



## Samaritan Car Care Clinic

*From Under the Hood!**Addressing Transportation Barriers to Self-Sufficiency*

From the Director's Chair...

**Difficult Choices**

The low-income families referred to the Samaritan Car Care Clinic face difficult choices. Each month there's not enough money to cover: rent, groceries, utilities, clothes, gasoline. Car repair doesn't even make the list, which is why the Clinic receives so many referrals.

In 2021, the Clinic helped 227 families stay on the path to self-sufficiency by providing shared

**DIRECTOR**

Bruce Kintner

**FINANCIALS**

Shari Caldarelli, Rachel Geiman

**OUR REFERRAL PARTNERS**

Life Learning Center  
Lincoln Grant Scholar House  
St. Vincent de Paul of NKY  
Welcome House • Ion Center  
Gateway Community College  
Brighton Center

**SOME of OUR SPONSORS**

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**IN-KIND SUPPORT**

Walther Auto Body • Valvoline®  
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**OUR GOVERNING BOARD**

Marty Butler, Karen Zengel  
Shari Caldarelli

for more information,  
or to make a donation:

Email: [bruce@samaritancarcare.org](mailto:bruce@samaritancarcare.org)  
or Call: 859-653-8963

**Samaritan Car Care Clinic**

1530 Madison Avenue  
Covington, Kentucky 41011

cost car repairs. For the first nine months of 2022, the Clinic has already helped 243 families.

Repairs are averaging close to \$900/car. The referral may be for desperately needed tires, but it does no good to put new tires on a car that can't come to a stop because the brakes are worn out. The demographics are pretty consistent: between 75-80% of the families referred to the Clinic are female headed households, with the balance being single adults and the occasional nuclear family. Between 30-35% are ethnic minorities.

Since 2007 the Clinic has been addressing transportation barriers to self-sufficiency. Demand has always exceeded the Clinic's "supply." As a result, the Clinic also has to make difficult choices related to repairs.

With no other resource available, our referral partners want to send even more struggling families to the Clinic for car repairs. With limited funding, the Clinic cannot help every referral despite our desire to do so. In fact, the Clinic can't continue with the pace of repairs set this year due to the reality of funding.

Despite the Clinic's challenges, or in other words the opportunity to do more, I am definitely encouraged as the Clinic continues to make new connections and gain supporters. I thank you for reading this newsletter, and for being a Clinic supporter. Please share with a friend or colleague your interest in the Clinic. With enough like-minded friends, the Clinic can be even more effective in keeping families on the road to self-sufficiency.

— **Bruce Kintner**, Director

**Building Update**

As seen below, the Clinic's car repair shop is slowly taking shape. As of this newsletter, all of the first story block work has been completed, and the metal framing for the 2nd story is underway. The goal is to



*Metal for second story underway*

hold an Open House and a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony sometime in January 2023. Many thanks to the Catalytic Fund of Northern Kentucky for providing the construction loan that has allowed the Clinic to build the region's first non-profit vehicle repair shop. For weekly updates, go to [facebook.com/samaritancarcareclinic](https://www.facebook.com/samaritancarcareclinic)

 Like us on **Facebook**



*First story block wall completed*

<<< progress at the corner of  
Madison Ave. & Martin St., Covington!

## On the Road



**Ira and Jima G.,** with their new-to-them **2003 Toyota Sienna**

Ira and Jima G. have four children, and their van developed major engine issues that would have required an expensive engine replacement.

Fortunately, Ira and Jima connected with St. Vincent de Paul of NKY and qualified for a SVdPNKY-provided microloan. Ira and Jima used the loan to purchase a 2003 Sienna van from SVdPNKY and the Samaritan Car Care Clinic.

The multi-month journey:

- 1) SVdPNKY received the van as a donation.
- 2) The Clinic addressed the major repairs needed, including a new timing belt, water pump, and brakes.
- 3) Ira and Jima were able to complete the partnership loop by using a SVdPNKY provided microloan to buy the van.



## ... from Our Donors

Our daughter asked us to make a donation to the Samaritan Car Care Clinic. She learned about the Clinic from the Brighton Center in Newport, Kentucky.

Our daughter shared the Clinic provides a valuable service by helping needy people with their transportation needs.

We thank you for the help you provide and proudly contribute to your organization.

— **Mr. and Mrs. Donald W.,** Donors



**Michael and Ashley P.,** with their **2007 Accura TSX**

This summer a supporter of the Clinic donated a 2007 Acura TSX (like a Honda Accord) to the Clinic. After addressing some maintenance and repair items, the car was ready for a new home.

SVdP NKY identified a couple who desperately needed better transportation. Michael and Ashley had purchased another used vehicle that was in "good" shape, only to have its transmission go out in less than two months.

Michael and Ashley were able to qualify for a \$2,000 SVdPNKY microloan to purchase the TSX after being unable to find a reliable vehicle for anything even close to \$2,000.

For Michael and Ashley, as well as Ira and Jima, your donations covered the gap between repairing the vehicles (more than \$2,000 in repairs for each of the Sienna and TSX), and what the families were able to borrow to use for buying the vehicles. A big *Thank You* to our donors for making this program possible!

