



# GUADALUPE TIMES

SPRING 2026

## Empowering Mary: When Knowledge and Compassion Save a Life

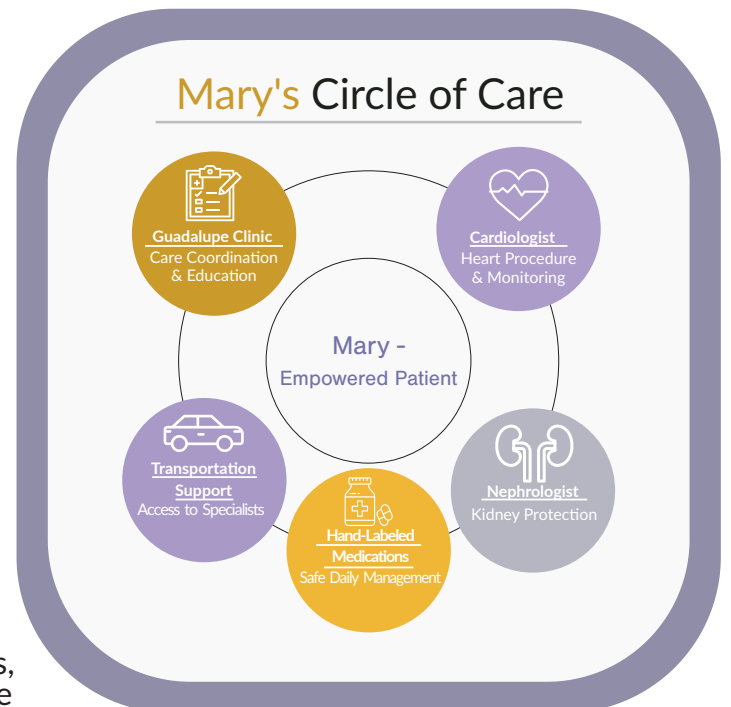
At 63, Mary faces a daunting health journey. Managing a complex combination of heart disease, kidney challenges, and vision loss due to diabetes, her daily life requires meticulous care. For many, this "medical maze" would be overwhelming, but Mary has a partner in her corner: the Guadalupe Clinic.

Because Mary's vision is failing, our staff stepped in to provide "functional support" that goes beyond a standard prescription. To ensure she stays safe at home, our team hand-labels each of her medication bottles with custom identifiers, ensuring she never misses a dose or takes the wrong pill. To solve the hurdle of transportation, your donations have provided Mary with Lyft rides, ensuring she never misses a critical specialist appointment.

The true impact of our partnership was put to the test in late 2025. While hospitalized for a heart procedure, Mary was administered a medical dye necessary for the surgery. Because of the extensive health education she received at our clinic, Mary knew that this dye could potentially damage her fragile kidney function.

She didn't stay silent. Trusting the relationship she built with our providers, she reached out to the clinic immediately to ask, "Will this dye hurt my kidneys?" A Life-Saving Connection. Because Mary was empowered with knowledge, we were able to coordinate her care between her cardiologist and nephrologist instantly. Her proactive catch—made possible by the education you help fund—prevented further injury and allowed our team to adjust her treatment plan in real-time.

Mary's story is the perfect example of the "extra mile" we travel for every patient. We aren't just treating symptoms; we are giving neighbors like Maria the tools, the transportation, and the trust they need to advocate for their own lives.



*NO insurance NO worries*

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# **A Letter From Executive Director, J.V. Johnston**

Dear friends,

As we look ahead to the coming year, I am filled with both gratitude and resolve. In March, thanks to the generosity of donors Guadalupe Clinic will begin an exciting new chapter: renovations that will add six additional exam rooms and allow us to launch basic dental services for our patients. These improvements represent a major step forward in our mission to provide compassionate, comprehensive care to the working poor and poor. We meet people where they are and address needs that too often go unmet.

