

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I am so proud of our staff and volunteers who have OUTDONE themselves over the past twelve months caring for our community members and some of the hardest-to-reach in our community. In 2021 we reached historic and record numbers of migrant workers, H2A workers, Vermont agricultural workers and their families, and small business employees.

For more than 12 years now, through consistent, extensive outreach efforts, we have established relationships with 51 farms and 5 orchards across Addison County.

This work paved the way for an incredibly successful 2021 outreach season with well over 120 farm and orchard visits made to provide COVID vaccines, testing and education. We also provided critical support to farm employers in response to outbreaks. Also new to us last year, in collaboration with the State, our scope expanded to taking more comprehensive care of H2A workers - agricultural workers with Visas. For each arriving wave of workers, we provided testing, vaccines and education about COVID as well as the services we provide at the Open Door Clinic.

And then there were the small businesses we visited and supported along the way. Not wanting to waste a drop of the long-awaited, much valued vaccine, our nurses and volunteers would make

many stops along their routes back to clinic, offering the vaccine to shopkeepers and customers alike. By the end of December, we had provided vaccines at over 125 small business in nearly every town throughout Addison County - an incredible feat for such a small organization! We were steeped and established in a model of care that served our community well during this horrible pandemic.

Our community has worked hard to combat COVID:

and I know that our countless trips into the field to test, vaccinate and boost directly correlate to our county's impressive vaccination rates, particularly within our BIPOC communities. As omicron infiltrates our community, we can only remain hopeful and optimistic that our collective vaccination status will stave off the worst of COVID's reaches.

We were happy to usher out 2021 and will remain optimistic that we can turn a COVID corner in '22. We are committed to our Vermont community, and our community has demonstrated its incredible commitment to us. For this - and you - we are eternally indebted.

May 2022 bring health and peace to you and our global community.

