

# Hunterdon County Medication Access Partnership



*"Making a difference in our community one by one"*

## Working together...Public Health Nursing and HCMAP

The residents who use Public Health Nursing and Education programs are usually from a low income, young and undereducated population. They may also face cultural, language and literacy barriers to health care. By referring our clients to HCMAP, they are able to access needed medications seamlessly.

The program provides needed medications by coordinating the services of a physician and the delivery of medication. HCMAP helps bridge the gap. The end result is not only do they have medication access, they also have an established medical home with a physician. This helps them to be better equipped to navigate the healthcare system.

Our patients experience a sense of relief and the referral process instills confidence in their ability obtain what they need. Individuals feel empowered which allows them to make informed decisions about their healthcare. Providing medication upfront when needed is a good health investment of time, effort and resources. Medication access prevents further healthcare needs and possible complications.

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## Baseball Fundraiser – Update

On August 2<sup>nd</sup> we held our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Somerset Patriots Baseball Fundraiser at TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater. We raised \$5,750 through individual ticket sales and the generous support of the following corporate sponsors:

- AT&T
- Dilts and Koester
- Heinz Family Philanthropies
- Hunterdon Healthcare System
- MD Advantage
- ShopRite
- Skylands Bank
- Somerset Patriots
- Team Capital Bank
- Thrivent Financial

Thanks to all who came out to support HCMAP and most especially the patients we serve!



Somerset Patriots  
and  
HCMAP Perfect  
Together!

## Who we are!

HCMAP is a community-based nonprofit organization who helps under and uninsured Hunterdon County residents access prescription medicine.

To learn more, contact Karen Kallens, RN Coordinator, HCMAP (908) 788-6572 To make a donation, contact Rev. Dr. Mark Summer or Mark Peters, PharmD at 908-439-2040

## HMC Happenings

On January 22nd, Hunterdon Medical Center was recognized at the New Jersey Hospital Association's 91st Annual Meeting held at the Hyatt Regency in Princeton New Jersey. For Improving Access and Quality of Care, Hunterdon Medical Center received the award for the Hunterdon County Medication Access Partnership. The Hunterdon County Medication Access Program met a critical community need and improved access for the county's uninsured and underinsured residents to prescription medications, thereby improving health and minimizing excessive and avoidable use of the emergency department.

Through the Hunterdon County Medication Access Partnership, Hunterdon Medical Center has collaborated with physician practices, Hunterdon County Department of Health, offices of senior services, Institute for Medication Access and Compliance, congregations and social and human service agencies to refer patients and support the activities of this program. Since the program began in 2004, thousands of residents have been helped and over \$2 million of free prescription medicine has been provided to Hunterdon County residents. The program has also reduced hospital total emergency department visits by 30% among program participants.

## A Volunteer Story

*"Making a difference  
by helping  
one person  
at a time"*

In 1997 I returned to graduate school as a full-time seminary student. My children were covered through my former husband's insurance, and I relied on the minimal insurance plan the seminary offered to all its students. Near the end of my degree program, I developed some serious lung issues, due to a mold infestation in our apartment building. When I went to fill the prescription the pulmonologist had written, I found out that my out-of-pocket expense was \$110; the seminary student coverage was \$10. We were living on less than \$20,000 a year in total income, so it became a literal choice between feeding my kids or filling the prescription. It was an easy choice; my lung condition obviously did not kill me, and my children needed to eat. I don't want other people to have to make that same choice between basic necessities, which is why I have served on the steering committee since its inception.

The Reverend Cathy Gumpert, Pastor  
Readington Reformed Church

**If you would like to make a donation to help more patients, please make checks payable to:**  
**HCMAP**  
**P.O. Box 2156**  
**Flemington, NJ 08822**