At the same time, I want to be transparent about the challenges before us. Fundraising support was softer than expected in November, December, and January. This is concerning, particularly as our operational costs will increase with expanded services, additional staff, and the resources required to sustain high-quality care. While careful stewardship has always been a hallmark of Guadalupe Clinic, the margin for error narrows as we grow. We still deliver \$2.80 of health and vision care for every dollar donated.

What has not slowed, however, is the need. Patient visits continue to rise, and all indicators suggest this trend will persist for the foreseeable future. Families are relying on us not just for care, but for dignity, stability, and hope. Our expansion is a direct response to that reality—but long-term it can only succeed with the continued generosity and partnership of those who believe in this work, including over 75 medical volunteers.

Thank you for walking alongside Guadalupe Clinic during this pivotal moment. Your support ensures that growth is not just about renovated facilities or new services, but about transforming lives and strengthening our community for years to come.

God bless,



## **Our Mission:**

*As* missionary disciples of Christ, and with other people of good will, Guadalupe Clinic works to provide access to quality health care for people in need.

# Neighborly Love

## More Than a Medical Home: A Story of Community and Integrity

At Guadalupe Clinic, we often say we are the heart of the community, but recently, the community showed its heart to us. It began with an urgent phone call from an employee at Mi Super Mercado who had discovered a lost wallet on the floor of the market. Inside was a staggering \$1,000 in cash—money the employee knew was intended for rent, as the first of the month was fast approaching.

Desperate to find the owner, she found only one clue among the credit cards: a Guadalupe Clinic appointment card.

Bound by a desire to do the right thing, she reached out to us for help. While HIPAA privacy guidelines protect our patients' identities, our staff recognized the urgency of the situation. By cross-referencing the specific appointment time and name on the card, we successfully identified and contacted the rightful owner.

The relief in our patient's voice was immeasurable. Thanks to the unwavering integrity of a local neighbor and the quick coordination of our team, a housing crisis was averted. This is the power of the Guadalupe family in action—looking out for one another far beyond the walls of the exam room.

# Congratulations!

Development Director, Ashley Buckner graduated this past December with her masters from Wichita State University in, Health Administration.



## Wrapping the Season in Love: A Decades-Old Tradition Continues

On December 20th, the halls of Guadalupe Clinic were transformed into a workshop of holiday cheer as staff and volunteers prepared for a cherished tradition spanning decades. This year, we were honored to distribute Christmas boxes to our patients and their families, sharing the spirit of the season and making the holidays a bit brighter for those in our care.

These boxes were thoughtfully filled with a mix of joy and necessity, including age-appropriate toys for every child, warm hats and gloves for the winter months, and essential household items like laundry soap. These gifts were made possible through the incredible generosity of our sponsor, Harlow Aerospace, several of our Board members, plus our local parishes and their Giving Trees. The true heart of the project was felt in the hours leading up to the distribution, as dedicated volunteers from the Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine and Oxychem spent 20 hours hand-wrapping every single gift with love and care, ensuring a beautiful surprise for Christmas morning.

We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed their time, donations, and spirit to make this event a success. Your support allows us to care for our patients far beyond the exam room, bringing hope and merriment to our Guadalupe family when they need it most.

## Healing the Whole Person: More Than a Medical Checkup

When a 64-year-old neighbor walked into our clinic recently asking for a simple blood pressure check, our nursing team quickly realized his needs went far deeper than his vital signs. Currently experiencing homelessness, our patient shared a harrowing medical history: five heart attacks, three strokes, and a pacemaker.

As we talked, he mentioned persistent stomach pain. With a few gentle questions, the heartbreaking truth emerged—he hadn't eaten in three days.

At Guadalupe Clinic, we believe you cannot treat the heart without addressing the hunger. While Kim, our medical provider, began the complex task of managing his health—ordering tests and requesting records—our team immediately addressed his crisis of hunger. We provided him with nutritional supplement drinks to restore his strength and immediately connected him with our partners at The Lord's Diner and Our Daily Bread Food Pantry to ensure he had access to reliable, hot meals and groceries moving forward.