1,800 COVID vaccines



120 farms and orchards

125 local businesses

Heidi R Sulis

Heidi Sulis, MPH
ODC's Executive Director



2021 IN NUMBERS

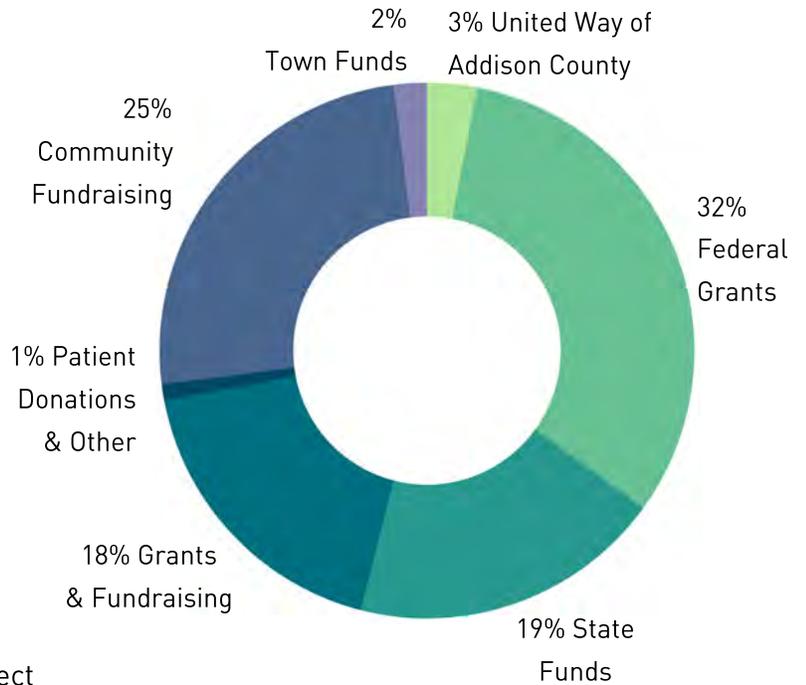
TOTAL BUDGET: \$454,265

1,568 patients seen
738 new patients
3,444 medical visits

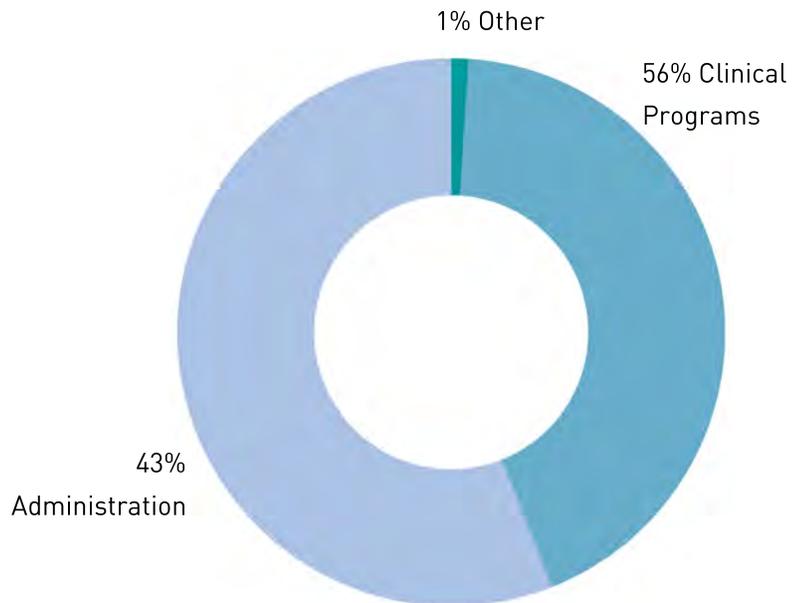


- 330 dental visits
- 589 Spanish-speaking workers served
- 3 ODC patients had babies
- 51 farms, 5 orchards, and 125 small business throughout Addison County visited for flu vaccines and COVID-19 testing, vaccination, and education
- 413 flu shots provided
- 335 consults with individuals for VT Health Connect
- 193 people enrolled in VT Health Connect
- 1,800 COVID-19 vaccination doses provided
- 1,983 hours volunteers dedicated to ODC
- 352 independent donors
- 860 hours ODC's volunteers interpreted at ODC and specialty offices
- 239 hours provided by UNE dental externs in services to ODC patients
- \$327,317 total of in-kind services

SOURCES



USES



“ Thank you for continuing to work hard on behalf of Vermont’s working immigrant population and their families. I am glad that I had the opportunity to have just a glimpse of all the important work that you and the ODC do. ”

Kathie Hession, ODC supporter & former volunteer

WHO VOLUNTEERED IN 2021

OVER 80 VOLUNTEERS DEDICATED
1,983 HOURS TO THE ODC

Chris Grace
MD
180.5 hours



Alan Moore
Interpreter
167 hours



Alice Berninghausen
Office Support
96.5 hours



Carol Causton
Nurse and Chair
of the Board
131.5 hours



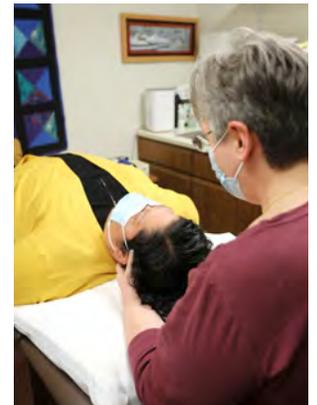
Roberto Veguez
Interpreter
115 hours



Raquel Albarran
Emilia Andersen
Jean Andersson-Swayze
Nelly Aranibar-Salomon
Sarah Ashe
Alice Berninghausen
Sarah Bourne
Richard Brach
Catherine Bryne
Eliana Cañas-Parra
Carol Causton
Veronica Ciambra
Bristol Park Dental
Saltzman Dental
Lori Davis
Magdalena Deloya
Jessica Doos
Jilly dos Santos
Barbara Ekedahl
Adam Fasoli
Miguel Fernandez
Suzanne Germain
Gracie Getman
Mary Gill
Christopher Grace
Middlebury Dental Group
Ali O. Hamedani
Peter Hare
Peter Hopper
Gale Hurd
Elaine Ittleman
Pat Jackson
Hayley Jones
Ann Jones-Weinstock

