



Impact Report



Who We Are

Mission

MercyMed of Columbus exists to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and to demonstrate His love by providing affordable, quality healthcare for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of the underserved.

Core Values

- Advocacy
- Innovation
- Family
- Quality Healthcare
- Trust



A Word from the Doc

Dr. Grant Scarborough | CEO + Founder

I watered fake plants all week. I know, I should really be able to tell the difference. You see - when Anne leaves town I am responsible for everything: animals, plants, yard - it's overwhelming. But I am up for the challenge. Most of the time, when I'm in charge - plants die from lack of water. So to impress my wife, I water everything as much as possible. If the plants die, it will be from overwatering. This will at least show her I tried really hard. Maybe I tried *too hard* which means I should get partial credit, right?

Anne came home from a trip, and I could tell she admired my plant nurturing work. She got to one plant and said, "Why is this one wet?" I stuck my chest out a little as I looked at its perfectly green leaves, maybe a little too perfect, "Because I watered it, honey. Doesn't it look great?" She only said four simple words, "That's a fake plant." Oh well. Partial credit I guess.

The plant looked like it had life, but it was dead. Everything looked right from the outside, but it was all fake. There were no roots, and nothing about that plant was alive.

We have a great team at MercyMed doing wonderful work: thousands of patient encounters, starting new services, so much more. From the outside, you can see the "green leaves" of MercyMed. I am very proud of the team's work, but **I am even more proud of the team's roots**. The well-watered roots of our organization are the mission and core values. Two of our core values are *advocacy and trust*. We celebrate the stories of patients like "Linda," (p.9) who trust us enough to walk beside her through her health journey. She is one example of many patients we advocate for to have access to care, medications, therapy, hope, and, in many cases, a new shot at life.

A ministry alive is more than just advocating and trusting. It must start with the God Who first advocated for us. It starts with receiving His love. Scripture says we love because He first loved us. God's love has made MercyMed truly alive. As He waters His love on our roots of advocacy and trust, new life springs out into our staff, patients, and community.

Thank you for being part of a life-giving and well-watered ministry that is *fully alive*.



2024 Patient Stats



20,729

Primary Care Visits

67%

Primary Care Visits



3,799

Dental Visits



1,466

Counseling



1,000

Social Work &
Advocacy



1,712

Group Therapy



2,115

Wellness
Encounters



1566

Prescriptions
Dispensed

What We Do

Driven by our vision to offer the hope of Christ to a hurting community, we are committed to caring for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of patients.

MercyMed Services

- Primary Care
- Pediatrics
- Dentistry
- Ophthalmology
- Optometry
- Imaging / Radiology
- Physical Therapy
- Counseling
- Integrated Behavioral Health
- Addiction Counseling
- Group Therapy
- Dietetics
- Wellness Classes
- Nutrition Counseling
- Sleep Education
- Exercise Therapy
- Urban Farming
- Pharmacy
- Mobile Integrated Health
- Fruit and Vegetable Prescriptions

Ministry Highlights

1 Full Time Pharmacy Onsite, same-day medication for patients, alleviating transportation and financial barriers.

2 New Wellness Center

- Increased mental health, counseling and group therapy space
- Tripled physical therapy space and added updated equipment
- Dedicated nutrition counseling with seamless integration from primary care
- Enlarged space for exercise classes and nutrition education

3 Mobile Integrated Health Partnered with the Columbus Fire Department to serve high utilizers of 911 calls, freeing up vital EMS services for emergency care across the city.

4 Three Years of Full-Time Dentistry Celebrating three full years of MercyMed Dental, providing nearly 12,000 dental procedures since program inception.

5 Two Full Years of Dedicated Pediatrics caring for the needs of some of our community's most vulnerable with child-specific care for hundreds of families in need.





Innovative Impact

Mobile Integrated Health

MercyMed has joined forces with the Columbus Fire Department and EMS to help care for high utilizers of 911 calls for non-emergent reasons. We are sending a MercyMed provider along with a paramedic to patients' homes to follow up.

The goal is to **connect the patient to appropriate resources** such as social services, primary care providers, pharmacy, or more.

We are honored to join in this work in hopes of reducing stress on the Fire and EMS system and ERs, finding creative ways to serve those who are calling 911 excessively.

Our Community

MercyMed serves patients in the Chattahoochee River Valley where the need for access to affordable, quality care continues to grow. According to a recent study* on poverty published by the United Way:

- **22%** of Muscogee County residents live below the federal poverty level.
- **33%** of households live at or above poverty level, but cannot afford basic cost of living.
- On average, the majority of households in surrounding neighborhoods of MercyMed clinics (31904, 31906, 31901) **cannot afford the essentials.**



Patient Demographics

- 53% Uninsured
- 24% Medicaid/Medicare/Underinsured
- 23% Privately Insured

*source unitedforalice.org

MercyMed Farm

Our farm seeks to elevate community health by making healthy food affordable and accessible.

