

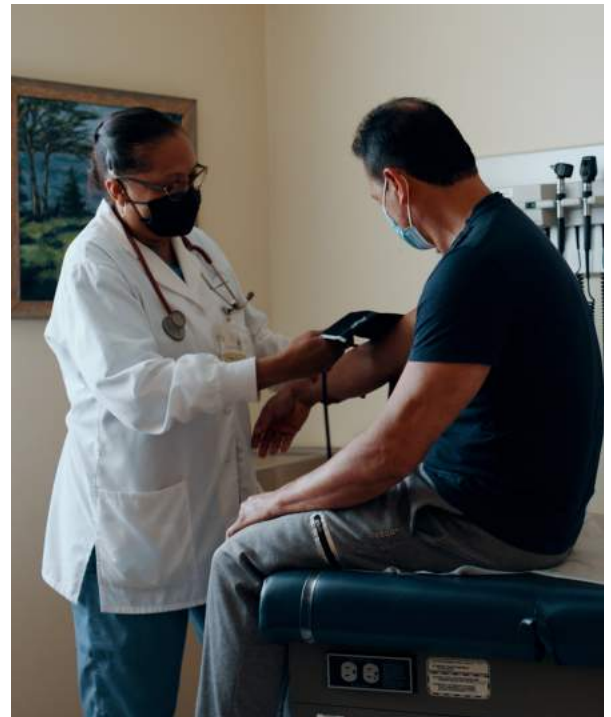
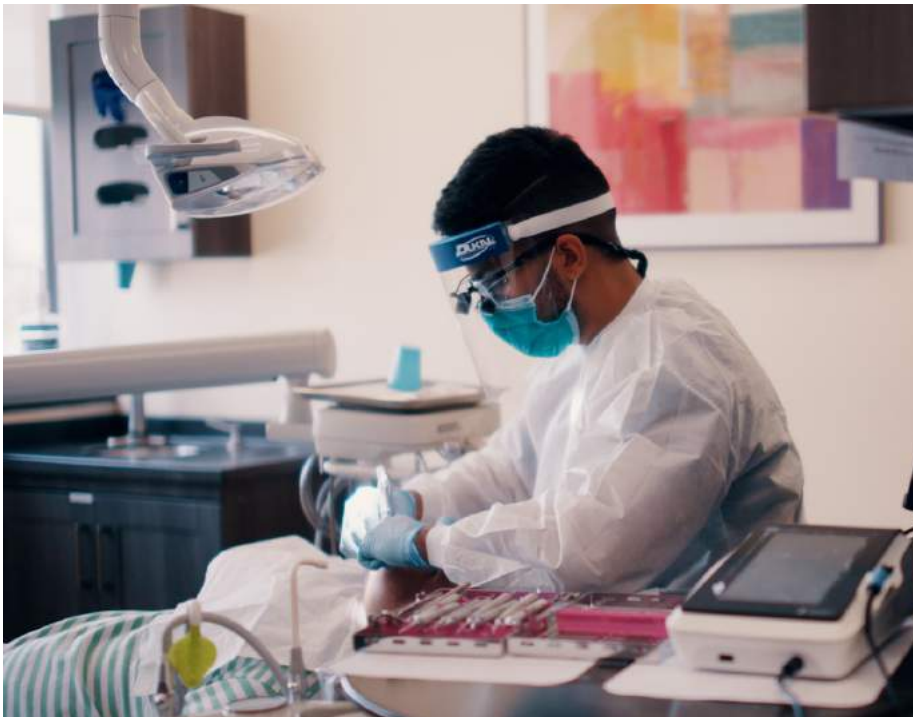
# 2021

# YEAR IN REVIEW

RHODE ISLAND **FREE CLINIC**



Photo by Nick Dentamaro/Brown University



**A YEAR of CARING, COMMUNITY, and RESILIENCE**

# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Marie Ghazal, DNP, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friends,

As I end my decade as CEO of the Rhode Island Free Clinic, I am inspired by the lives we have improved and the Clinic's transformation to a quality Medical Home for our fellow Rhode Islanders who desperately need healthcare access and equity. The past two years have been extraordinarily challenging, and unfortunately COVID remains on the forefront of care for the majority of our patients. The Clinic continues to provide testing and vaccinations as well as welcoming hundreds of uninsured Rhode Islanders seeking care. All of this would not be possible without your support of the Clinic's vital mission.