Gus Jordan
Thea Joseph
Peggy Keith
Matthew Kimble
Kim Kurak
Kate LaMancuso
Linn Larson
Patty Lewis
Melanie Leider
Cindy Marshall
Aiden Masters
Susannah McCandless
Lucy McKeon
Aidan McMillan
Carolina Menendez Ferreira
Alan Moore
Margaret Myhre
Terrence Naumann
Associates in Orthodontics
Dorothy Punderson
Kathleen Ready
Patricia Reid
Mary Rizos
Sarah Robart
Alicia Rodriguez
Laurene Rogers
Julian Roy
Jim Runcie
Marilyn Sandoval Nulsen
Maggi Shadroui
Scott Smith
Jay Stearns
Susan Stone
Mary Beth Tichacek

Gina Tindall
Sarah Tully
Roberto Veguez
Susan Veguez
Maria Luisa Verduzco
Hector Vila
Jessica Wagener
Kate Williams
Lisa Winkler
Naomi Wolcott-MacCausland
Rosalie Wright-Lapin
Jordan Young II
Maja Zimmermann
UNE Dental Externs: Kevin Conchieri, Jessica Guter, Meghan McAlary, and Grace Yasewicz
UVMDC Dietitian Students
UVMDC Family Practice Residents
VTC Nursing Students



Cindy Marshall, PT



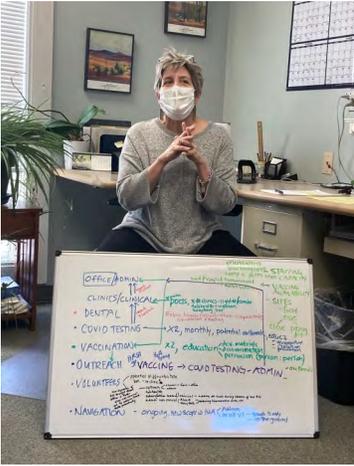
Sarah Robart, RN



Part of ODC's 2021 volunteer outreach team

2021, PANDEMIC YEAR #2

Are you having a hard time identifying what happened in 2020 versus 2021? You are not alone. The pandemic has profoundly affected our memories. Here we present a few pictures that help us remember some of ODC's 2021 highlights.



January 2021

ODC's Executive Director, Heidi Sulis, at ODC staff meeting



February 2021

ODC joins the "Everyone Eats" effort by supporting the necessary logistics for weekly meal distribution to migrant workers in Addison County



March 2021

Between January and March 2021, all ODC staff got their 2 doses of the COVID vaccine. Pictured is Magdalena Deloya, ODC's first Outreach Educator



March 2021

ODC outreach team starts to vaccinate against COVID in the field. Pictured is Martha Redpath, RN, who joins the staff for the effort. In 2021, ODC provides 1,800 doses of COVID-19 vaccination



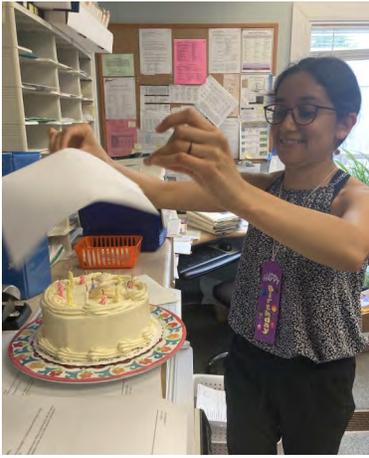
April 2021

Julia Doucet, ODC's Outreach Nurse, turns 50! We get to celebrate with a delicious cake made by volunteer interpreter and board member Alicia Rodriguez



