

# THE CLINIC PULSE



Villa Therese

19 June 2026

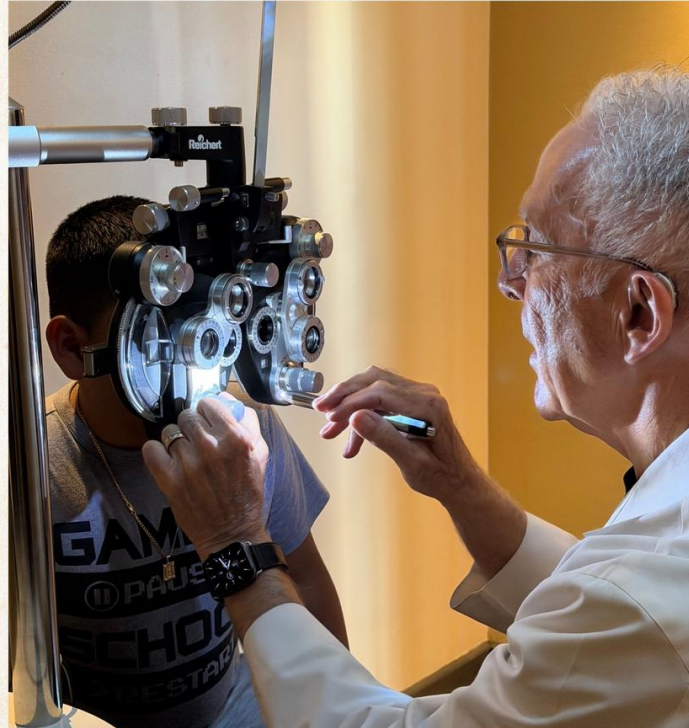


## **Big Impact. Short Miles.**

When people think of a mobile clinic, they often imagine traveling to distant, rural communities. But sometimes, the greatest barriers to healthcare exist just a few miles away.

Over the past month, Villa Therese On The Go! conducted three mobile outreach events right here in Santa Fe, providing 97 medical and vision screenings to local residents who have struggled to access care. For many of these patients, barriers such as cost, transportation, work schedules, lack of insurance, and limited access to preventive services have kept healthcare out of reach.

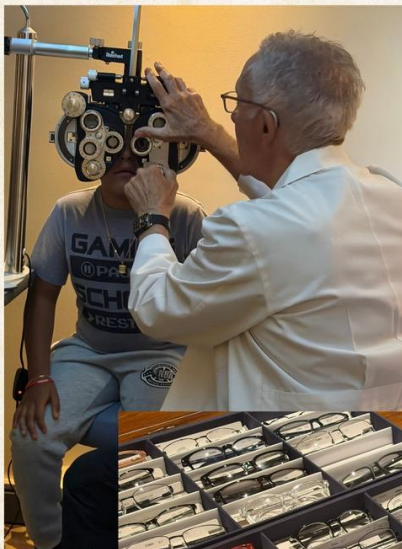
By bringing care directly into neighborhoods and community settings, our mobile clinic removed those barriers and met patients where they are. In just three outings, patients received blood pressure and diabetes screenings, vision exams, referrals to ongoing care, and prescription glasses that will help them work, drive, read, and care for their families.



These events are a powerful reminder that healthcare deserts are not defined solely by geography. Even within our own city, there are individuals and families who face significant obstacles to receiving timely care. A mobile clinic creates access by bringing services directly to the places people already know and trust.

The impact extends beyond the 97 screenings performed. Every blood pressure checked, every pair of glasses prescribed, and every patient connected to ongoing care represents an opportunity to prevent more serious health complications and improve quality of life.

At Villa Therese Clinic, we believe that access to healthcare should never depend on a person's zip code, insurance status, or ability to navigate complex systems. Sometimes, making the biggest difference doesn't require traveling hundreds of miles—it simply requires moving care a little closer to home.



