Donation of iPads will support services at free and charitable clinics

Representatives from the Wisconsin Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (WAFCC) and six affiliated free clinics visited Security Health Plan on Oct. 31, 2023, to receive a donation of 20 iPad tablet computers.

The donated equipment was offered to the clinics by Security Health Plan and the Marshfield Clinic Health System. Recipient clinics provide free and charitable health services to uninsured, underserved, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations in Wisconsin.

“We want to make sure people have access to high quality care; sometimes that's through us and sometimes that's through supporting other community health care services. This is just another way we can continue to further that mission in making sure people get access to health care,” said Chief Growth Officer Jennifer Shermo of Security Health Plan, which is part of the Marshfield Clinic Health System.

Jason Shrader, vice president of community impact and social accountability for Marshfield Clinic Health System, said this donation is one in the system’s lengthy history of partnering with free clinics.

“We are just honored to partner and support free clinics and provide them with some equipment that will make their important work a little more efficient and effective,” Shrader said.

WAFCC formed in 2014 as several of Wisconsin’s free and charitable clinics recognized their need to better define who they serve. Each year WAFCC provides state advocacy, year-round education opportunities, consulting services and telehealth services to clinics. WAFCC works to sustain new and existing free and charitable clinics by fostering collaboration, networking and sharing of resources.

The clinics that received the donations include:

- Wausau Free Clinic in Wausau
- The Open Door Clinic in Chippewa Falls
- The Free Clinic of the Greater Menomonie Area
- St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store and Outreach in Marshfield
- Shawano Area Matthew25 (SAM25) in Shawano
- St. Clare Health Mission of Monroe County in Sparta

Following the donation ceremony, representatives of WAFCC, the recipient clinics, Security Health Plan and Marshfield Clinic Health System joined for a discussion of shared concerns

and how to maintain and advance their missions to meet the growing need for health services to disadvantaged and vulnerable populations throughout Wisconsin.

"Health care is a right for all people, regardless of their ability to pay," said WAFCC Program Manager Courtney Roofe. "We envision a health care community that treats all persons with dignity and respect as it eliminates health disparities among economically and socially disadvantaged and vulnerable populations in our state."

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Security Health Plan of Wisconsin, Inc., part of the Marshfield Clinic Health System, is helping its 225,000 members in Wisconsin and beyond reach their best health. Security is a not-for-profit health plan serving Wisconsin since 1971 and is the fourth largest regional health plan in Wisconsin based on revenue and fifth largest in enrollment. Security Health Plan offers health insurance coverage for employees of large and small businesses, individuals and families. In addition, Security Administrative Services, LLC, a service of Security Health Plan, is a full service medical third-party administrator licensed in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana.

Marshfield Clinic Health System is an integrated health system whose mission is to enrich lives through accessible, affordable compassionate health care. The Health System serves Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula with more than 1,600 providers comprising 170 specialties, health plan, and research and education programs. Primary operations include more than 60 Marshfield Clinic locations, 11 hospitals, Marshfield Children's Hospital, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute, Security Health Plan and Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. Learn more at marshfieldclinic.org.

WAFCC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Its mission is to support, strengthen, and advocate for the uniqueness of the 95 Wisconsin free and charitable clinics (FCCs), the 160,000 patients they serve, and their communities. Learn more about WAFCC at www.WAFCClinics.org