May 2021

Hira Zeeshan '22 and Olivia Eddy '21 take Middlebury College Center for Community Engagement's Community Connected Learning class and meet weekly with ODC's Communications Specialist, Christiane Kokubo



May 2021

Paola Meza, ODC's Patient Services Coordinator, incorporates a new way to blow out her birthday cake candles during the pandemic



June 2021

Heidi Sulis is awarded the 2021 Buster Brush Community Service Award by Middlebury Rotary

A BRIGHT HIGHLIGHT!

On 10/26/2021, we had our very first clinic without the need for interpreters. All volunteers that night — Carol Causton, RN, Marilyn Sandoval-Nulsen, RN, Suzanne Germain, NP, and Jay Stearns, MD — are able to provide care in Spanish!



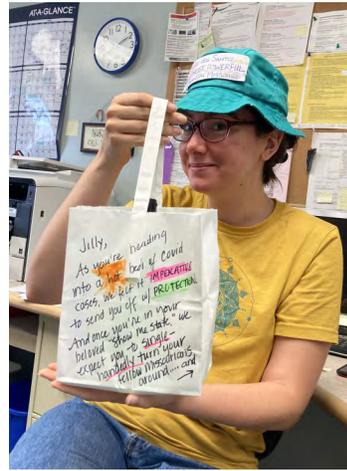
June 2021

We are able to organize Paola Meza's bachelorette party after a year delay. Pictured: staff members Paola Meza, Melanie Clark, Jilly dos Santos, Heidi Sulis, and summer interns Kevin Mata and Diana Meza



June 2021

Julia Doucet is nominated a "Pandemic All-Star" by Seven Days newspaper (picture by Caleb Kenna for Seven Days)



July 2021

Jilly dos Santos, former volunteer interpreter and administrative assistant, leaves the ODC for social work school at Washington University in St. Louis



August 2021

Heidi Sulis thinks carefully about what she wishes for her birthday



August 2021

Last month of having our summer interns Diana Meza and Kevin Mata with us



September 2021

Savannah Solomon, RN joins the ODC team



October 2021

Alysse Anton joins the ODC team as a new bilingual Administrative Assistant



October and November 2021

After a 2 year gap, we offer our first virtual, live general volunteer and medical interpreter trainings, attended by 24 and 10 people respectively

THE MOST COSTLY JOURNEY



How would you feel if your story became a book?
The Spanish version is planned for this coming fall.

Jesús

Story: *In Your Hands*

Art by John Carvajal

Question: What was it like for you to share your story?

Answer: The story was about an experience that I had inside me, that I could not relate or talk about. Sharing it was a good experience, I felt good.

Q: How was it afterwards? Did you know what was going to happen with the story?

A: No, I had no idea they were going to put it that way.

Q: What did you feel when you saw the story in comics?

A: On the one hand, I felt a little uncertain. But on the other hand, I felt good, because as the story doesn't tell the true names of the people involved, I thought: "someone is going to read the experiences that one lives and it is going to be good." Maybe someone just like me went through the same thing, or something similar, they will identify with it and think "that happened to me too", and they won't feel so alone.

Q: When you saw your comics, did it seem like it was with someone else, or did you identify it as your story?

A: I thought: "it's me!" But I also



started to analyze it and I have already tried to read it as if it had happened to another person.

Q: Was it a good thing?

A: It made a lot of difference, because now I was looking at what I had experienced from a different perspective.

Q: Did you like how the artist has put his story?

A: Oh yes!

Q: Do you think the story helped you somehow get over what happened, or was it bad to remember it?

A: It was good, it lifted some weight off of me. In recounting the story, it felt like a pending matter was resolved.

Q: Would you be interested in participating once more with another story?

A: Well, I would if it's for the benefit of someone. Not financial benefit, but if it brings benefits to the people who read it so that they can analyze their own story, I would like that.

