



BLUE MOUNTAIN CLINIC 2011 ANNUAL APPEAL

Providing high quality, patient-centered primary and reproductive health care since 1977.

LETTER FROM A SUPPORTER

Last spring, during the “Forty Days for Life” protests at Blue Mountain Clinic my husband and I wrote a letter to the editor of the Missoulian expressing our appreciation and support for the mission of the Clinic.

We wanted to publically and specifically recognize the people who work there for their devotion to the provision of high quality, accessible family health care. Included in our letter was a little nudge to the rest of the Missoula medical community, asking us each to consider prioritizing material gifts to support Blue Mountain Clinic. This was intended to acknowledge that unlike the BMC staff, the rest of us in the medical community are able to offer health care services and enjoy our chosen work without the burdens peculiar to being relentlessly disparaged by the anti-choice community.

I got feedback. People told me I was nuts; did I not realize I had just ‘outed’ us as pro-choice? Wasn’t I going to lose patients and my husband lose clients, once this information about our priorities was made public? Some people wondered why I was speaking up for a clinic that is after all a direct competitor to my own practice. These were great opportunities for dialogue, as well as for deepening my commitment to congruence. Walking my talk is a fundamental commitment I have with myself; it’s the only way I can imagine maintaining integrity in all aspects of life, including in my professional life.

Blue Mountain Clinic staff walks their talk every day—past the protesters, past the giant metal security fence, and through the bullet-proof ante-room, into their warm, welcoming airy clinical space, where they provide primary care medical services to children, women and

men of all income levels. They are an independent non-profit organization, receive no federal funding and operate solely thanks to fees for service and private donations. Growing from their origins as the first abortion care provider in the state of Montana, circa 1977, BMC has been functioning as a primary care practice since 1991. 93% of the 8,500 office visits annually are for primary care and mental health services.

BMC’s advocacy of reproductive justice, women’s equality AND excellent family health care is unfortunately unique in the Missoula community. **For many reasons, including their reliable professional integrity, the staff at BMC cannot solicit your support as vigorously and straightforwardly as I can. I am asking you to donate, now, today, whatever you can, to support social justice in medicine; be part of the solution to our current health care crisis.** If you are not inspired immediately to head to their website, www.bluemountainclinic.org, and select *Make A Donation* in the left margin, pause a few seconds and think. Imagine your favorite young adults, unintentionally pregnant, in need of support and options – wouldn’t you want to know that BMC was there to provide options for their informed decisions? Given the intolerance that BMC faces every day, it is my sincere hope that you will join us by stepping up with your material and vocal support for the uniquely precious services supplied to our community at Blue Mountain Clinic.

All best wishes,

Nancy Dunne, ND

DONATE TODAY:

Please consider a gift to BMC this year to help us meet organizational goals and face the challenges ahead.

You are part of the solution; your financial support makes the difference in how we sustain our access to care programs

TWO WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

Donations can be made online at

www.bluemountainclinic.org

or by mail:

610 N. California St.
Missoula, MT 59802

Interested in receiving the Blue Mountain Clinic e-newsletter?
Stay updated with news, action items, and events. Send an email with your name and preferred email address to annie@bluemountainclinic.org to sign up!

**Find Blue Mountain Clinic
on Facebook**



Blue Mountain Clinic
610 North California Street
Missoula, MT 59802

2011 SUMMARY LEGISLATION AND TRANSITIONS

For the 4th year in a row, Blue Mountain Clinic was named "**Best Health Clinic**," and Dr. Eric Ravitz as "**Best Doctor**" in the *Independent* readers poll "Best of Missoula" awards.

The Clinic weathered two **40 Days For Life protests**, the first one last spring and the second one this fall. Through the Pledge a Picketeer campaign, we were able to raise almost \$3000 towards the BMC Access Fund, which assists women with costs who are in need of reproductive health services.

In March of 2012 Blue Mountain Clinic celebrates our **35th year** of serving Western Montana and the Missoula Community. An exciting and commemorative year with plenty of transitions is anticipated both internally and externally. As always, we are up for the challenge!

The fifth annual **Off the Rack Fashion Event** will be held on February 4th, 2012 at the Wilma Theater with more surprises, laughs and outrageous fashions hitting the runway.

The anti-choice movement is currently gathering signatures in an attempt to place the **Personhood Amendment** on the 2012 ballot. The **Parental Notification** restriction will be on the 2012 ballot, due to outcomes from the 2011 legislative session. This requirement has already been found to be unconstitutional in past efforts. The increase in attacks against reproductive justice is rampant on both the State and Federal levels, and extends landmark challenges against funding and access to contraceptive methods.

We hope we can count on our supporters to participate in the coming year to support the BMC's mission, attend our events, and speak out against reproductive injustice in our community.

Best wishes to all in the coming year!

BMC WISH LIST

3 WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT BMC IN THE NEW YEAR

Calling all Painters and Carpet Installers!

The clinic is in need of new carpeting and painting – supplies and installation/or in-kind services

General Contractor Help!

There are some minor modifications needed in some of the exam rooms and replacing light bulbs in the ceiling fixtures - to better serve the needs of our clients and assist with patient flow

Attend the 2012 Off the Rack Event

BMC's signature fundraising event **Off the Rack** will be held **Saturday, February 4th** at the Wilma Theater. Can't attend? Check out the raffle for art options and silent auction of art items in advance of this year's show – coming on-line in January!

IN APPRECIATION:

Special thanks to our individual supporters and the following foundations:

Tides Foundation

Cadeau Foundation

Sample Foundation

Prentice Foundation

For more information about our programs, services, or how to donate, visit our website www.bluemountainclinic.org or call Blue Mountain Clinic at (406) 721-1646