"I find great joy in serving others. And the joy is even magnified when the service is volunteered."

Earl Thurmond, M.D.  
Kaiser Permanente; The Southeast Permanente Medical Group (TSPMG)  
Medical Director of Peachtree Pine Street Shelter Clinic  
Atlanta, GA-Fulton County

The state of Georgia Can Provide Sovereign Immunity Protection for your Community Service

Now you can help strengthen your community while receiving free protection.

In 2005, the Georgia General Assembly passed the “Health Share Volunteers in Medicine Act,” which created the Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program (GVHCP). The Act...

- Increases access to health care for uninsured and underserved Georgians
- Increases the number of volunteer health and dental providers by offering them Sovereign Immunity (SI) protection, or liability protection.
- Motivates dedicated providers to volunteer and serve their community

The Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program extends state-sponsored SI protection to contracted licensed health and dental providers who volunteer their time to treat low-income patients. Active and retired physicians and dentists are eligible for SI. The program partners with community and faith-based organizations, local health departments, and dedicated licensed health and dental professionals to assist those in need.

The Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program is Helping Georgians Everyday

Since the GVHCP’s inception, the dedicated volunteerism of over 1,692 licensed volunteer health and dental care providers resulted in:

- $15.6 million in health and dental care
- 124,796 patient visits
- 113,169 licensed provider volunteer service hours
- 1,263 lay, or uncensed, volunteers
- 160,857 lay volunteer service hours

All figures shown are from August 2006 through December 2008.

Volunteer Opportunities:
You have the option to partner with GVHCP to...

- Volunteer in an existing partnering free clinic
- Start a free clinic where you would set your own hours
- Provide volunteer services in the comfort of your own office/private practice

"I have been volunteering at the Green Warren Dental Clinic for over 12 years, and it gives me a deep sense of satisfaction to be able to help the less fortunate people of Hall County. I appreciate having the opportunity to live here and raise my family in such a wonderful area. This is one way I can ‘pay it back’ to the community."

Ed Burnette, D.D.S.  
Dental Director of Good News Clinics  
Gainesville, GA-Hall County

Volunteer Pledge Form

Yes! I’d like to join my colleagues and participate in the Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program.  

(Please Print)

Name: ___________________________  (Last) (First) (MI)

Clinic Name/Health Care Site: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Licensed Health Care Provider Type: ___________________________ Specialty: ___________________________

City: ___________________________________________ County: ___________________________

Office Phone: ( )___________—___________________ Mobile Phone: ( )___________—___________________

The best time to reach me is: ________________________ at  a Office Phone  a Mobile Phone

Email: ________________________________________________________________

Detach and mail to:  
Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program  
2 Peachtree Street, NW • Atlanta, GA 30303
As a non-profit grass-roots organization, the GVHCP has been an enormous blessing to us, both on an organizational and financial level. One of the first questions I get asked by prospective volunteer providers almost always surrounds the important issue of liability insurance. Our partnership with the Georgia Department of Community Health allows me to confidently respond and eliminate that potential barrier to their volunteer service with us.

Paul Buczynsky, M.D.
Medical Director of Mercy Health Center
Athens, GA-Clarke County

"I have seen first hand the benefits this endeavor (the clinic) has provided the local community. I am impressed by the altruism and concern manifested by the volunteers. True concern is evident on the faces of the caretakers...it is almost as if one is transported to an earlier time in our country's history where caring for others was a calling rather than a job. Certainly this endeavor (of volunteerism) is in keeping with our national needs at this time."

Lawrence Zottoli, M.D.
Medical Director of Employee's Medical Center of Savannah and Good Samaritan Clinic
Savannah, GA-Chatham County