Guadalupe



Story: *The Most Important Love of Every Woman Should Be Herself*

Art by Iona Fox

Question: What was it like for you to share your story?

A: Well, it was sad to dig the feelings, but it was also like getting it out of my body and feeling relieved and better. Both feelings at the same time.

Q: What was it like when you saw the comics for the first time? How did you feel?

A: Happy, I liked it.

Q: When you saw your comics, were you able to identify yourself with the drawing, did it seem like it was your story, or did it seem like it was from someone else?

A: Yes, it seemed like my story. I would have liked drawings in color more (laughs)..., but yes, it was my story.

Q: Have you been able or wanted to show that story to friends or family? And how was the reaction?

A: I've only shared it with my family: my husband and my children. I also sent it to my family in Mexico, they didn't know everything that I had gone through until I sent the story, but we haven't talked about it since.

Q: Is it something you would like to talk about with your family?

A: Yes, but it's too late. I think it's been too long and I don't know if I want to remember that

Last summer, *The Most Costly Journey* was released in English with 19 stories.

We talked to three of the storytellers about how it felt for them.

again... no, I don't think so.

Q: If there were other projects to share more stories, would you be interested?

A: Well, I don't know. The same, again? Same idea? Or tell about my life now? I would like to tell about my life now. I would like to talk about my life as an immigrant, how Guadalupe is living now, after having made that trip. What life looks like now is what I'd like to talk about.

Q: How is life now?

A: Better! Much Better than those years.

Q: Did you read other people's stories?

A: Yes, I read several of them. I get sad, because many people had difficulties too, more difficulties than me. Some lost family members, or saw people dying in the desert... I didn't experience that.

Q: What was it like seeing your story in the book?

A: It was nice and exciting. My children are reading it, they are teenagers.

Q: Do your children know that Guadalupe's story is your story? Have they asked more?

A: Yes, we have talked about it, I have explained everything and they understand. My family who is in Mexico, no, I haven't talked to them about it, but my husband and my children, yes. And it's fine with me and with them.

The Migrant of Hidalgo

Story: *Something Inside*

Art by Marek Bennett

Question: How did you feel after sharing your story?

Answer: It was exciting that they took me into account to talk about my story, something that I never expected, as an immigrant.

Q: Do you remember your reaction the first time you saw your comic story?

A: It was moving to be able to share how my journey was, what I lived and suffered to get here.

Q: Did you like the pictures?

A: Oh, of course. They are very good.

Q: When you saw your comic, did you feel represented, or did it somehow feel like it wasn't you?

A: My work with the machines and the tractors is very well represented. And my other work - in my free time, I dedicate myself to art - is well represented too.

Q: How was it to see your art inserted in the comic?

A: I can hardly believe it. When I arrived here in Vermont, I didn't have that restlessness, that wish to bring out something that I had inside, of practicing art. It is something that also motivates and excites me. Maybe many of the people who come to Vermont know how to do something, and they haven't been able to do it



here, as one must work, and work, and head back home. So, everyone tells me that it is very good that I have been able to get something out, do something.

Q: Do you have plans to return to Mexico soon?

A: I would like to wait a little longer. What makes me want to return soon because of her age, is my mother, who is now 98 years old. She wants to see me. I have waited because of the pandemic. Here at least we have the vaccine, there in Mexico it is very scarce. All this has stopped me, but I would like to return to visit my family.

Q: How long have you been here?

A: Seventeen years. If God gives me the privilege of being able to return, I will have a lot to thank America and Vermont for giving me work. And many thanks to the Open Door Clinic, because in the first place it made me a great invitation, and in the second, it has given me quite good support for my health.

