new clinic in 2024 with a core staff of medical practitioners and our robust partnerships in place to continue to leverage volunteers, students and retired medical professionals.

Our strategic plan calls for a step-by-step approach to increasing the capacity of our medical team in 2023 and 2024 to be able to open our doors on more days during the week, to serve more individuals in our community, to increase the number of volunteers who serve and the partnerships that align with our work, and to ramp up our operations as we work toward moving into our new home in the years ahead. Our core clinic is currently only open two days a week - on Wednesdays and Sundays. We have specialty clinics throughout the week as our volunteer doctors and nurses are available. We rent our current location and it is available to us seven days a week. The only limitation is the funding needed to expand our medical team and to have adequate support for the equipment, supplies and medications we need to provide our care.

An investment in this work for 2023 is a critical part of our plan to build a bridge to the future by preparing for success in our new clinic. We are working hard to learn from other sustainable and scalable models from across the country in implementing this plan. Thus, an investment now is the perfect timing to allow us to build our internal capacity to serve more patients and transition into a sustainable funding model. We respectfully request that CCHC will be added to the regular annual budget for DeKalb County, enabling us to become a significant part of the community of care for DeKalb residents, reducing the burden on our hospitals and ERs, and providing welcoming and compassionate care to unlock the dignity and opportunity of those we serve.

With a track record of success, a model that is working, a plan for sustainability, a north star to aim toward with our new home, and support from a wide variety of generous philanthropic institutions - from the Blank Foundation, to the Imlay Foundation, to the Dobbs Foundation, to the EZ Agape Foundation, to the Dhanani Family Foundation, and more - CCHC is uniquely positioned to become a significant part of the healthcare ecosystem in the Atlanta metro area.

We are now seeking support from DeKalb County to help provide a vital community service in our county as we grow into the future. Our work is at the heart of helping to create a better DeKalb for all, and we are excited to partner with the county in this work.

At CCHC, we believe that healthcare is not a burden, but an opportunity. We are proud to offer a culturally sensitive, patient-centered experience for our community of patients, and a global health experience for our partners who, in turn, offer compassionate, cutting-edge care to those we serve. While we have accomplished a great deal, our service has only been made possible by donors and volunteers who have trusted in our mission. We hope you will join us and our many partners in caring for this vulnerable and valuable community.



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With gratitude for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Cole'.

Jeremy Cole  
Executive Director  
Clarkston Community Health Center



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**DETAILED BUDGET REQUEST**

BUDGET ITEM	AMOUNT REQUESTED	NOTES
Medical equipment	\$250,000	<i>Equipment and upkeep necessary to run the lab</i>
Dental Clinic set up – equipment and supplies	\$200,000	<i>Equipment and supplies to stand up a new dental clinic to provide free dental care to the community</i>
Point of care lab equipment, supplies, maintenance	\$100,000	<i>Supplies, equipment, maintenance, and costs of running on-site point of care lab.</i>
Medical supplies	\$100,000	<i>Supplies for medical care.</i>
Pharmacy supplies and medication	\$50,000	<i>Supplies and medications for our patients.</i>
Breast Health Initiative Program Costs	\$30,000	<i>Cost of diagnostic mammograms (negotiated at a low rate with partners), supplies, follow up care for patients to ensure continuity of care</i>
Community Health Worker Pilot	\$300,000	<i>Stipend for a local community health worker to pilot the program + costs associated with running the program (supplies, transportation, events, etc.). Reporting to the Social Worker, the Community Health Worker (CHW) will be a community leader from one of the refugee / immigrant communities that we serve who will serve as a cultural bridge, interpreter, navigator and community outreach coordinator to insure we provide the highest quality health care to Clarkston’s diverse communities. This will pay for 6 CHWs to pilot the program.</i>
Contract Services	\$98,600	<i>Accounting, audit, marketing / communications, and fundraising contractors</i>
IT costs	\$95,000	<i>IT equipment, maintenance, donor database + medical records system</i>
Facilities	\$57,500	<i>Rent, office maintenance and upkeep, office security</i>
Operations	\$99,430	<i>Bank service charges, hazard disposal, payroll software, insurance, utilities, etc.</i>
Administrative costs (10%)	\$138,053	<i>Overhead costs for general operational costs of the clinic.</i>
<b>TOTAL REQUEST</b>	<b>\$1,518,583</b>	