Villa Therese

# **Villa Therese Earns 2026 Gold Rating from the NAFC Quality Standards Program**

The National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics' mission is building healthy communities for all through quality, equitable, accessible care. The NAFC and its members are dedicated to ensuring that patients receive access to quality healthcare. To quantify and qualify the care provided at the free and charitable clinic network, the NAFC formalized a set of Quality Standards for member organizations.

NAFC members voluntarily submit information to the NAFC on various policies and procedures in place to attain their standards rating and attest/pledge that they have successfully incorporate these standards within their organization.

NAFC Quality Standards elements include policies and procedures related to the following areas: Administrative, Clinic/Pharmacy Responsibilities, Credentialing and Privileging Systems, Patient Care, and Risk Management Systems.

We are excited to receive this top rating, highlighting our commitment to providing quality patient care. For more information on the NAFC, visit [www.nafcclinics.org](http://www.nafcclinics.org). For More information on Villa Therese Catholic Clinic, visit [www.villatherese.org](http://www.villatherese.org)



# **The Power of Access: One Appointment Can Change Everything**

*article by: Kate McQuillen*

**Names and identifying details have been changed to protect patient privacy.**

When "Jeff" walked through our doors, he wasn't just recovering from an injury—he was carrying the weight of an entire family's future.

Earlier this spring, Jeff, the sole provider for his family of three, suffered a devastating workplace accident that left him with serious injuries and unable to work. As he began his recovery, medical bills quickly accumulated. At the same time, the family's finances became increasingly strained, and they found themselves falling behind on rent and facing an uncertain future.

**Through a community partnership, Jeff was referred to Villa Therese Clinic.**

What started as one appointment became a lifeline.

Our team worked alongside Jeff's existing care providers to help assume portions of his recovery care, significantly reducing the financial burden of ongoing treatment. Recognizing that healing cannot happen when a family is worried about losing their home, we also partnered with our funding organizations and community supporters to help stabilize the family's housing situation while Jeff recovers.

Today, Jeff is making remarkable progress. His healing has accelerated, his family is experiencing a renewed sense of hope, and they can focus on recovery rather than choosing between healthcare, rent, and basic necessities.

Perhaps the most moving part of this story came unexpectedly. In gratitude for the support they received, Jeff and his family volunteered to clean and care for the grounds of our clinic—asking for nothing in return.

Their act of kindness is a powerful reminder that healthcare is never a one-way transaction. When communities come together to remove barriers to care, healing extends far beyond the exam room. Compassion creates connection. Connection creates stability. And stability creates the opportunity to recover with dignity.

Jeff's story reminds us that access to healthcare is about much more than medical treatment. It is about ensuring that every person has an equitable opportunity to heal, provide for their family, and find hope in the midst of crisis.

Sometimes, the power of access begins with just one appointment—but its impact can change everything.

# Volunteers: The Heart of Villa Therese

thank you

Behind every patient visit, every pair of glasses provided, and every diagnosis made at Villa Therese Clinic is something truly extraordinary: a community of volunteers who believe that healthcare should be accessible to everyone.

Today, 21 dedicated volunteers serve alongside our team, bringing together an incredible range of expertise, including physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants, and administrative professionals. Together, they have helped make possible 1,003 patient visits this year alone—a remarkable testament to the power of service and community.

Our volunteers come from different backgrounds and professions, but they share a common belief: that every person deserves to be seen, heard, and cared for with dignity, regardless of their ability to pay.

For many, volunteering at Villa Therese is an opportunity to give back to their community and use their skills to make a meaningful difference. For others, it is a chance to reconnect with the reasons they entered healthcare in the first place—to care for people without barriers, paperwork, or financial considerations standing in the way. And for some, it is simply about being part of something larger than themselves.

**What unites them all is compassion.**

Every volunteer hour donated represents more than time—it represents a patient who received an eye exam, a family that avoided a medical crisis, a chronic condition identified early, or a person who left our clinic feeling seen and supported.

