

Primary Health Care
Ames | Des Moines | Marshalltown
PRESS RELEASE

March 30, 2017
For Immediate Release
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Primary Health Care Now a Title X Provider in Marshalltown

Primary Health Care (PHC) clinics are nonprofit community health centers dedicated to serving those that experience barriers to receiving care. PHC clinics are located in Ames, Des Moines and Marshalltown and have been providing care in Central Iowa for over 30 years. Costs are assessed on a sliding fee scale to 250 percent of poverty.

Title X Family Planning Clinics are funded by the US federal government. The program is dedicated solely to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning and related preventative health services. Title X is designed to provide access to contraceptive (birth control) services, supplies and information to all who want and need them. By law, priority is given to persons from low-income families.

Collaboration between Grinnell College, Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC), and Claudia Beckwith, ARNP, a former staff member at the Central Iowa Family Planning clinic, resulted in PHC seeking the Title X contract. When the CIFP clinics closed in November of 2016, this left a gap of service for the communities. PHC is now able to provide access to local residents and college students to this program.

“Our short-term plan is to work with Primary Health Care clinic in Marshalltown for reproductive health services. They are a Title X contract clinic that can offer services at a reduced rate to low-income and uninsured individuals,” says Doris Rindels, GRMC vice president. “As our group discussed the former Central Iowa Family Planning clinic, we addressed the need for discreet, confidential reproductive health services at low costs. This solution will get individuals to a Title X-funded clinic. Our long-term goal is to reopen a family planning clinic in Grinnell; however, we are a long way from that solution yet.”

Patients that have previously been seen at the Central Iowa Family Planning (CIFP) clinics, located in Grinnell and Marshalltown, are encouraged to continue their care with PHC. Grinnell residents and college students affected by the closing of CIFP clinic will have the option of utilizing free transportation to the PHC clinic, located at 412 E. Church St. in Marshalltown. When making an appointment, patients should inform the receptionist that they are a Grinnell Family Planning patient. Grinnell College will fund transportation costs to ensure access for residents who don't have transportation to Marshalltown. Transportation will be available the first and third Saturday of each month, departing from Drake Community Library, beginning Saturday, April 1. Individuals *must* schedule an appointment to be utilize the free transportation service.

PHC services include those previously provided at the CIFP, such as annual reproductive health exams – female and male; contraceptive management – all methods available, including long-acting reversible contraceptives; sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment; reproductive life planning; problems related to sexual health, such as yeast infections and urinary tract infections; and pregnancy testing.

“Reproductive health services are essential to a thriving community,” says Kelly Huntsman, Primary Health Care CEO. “PHC is pleased to be in position to partner with the community of Marshalltown, Grinnell and the surrounding communities to provide Title X reproductive healthcare to area residents and students.”

Residents and students may call Primary Health Care at 641-753-4021 to schedule an appointment and request transportation.