STARTING FRESH IN 2022

MEET EMILIA ANDERSEN, OUR 2022 JANUARY INTERN



Emilia Andersen is a senior at Middlebury College

I GREW UP IN SANTA ROSA, California, about an hour north of San Francisco. When it came to applying to college, I really wanted to try something new and different. I liked the idea of having four distinct seasons, living close to a ski mountain, and going to a small school, which eventually led me to Middlebury. Although the reality of living in the snow came as quite a shock to me in my freshman year, I have since come to love Middlebury College and the wonderful community that surrounds it. While the campus itself can sometimes feel like a bubble, experiences like working at the ODC, which get me out and engaging with the local community, have been some of the most valuable to me in terms of making Middlebury feel like a home.

I learned about the ODC through my work as an EMT in Middlebury. I heard about other college students who had worked here, and was really interested to learn what a community clinic is all about. I began volunteering starting in 2020, and after a big pandemic-related pause, I returned to school and volunteering again this fall. As a newcomer, I was immediately struck by how reliant the ODC's work is on establishing a strong sense of trust and respect between providers and patients. It has been really incredible to see how dedicated providers here are to fostering these relationships, and how important this is to uplifting the health of individuals and ultimately our entire community.

The first week of my internship has felt like a whirlwind, and I am really appreciative of how welcoming and kind everyone on the ODC team has been! As an intern, it has been fun to get a window into many different projects and aspects of work that go on throughout the day. From learning about behind-the-scenes administrative operations to attending Tuesday night clinics, it has been incredible to see how passionate and knowledgeable everyone who works here is.

“ After such a long hiatus away from school due to the pandemic, coming back for senior year has ironically felt more like a beginning than an end. ”

Emilia Andersen,
ODC's 2022 January-Term Intern

At school I am majoring in Neuroscience and minoring in Global Health, so my plans for this upcoming semester include finishing up my coursework in these areas. Outside of that, I plan to continue volunteering here at the ODC, continue my job at the Middlebury College Museum of Art, and begin an independent research project on environmental determinants of human health. After overcoming so many obstacles related to the pandemic, I am most excited to appreciate this final semester on campus with friends.

After such a long hiatus away from school due to the pandemic, coming back for senior year has ironically felt more like a beginning than an end. Graduation, in that sense, still feels a long way off to me. When the day does come, I know I will be sad to part with Middlebury, the wonderful people I have met while here, and the beautiful state of Vermont. At the same time, I am excited for whatever life's next adventure will bring and know that the lessons I learned and relationships I formed while at Middlebury will follow me for life.

In my free time I love to get out skiing, hiking in the beautiful Green Mountains, and most recently, I began learning to surf while spending the summer in San Francisco. I also love to cook, garden, create ceramics on the pottery wheel, and when at home, can often be found throwing the frisbee for my dog, Jules. My favorite books are All the Light We Cannot See, Alias Grace, Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life, The Hungry Tide, and Harry Potter - all of them.



Emilia at an ODC Tuesday evening clinic

HIGHLIGHTS, RITUALS & RESOLUTIONS



"While Xmas is very traditional for us — we eat the same meal every year — New Years Eve is not. We always have a fancy meal, but it varies. The resolutions are always the same: lose weight and do more exercise! Not original or inspiring!

My highlight of the year with ODC was being part of the outreach team, testing, educating, and vaccinating our farm workers on the dairy farms and orchards, as well as various other places. I cannot tell you how many vaccinations I have given this last year but I know it was hundreds! As well as being a great experience doing something to head off this terrible pandemic, it was really inspiring to be part of such a great team!

Bravo, everybody!"

Carol Causton, RN
Chair of ODC's Board of Directors



"In the middle of yet another COVID surge, I spent New Year's weekend and the following week talking to sick patients, triaging care and testing.

Not encouraging.

I usually try and pick one thing to work on but haven't thought of it this year. Just trying to survive."

Linn Larson, MD
ODC's Volunteer
Medical Director



"My tradition is attending Mass on New Year's Day.

Otherwise, NYE and New Year's Day are very quiet."