At Villa Therese, we often say that our clinic belongs to the community because it is built by the community. The generosity of our volunteers proves that statement every day.

As our patient volume continues to grow and our mobile programs expand across New Mexico, so does our need for people who are willing to share their talents, skills, and hearts. You do not have to be a healthcare professional to make an impact. There are countless ways to serve, and every contribution helps create access to care for someone in need.

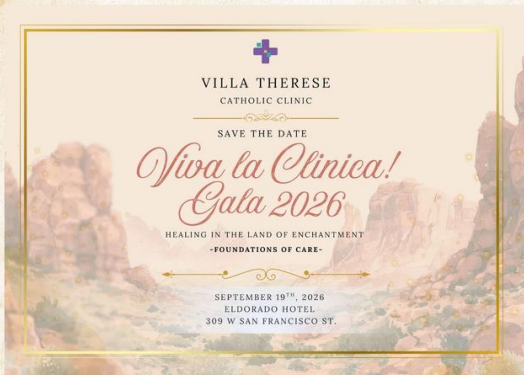
If you've ever wondered whether your time could make a difference, the answer is simple: it already can. Because at Villa Therese Clinic, compassion in action isn't just something we talk about—it's what makes everything we do possible.



# Preparations underway for the event of the year

Preparations are underway for our annual gala, Healing in the Land of Enchantment: Foundations of Care. This special event will bring together supporters, partners, volunteers, and advocates who believe that quality healthcare should never depend on income, insurance status, or geography.

As our clinic continues to grow – from expanded in-clinic services to the launch of Villa Therese ON THE GO! – this year’s gala will directly support the future of free medical, dental, and vision care for underserved New Mexicans. Guests can expect an inspiring evening highlighting patient impact stories, community partnerships, and the incredible momentum building around our mission to bring care without barriers to communities throughout our state.



## VILLA THERESE CLINIC

# MOMENTUM of CARE

REAL NUMBERS. REAL IMPACT. REAL PEOPLE.

**1,003**  
INDIVIDUAL PATIENTS SERVED YTD  
Neighbors from across Northern New Mexico receiving the care they need.

**472**  
MOBILE ENCOUNTERS  
Care that comes directly to our community—removing barriers and meeting people where they are.

**578**  
GLASSES PROVIDED  
Clear vision. Better opportunities. Brighter futures.

**374**  
PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED  
Medications that support healing, stability, and a better quality of life.

**\$790,250+**  
DOLLARS OF CARE DELIVERED  
The value of medical, vision, and pharmacy care provided at no cost to our patients. Because everyone deserves access.

CARE IS MORE THAN A SERVICE.  
*It's a Community.*

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, DONORS, AND PARTNERS for making this momentum possible. ♥

A huge thank you to this year's sponsors!



The Bernahl/Kitt Charitable Trust

Glyn and Marianne Jones



The Power of WE™



## Executive Director's Corner

This August, Villa Therese Clinic will take the national stage as we share how New Mexico's only completely free clinic has transformed from a traditional static model into a strategic, mobile healthcare system that brings care directly to the communities that need it most.

At the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics Conference in Washington, D.C., we will have the opportunity to showcase how a small free clinic in Santa Fe has reimagined access to care—expanding beyond our walls to reach rural communities, underserved populations, and even neighborhoods in our own city where barriers to healthcare persist. Our story is one of innovation, collaboration, and a steadfast belief that geography, income, or insurance status should never determine whether someone can receive care.

This recognition is not simply an honor for our organization; it is a testament to the incredible work of our volunteers, donors, community partners, and patients who have helped build something truly special. As we share our journey with clinics from across the country, we do so with immense pride, knowing that the model being recognized on a national stage was built right here in New Mexico—and that its heart remains rooted in one simple idea: when we bring care closer to people, we create healthier communities for everyone.