## BOOKS bring JOY!



Each child whose parent(s) visit the Clinic receives a free book to take home!  
Clinic supporter Suzy Quinn & her husband Dell donate books each quarter.

## SCCC in the News!

September 2022 issues of **Florence/Union Connector & Neighbors of Union** AND October 2022 issue of **Neighbors of Cold Spring**  
**Samaritan Car Care Clinic**  
**Helps Low-income Families**



**NKU CHASE**  
COLLEGE OF LAW

On September 28, 2022, Clinic Director Bruce Kintner was part of a panel taking part in a Poverty Law class led by Col Owens at the Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law. The topic for the class that day was economic trends that affect the working poor, and how governments and social service agencies try to support employment, employment training, and the all important transportation piece of the puzzle.

Panelists included Wonda Winkler, President & CEO of Brighton Center (a Samaritan Car Care Clinic referral partner), and Sarah Henry, a staff attorney with Legal Aid Society of Cincinnati.

## Thank you – third quarter gifts

For the first time the Clinic tried its hand at a crowd funding type of fundraiser that took place in July and August. Each year Gannett Media sponsors a nationwide fundraiser called "A Community Thrives." If non-profits reach at least a target amount from donors during the 4 week period, Gannett then reviews the grant applications from those non-profits for additional Gannett grants.

The Clinic managed to raise just over \$7,000 as part of the "A Community Thrives" campaign, which exceeded the \$6,000 goal set by Gannett. Later this fall the Clinic will find out if there are any additional Gannett funds coming our way. Many thanks for those who donated during the campaign!

Other major 3rd quarter gifts included grants from the Haile Foundation and the Elsa Sule Foundation.



## Clinic Update

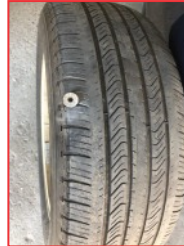
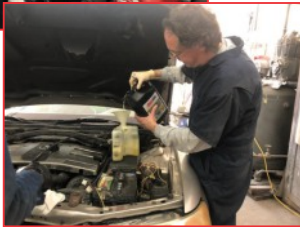
On September 17, Clinic volunteers held a quarterly maintenance event. The 16 appointment slots were filled with referrals from Life Learning Center, Lincoln Grant Scholar House, and Brighton Center.

Pretty much every car needed something more than just an engine oil change and a new air filter, but with funding limitations, Clinic volunteers referred 4 mothers to partner mechanic shops for safety related repairs (tires, brakes, and one badly leaking radiator). Please note the photo below of the extremely clogged engine air filter. The lady shared that her car did not seem to be running well. The main reason was because it could not inhale enough air! The filter was solid with debris. Another unfortunate single mom ran over a large bolt on her way to her oil change. Good news is that she still had a spare tire that held air, so volunteers were able to mount her spare tire since the tire you see in the photo was rapidly losing air.

### Typical Repairs include . . .



Oil Changes



Tire Issues



Filters

September Volunteers

Many thanks to our volunteers:

Shari Caldarelli, Tom Seeger, Steven Young, Eric Driscoll, Ron Pieper, Ethan Taylor, Brant Fischer, and Bruce Kintner.



## Supporting Affordable Car Repairs



reprinted from [linknky.com](http://linknky.com) July 22, 2022

By Laura Menge

Reliable transportation presents an underreported challenge to low-income workers who need it to get to their jobs. For most people in the area, a car is a necessity. But all vehicles require maintenance and repair services.

Samaritan Car Care Clinic, a longtime partner of GCF (Greater Cincinnati Foundation), works to lift the transportation barriers to self-sufficiency. Through their partnerships with multiple referral agencies, such as the Brighton Center and the Lincoln Grant Scholar House, they help low-income families stay on a path to economic stability by ensuring reliable transportation so they can get to work and school.

The Clinic has operated “virtually” since 2007, using borrowed space or paying for repairs elsewhere. In 2021, the Clinic helped 227 low-income families with vehicle maintenance and repair services. More than 80% were female-headed households; 40% were people of color. The Clinic aims to help at least 250-300 low-income families each year. Last December, the Clinic received the gift of a vacant lot in Covington’s urban core upon which they can build a dedicated nonprofit vehicle repair shop.

Mr. Kintner — Because of the help from the Samaritan Car Care Clinic, I was able to get my truck repaired! I can now get to work, and will be able to make payments back to the Clinic. I want to thank you and the Clinic very much. You offer a wonderful program. God bless the Clinic! — **Larry J.**, recipient



Dear Mr. Kintner,  
We deeply appreciate everything the Samaritan Car Care Clinic has done for us. We are grateful that the wheelchair lift is back working on our old van, and now the brakes are so much better!  
— **Paul and Arlene M.**, recipients

In May, GCF granted \$50,000 toward the construction of that repair shop that will allow them to help more families with critical car repairs. “I want to offer another round of thanks to Greater Cincinnati Foundation,” said Bruce Kintner, Director of Samaritan Care Clinic. “With six requests for help just today from single moms needing car repairs, the GCF grant has been incredibly timely!”

<https://linknky.com/business/sponsored/2022/07/15/sponsored-amplifying-the-power-of-giving-in-northern-kentucky/>



Samaritan Car Care Clinic is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

From Under the Hood! Editor, Karen Truman