By arranging transportation to his appointments, we ensured he could follow through on a comprehensive treatment plan that included essential medications and a referral to cardiology. But perhaps more importantly, the patient expressed that for the first time in a long while, he felt truly respected and heard.

He continues to visit us for follow-up medical care. Because of your generosity, we can continue to be the vital link between a complex health journey and the community resources—like food and fellowship—that make recovery possible.

## Ways to Give Hope Today

- Scan the QR code. →
- Visit our website:  
<https://www.guadalupeclinic.org/give>



## Expanding Our Reach: Closing the "Donut Hole" in Care

At Guadalupe Clinic, we believe that no one should be "too successful" to afford healthcare, yet "too poor" to pay for it. For years, many of our neighbors have lived in a "donut hole"—earning just enough to disqualify them from traditional assistance, but far too little to afford the rising costs of private insurance and prescriptions.

We have exciting news: That gap is closing.

Thanks to updated guidelines from the State of Kansas—which provides essential liability insurance for our volunteer healthcare providers—the income limit for our clinic has been raised to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. This vital change allows us to open our doors wider than ever before, welcoming hardworking individuals and families who previously sat just outside our reach.

If you or someone you know is currently uninsured and living within these new guidelines, we invite you to reach out or send them our way. We are here to ensure that as our community grows, no one gets left behind.

## Join Our Mission: We're Hiring a Full-Time Pharmacist

Are you a pharmacist looking to make a profound difference in the Wichita community? Guadalupe Clinic is seeking a dedicated, full-time Pharmacist to join our team of compassionate care providers.

Please email your resume to:  
[abuckner@GuadalupeClinic.com](mailto:abuckner@GuadalupeClinic.com) to apply!



## Walkabout - APRIL 23RD

## Reserve Room - APRIL 25th

The 31st annual Midwest Winefest kicks off on Thursday, April 23rd, at the Old Town Walkabout. Festivities are from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm across Wichita's Old Town district. Returning this year: Guests will check in at the Farm and Art Market Plaza OR the Old Town Square (the area between the Warren Theater, Sabor, and Old Chicago), where they receive their wine glass, food plate, and wristband. The Plaza features eight wine and food stops, with an additional twelve stops located throughout Old Town.

Put together a group of friends and get your tickets early - we expect to sell out again in 2026! Tickets are \$75\* for unlimited wine and food across the event. As always, all proceeds from the Midwest Winefest benefit the Guadalupe Health Foundation whose primary beneficiary is the patients of Guadalupe Clinic.

### **\*TICKET INFORMATION**

- \$75 Early Bird (Through April 16th)
- \$85 Standard (Starting April 17th)
- \$100 Day of Event (Limited availability)

Only 1,000 tickets are available—secure yours early!

Must be 21+ to attend.

## **Golden Ticket**

Only 100 Sold

The Golden Ticket offers one lucky winner the incredible opportunity to choose any live auction item before the bidding even starts! The winning ticket will be chosen at the beginning of the Live Auction on Saturday, April 25th.

Best of all, you do not need to be present to win! Additional high-end auction items are being added weekly, so be sure to check back often to see what's new.

View the current list of live auction items and secure your chance at a win by visiting: [MidwestWinefest.org](http://MidwestWinefest.org)

## **Volunteers Needed!**

Do you have a group of 2-3 friends? Are you looking to give back to your community and have fun, all while supporting a great cause? Consider signing up to volunteer at the Old Town Walkabout!

### **Volunteer positions include:**

- Pouring wine samples
- Distributing food samples
- Scanning tickets
- Checking in volunteers
- Assisting with the live auction
- Set up and tear down

Most shifts are approximately 4 hours long and occur during the event, but some (like set up) begin as early as 1pm on event day. To learn more and sign up, visit:

[www.MidwestWinefest.org/volunteer](http://www.MidwestWinefest.org/volunteer)