As I reflect on our collective accomplishments during the past decade, the following stand out. Together, we:

- **Eliminated the Monthly Lottery for New Patients** that had been in place for years;
- **Increased Access** for over 25,000 uninsured adults and providing more than 100,000 medical and dental visits, including 26 specialties;
- **Grew our Volunteer Corps and Community Partners** – each year we now mobilize over 500 Medical, Dental, Behavioral Health and support Volunteers, 75 Community Health Partners, and 17 Academic Partners to support the Clinic's model of service;
- **Honored Outstanding Community Partners and Physician Champions** through our **Annual Founders' Award** and **Stephen Brin Physician of Year Award**;
- **Bolstered our Volunteer Corps** by hiring part-time Primary Care, Dental and Behavioral Health;
- **Developed our Dental Program** for uninsured adults, now providing comprehensive services;
- **Expanded the Clinic** to own and occupy two floors with state-of-the art Clinic rooms, including new Dental Operatories, and Physical Therapy and Telehealth Suites;
- **Hosted one of RI's largest AmeriCorps VISTA Teams**, with nearly 100 VISTA Members dedicating a year of public service to help build the Clinic's capacity;
- **Raised 100% of the Clinic's budget each year** – in 2021, we raised our \$1.5 million operating budget and leveraged over \$7.5 million of additional In-Kind health resources for patient care;
- **Launched and Operated our COVID Response Site** to provide over 10,000 vaccinations and tests, and expanded Telehealth and Behavioral health to increase critically-needed care during the pandemic; and,
- **Welcomed our new Volunteer Medical Director**, Ross Hilliard, MD, and our new partnership with Brown Medicine to improve the Clinic's quality of care.

Thank you for all that you do to support the Clinic's vital mission. To learn more about donating time or money to help, please visit our [new website www.rifreeclinic.org](http://www.rifreeclinic.org), or give us a call at 401-247-6347.

With gratitude and best wishes,

Marie Ghazal, DNP, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer

## MAJOR PARTNERS



Founders' Society



Direct Relief

Carter Fund



Providence Journal  
Charitable Legacy Fund



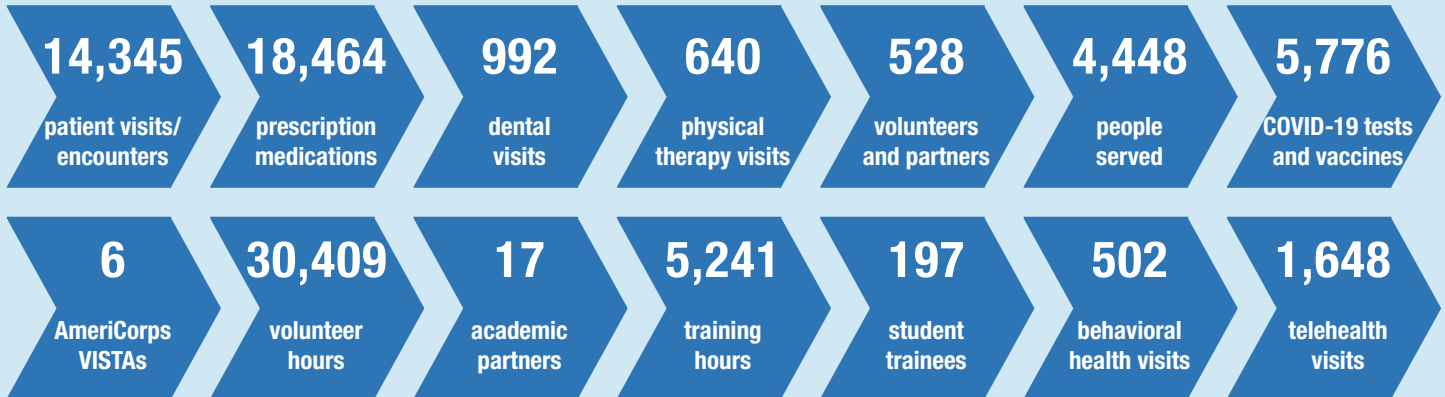
Lifespan  
Delivering health with care.