Laurene Rogers
ODC's Board Member



"Our celebrations on the 31st always begin a little earlier because it's my sister's birthday. After the birthday festivities, we follow the Spanish tradition of "the 12 grapes of luck." Each grape represents each month of the new year; 12 seconds before midnight, we are supposed to eat our grapes as fast as possible and make a wish for each month, followed by drinking a glass of sparkling cider (but in practice, very few people can eat 12 grapes in 12 seconds without choking!).

At midnight, everyone bursts into song and we go around hugging each person and wishing them a happy new year, watch the neighbors light fireworks, and dance."

Paola Meza
ODC's Patient Services Coordinator



“My highlight of ODC 2021 was starting in September! A few of my favorite parts so far: going to the farms & orchards (cider donuts!!!), familiarizing myself with Addison County, my new colleagues (the best yet!!), and getting more comfortable with Spanish! For this new year, I would like to continue to focus on my health & happiness, my work, and doing good deeds.”

Savannah Solomon, RN
ODC’s Nurse Case Manager



“Traditions are not always obvious to those who follow them, and are often seen as mundane. But our New Year’s tradition starts with dinner with friends and ends with us drooling on ourselves as we wait for the ball to drop in Times Square so we can finally go to bed. In between that there have been bonfires, games, and outdoor adventures interspersed with reflections on the past and coming years.”

Julia Doucet, RN
ODC’s Outreach Nurse
& Nurse Case Manager



“NYE is full of traditions and importance in both the cultures I grew up with, the Brazilian and the Japanese. I stepped out of the office on my last day at work in 2021 with my right foot. On 12/31, I had a delicious dinner with plenty of lentils and pomegranate, to make sure the new year is filled with prosperity, love, and health. And like many people do in Brazil, I also kicked off 2022 wearing new underwear.”

Christiane Kokubo
ODC’s Communications Specialist

ODC'S 2022 STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STAFF



Heidi Sulis, MPH
Executive Director



Alysse Anton
Administrative Assistant



Ike Chepolis
Dental Assistant



Melanie Clark
VT Health Connect Certified
Application Counselor



Julia Doucet, RN
Outreach Nurse &
Nurse Case Manager



Gretchen Dunn, RDH
Dental Hygienist



Christiane Kokubo
Communications Specialist



Paola Meza
Patient Services Coordinator



Martha Redpath, RN
Nurse



Savannah Solomon, RN
Nurse Case Manager

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Peggy Keith
Town: Middlebury

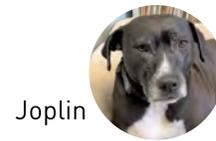


Matthew Kimble
Town: Middlebury



Linn Larson, MD
Medical Director
Town: Middlebury

FOUR PAW STAFF



Joplin



Emmie



Nell



Monty



Moka

SO GRATEFUL FOR



Kathleen Ready, RN
Volunteer Nurse



Patricia Reid
Town: Vergennes



Alicia Rodriguez
Town: Salisbury



Laurene Rogers
Town: Middlebury



Jim Runcie, Esq
Town: Starksboro



Gina Tindall
Town: Leicester

SUPPORT OUR WORK



Via check

Open Door Clinic
100 Porter Drive
Middlebury, VT 05753

On our website

www.opendoormidd.org/donate



On Facebook

facebook.com/opendoorclinicvt



Through TripHeroes

You can support the ODC when booking your next long-awaited trip through www.tripheroes.org. Choose Open Door Clinic as the charity to benefit and they will donate the processing fees to us!

On Amazon Smile

Look for Community Health Services of Addison County



Save the Date!

The ODC will be "On Tap" as Lawson's Finest Liquids' Sunshine Fund recipient from August 1-15! During this time, 100% of donations that are received from Taproom guests in Waitsfield and through their online store will be allocated to us. Pencil it in!

Thank you very much,
Lawson's Finest Liquids!