MercyMed's farm team works daily to:

- **Cultivate** nutrient-rich soil
- **Sow** non-genetically modified (GMO) seed
- **Harvest** a variety of organic produce
- **Provide** fresh, healthy, affordable food
- **Connect** the community to health through nutrition

Our produce is available to patients at a discount and to anyone using food-stamps, at half-price! We host a weekly farmstand, and our produce is available in grab-and-go containers at the Wellness Center and at neighboring businesses.

The Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program (FVRx) helps make nutrition part of our treatment plan for patients battling chronic illness, consuming nutrient depleted foods, or simply lacking access, awareness or education regarding nutrition.
2,560 lbs of food was prepared for FVRx Program in 2024.

We harvest approximately **18,000 pounds of fresh produce** annually with the help of hundreds of volunteers.



Support

MercyMed partners with a generous local community who show mercy to our neighbors by supporting affordable healthcare. Donors and partners make it possible to provide quality services at an affordable rate.

Board of Trustees

- Bob Gilson, *Chair*
- Justin Krieg, *Vice Chair*
- Teddie Ussery, *Treasurer*
- Dr. Jimmy Brooks, *Secretary*
- Bruce Bacon
- Rev. Carlos Coleman
- Scott Hill
- Daniel Hord
- Lauren Isom
- Isa Meeks
- Carrie Strickland
- Larry Young

MercyMed is a proud partner agency of the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley.

2024 Expenses & Revenue

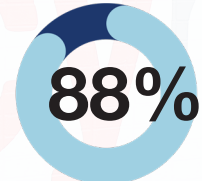
\$1,746,709.84
Medical Services Revenue

\$1,459,301.04
Free Care Provided

\$2,552,907.39
Charitable Donations

\$3,906,499.34
Total Operating Expenses

\$476,979.29
Surplus



**Operational Expenses
Directed to Patient Care**



Community Partner

Linda: A Patient Story

Linda is one of many patients whose health, specifically, and whose life, in general, is being restored through the multifaceted services of MercyMed. Linda came to MercyMed needing significant medical help, but had no insurance and no money. She had a heart condition and was in very poor health. The situation was becoming dire. In her own words, **“When you have no insurance and no money, too bad.”**

She felt *hopeless*.

Because MercyMed offers services on a sliding-fee scale, Linda was able to see a doctor sooner rather than later. While, at the time, she could not afford the \$35 patient visit fee, the cost was covered through the kindness of donors and a generous community. As Linda so humbly puts it, **“When you don’t have the money to pay, MercyMed helps you anyway.”**

Linda’s blood pressure numbers were alarming. At 230/140, she was at stroke level, and her provider began to call her at home to check on her. This special kindness, Linda notes, made her feel seen, known, and truly cared for. In treating Linda’s condition, her provider suggested several life changes. Linda took them to heart (literally): She quit smoking; drastically reduced salt intake; started seeing our dietitian; stopped eating processed foods; began reading food labels; joined our cooking class; and learned how to buy, prepare and cook healthy foods.

Though Linda had little money to cover the cost of a dietitian, healthy food options, or medical fees, MercyMed stood in those gaps for her, and, thanks to our caring, generous community, we were able to care for Linda in so many ways, she’s now on the right track to healthy living in many areas of her life. AND.... Her blood pressure numbers are down from 230/140 to 128/74!

What has stayed with Linda the most since she made MercyMed her medical home is, in her own words, that, “when you walk in the doors of MercyMed, the staff stop what they’re doing and look directly at you. They listen to you and serve you as if you’re the only person in the world. They really care.”



Where We're Going

We've come a long way in the last 13 years, and certainly in the last year, but there is so much good work still to do.

1. We recognize the need for more physicians and dentists to join our team, and **we are actively recruiting!** We need support to help strengthen our efforts to attract more medical and dental missionaries to join our ministry.
2. We seek to **continue investment in our Wellness Center**, both as a facility and a way of life, through health education, nutrition therapy, counseling and physical therapy.
3. We are committed to **expanded access to affordable medications** through our pharmacy, now open to the public.
4. We are actively researching the best use of our land on 2nd Avenue to include enhancements to the farm, medical and dental spaces. Stay tuned!



Will You Join Us?

When you support MercyMed, you are bringing to life the many services and ministries highlighted in this report. You are also joining with and growing the investment in care that our patients make. Each day, hundreds of patients pay a discounted rate for services based on their income. Your support bridges the gap!

The collective of MercyMed patients and donors is a beautiful picture of the Kingdom of God - each group giving what they can to help meet needs. We are honored to have the trust of both.

We invite you to lean in with us and support MercyMed. Your gifts help us offer essential care to thousands, and with your generous support we can invest in the future growth of our mission with new and expanded services.

We are grateful for you! Information on how to give is available online or on the back cover of this report.





MercyMed of Columbus is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Donations are always tax deductible and can be made online or checks made payable to MercyMed of Columbus, addressed to 3702 2nd Ave., Columbus, GA 31904.

Interested in joining the MercyMed Family? Reach out: admin@mercymedcolumbus.com
Want to learn more? Find us online: mercymedcolumbus.com