Founded in 1999, our Mission is to:

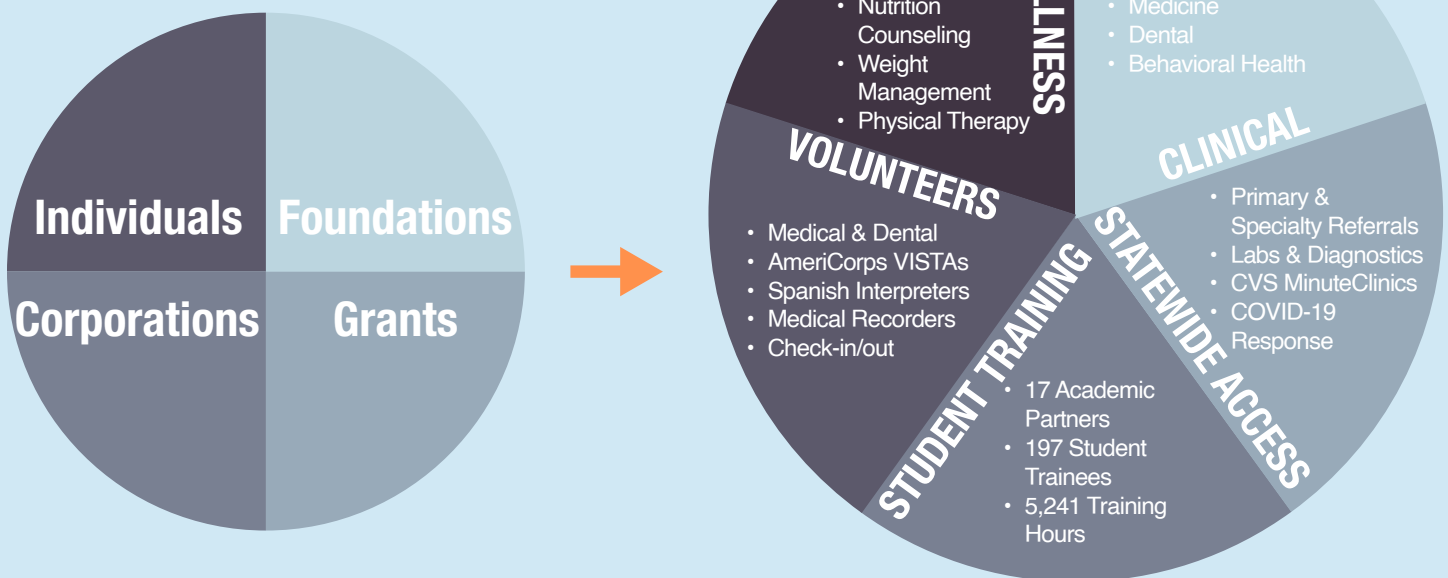
Provide free, comprehensive medical care and preventive health services to adults who have no health insurance and cannot afford those services; and, Serve as an educational training site for aspiring health care professionals.

## 2021 HIGHLIGHTS



## 100% FUNDED BY CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Donations = Care



**\$1.5 MILLION**  
**CASH DONATIONS**  
regular operations

+

**\$7.5 MILLION**  
**IN-KIND**  
volunteer services, supplies,  
and equipment

# FOUNDERS' EVENT

Our 2021 Founders' Event was held virtually October 13th. We are grateful to host Barbara Morse, NBC-10 Health Reporter, and Steer for producing the Event. We were proud to honor our 2021 Awardees:

## *Founders' Award*

Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI for their inspiring commitment to healthcare access and equity, leadership, and extraordinary long-term partnership with our Clinic, ensuring vital care for vulnerable adults in our state.



William "Bill" Fitzgerald, Michele Lederberg, Marie Ghazal, and Martha Wofford



## *Dr. Stephen Brin Physician of the Year Award*

Sybil Cineas, MD, for her exceptional care for patients, which embodies and promotes the spirit of excellence of the late Dr. Steven Brin.

*We deeply appreciate all the individuals and companies who supported our 2021 Founders' Event and Awardees.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President

**Carrie Bridges Féliz**

*Lifespan Community Health & Equity*

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*Brown Medicine/Lifespan*

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