



MaryLou Duron, HFHC diabetic educator, meeting with a patient to review her diabetic history and health lifestyle changes.

### Diabetes/pre-diabetes care & education for local high-risk/low-income population – BCBS Community Health Matching

Holland Free Health Clinic has been awarded a grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation to help support our Diabetic Support & Education program and provide more advanced healthcare to those in need. Holland Free Health Clinic (HFHC) is a Christian health ministry dedicated to providing free health services to the local underserved.

This grant is planned to enhance and expand the Diabetic Support & Education program to improve the health outcomes for diabetes patients. The goals of this grant are to improve and increase coordination of care, utilize key health screenings to track health outcomes and improvements, increase outreach events, and to grow participation in Diabetic Support & Education program and increase regular attendance to meetings and events.

This will be done by improving coordination of care with increased education and communications between programs and introduce health screenings to track health outcomes with test including A1C, blood glucose, etc.. This grant will also be used to increase outreach events within the community and grow participation in the Diabetic Support & Education program.

HFHC will increase the number of diabetics enrolled in other HFHC programs, and have diabetic patients not currently enrolled in the Diabetic Support & Education program do so. Ideally, educating patients on how diabetes impacts various aspects of their health and emphasizing their importance would motivate them to seek other health services outside of the program.

The BCBSM Foundation funding will allow for continued development and expansion of our Diabetic Support & Education program and improve coordination of care with other HFHC programs to target diabetes-related complications. Specifically, funding will enable HFHC to coordinate patient care, increase the number of diabetic outreach events, purchase program incentives and educational materials, and more effectively provide comprehensive health care to our diabetic and pre-diabetic patients.

For additional information about Holland Free Health Clinic, please call 616-392-3610 or visit our website at [www.hfhclinic.org](http://www.hfhclinic.org).